

**Morning Worship**  
**Sunday, February 21, 2021, 10:00 am**

**Beginning Music** "Near the Cross"

**Prelude** "Jesus Paid It All"

**Words to ponder:** "We are changing. *You* are changing. God is already at work in you, renewing your spirit. Anticipate the new thing that God is doing. Can you feel it?"

**Additional Scriptures for this Sunday:** Psalm 25:1-10;  
1 Peter 3:18-22

**Scriptures for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent:** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16;  
Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Welcome** Pastor Ed

**Call to Worship** (*Responsively*) Leader

Leader: Have mercy on your people, O God.

**People:** **Wash us. Cleanse us. Make us more perfect in your love.**

Leader: Open the skies and pour down your grace upon your people.

**People:** **Open our hearts to hear your voice. Let the thunder of your presence awaken us!**

Leader: Have mercy on your people, O God.

**People:** **Restore within us the joy of your salvation. Draw us near to Jesus, our Christ!**

**Opening Prayer** (*Unison*) Leader

God of love and mercy, open our hearts to your presence as we worship you this day. Whether our prayers are filled with celebration or with loud cries and tears, remind us that you are the source of our eternal salvation. Give us the strength to respond faithfully to your transforming love, that the joy of your salvation might shine in and through us all. Wipe away our wrongdoing, clean our hearts, and make us more perfect. For it is in your perfect love that we are drawn more fully into your image. In the name of the glorified Christ, we pray. Amen.

**Opening Hymn** "Be Thou My Vision" Eunice Alberts,  
Patty Dayton, Ron Giannattasio

**Offering One Another the Peace of Christ**

**A Time for Children of All Ages** Eunice Alberts

**WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Reading** Genesis 9:8-17 Leader

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading** Mark 1:9-15 Leader

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

**Hymn of Preparation** "What Wondrous Love is This" Rose Aiello,  
Heather Arnold, Patty Dayton, Dave York,  
RoseAnne Homola

**Sermon** "*Temptation 2.0*" Pastor Ed

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*) Leader

God of steadfast love and mercy, we have shielded our eyes from the evil and injustice in the world. We have turned away from your forgiveness and your compassion, and from your wisdom and your guidance. We have allowed our voices to be silent. Cleanse us. Purify us. Remind us that we still have much to learn, and that you continue to teach us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that our faith in you might be renewed. In humble confidence, we pray. Amen.

**Silent Meditation**

**Words of Assurance**

**We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns** Thayer Doyle

**Silent Prayer followed by Pastoral Prayer**

**The Offering of our Gifts** (*Please mail in your offerings*)

## Doxology

### Offering Prayer (Unison)

Generous and all-loving God, grant us the wisdom to know you more completely. Give us the hope to live as your people. Inspire us to give of our spirits more fully, in the faith that your promise is already within us. As we give our gifts and tithes today, we recommit ourselves to your service and to the service of your people. May we do so in response to your unending call that beckons us and leads us home. We pray as followers of the glorified Christ. Amen.

### WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

**Sending Hymn** "Come Thou Almighty King" Eunice Alberts,  
Patty Dayton, Ron Giannattasio

**The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

**Benediction Response** "Sent Forth with God's Blessing"

#### *Our Worship Tech Team*

Rose Aiello  
Eunice Alberts  
Patti Early  
Bill Florin  
RoseAnne Homola  
Amy Rajpolt  
Sheryl Rajpolt

Pastor: Reverend Ed Dayton

Leader: Heather Arnold; Children's Time: Eunice Alberts

Joys and Concerns: Thayer Doyle

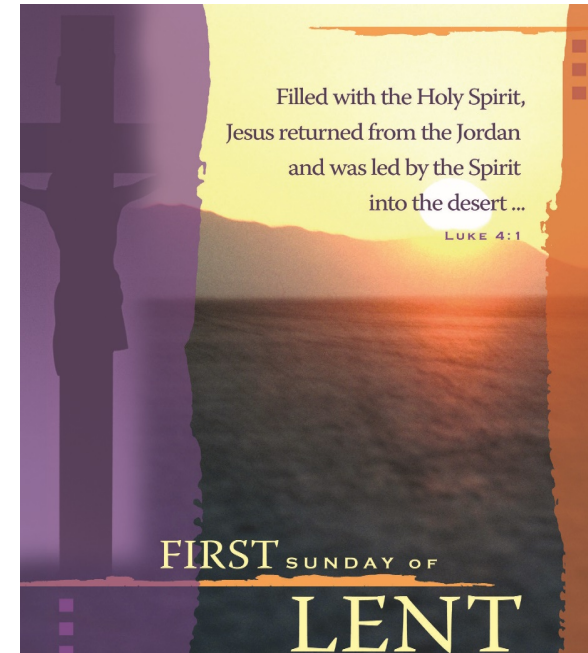
Soloist(s): Rose Aiello, Eunice Alberts, Heather Arnold,  
Patty Dayton, Dave York

Pianist/Organist: Ron Giannattasio and RoseAnne Homola

UMC Monroe Lay Leader: Rose Aiello

LHUMC Lay Leaders: Maggie Flemma and Tim Quinn

Music Leaders: Patti Early, RoseAnne Homola, Eunice Alberts



### **Join Zoom meeting:**

<https://umcom.zoom.us/j/97378634387?pwd=WG9Hd0xWUzBEUm4xdm1oR2svQkFwQT09>

or by dialing in by phone:

1.929.205.6099 US (Meeting ID: 94299647637)

Password: 2020

### **United Methodist Church of Monroe**

515 Cutlers Farm Road  
Monroe, CT 06468

### **Long Hill United Methodist Church**

Main and Elizabeth Streets  
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

### **Sunday, February 21, 2021**

***"Growing in the Body of Christ"***

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