

UMCM Morning Worship

April 30, 2023, 10:00 am

**Denotes Standing, in body and/or spirit*

Worship Theme: The Good Shepherd

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "He is King of Kings" Colin Curtis

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Darlene Dobler-Palin

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 28 Leader

Leader: To you, Lord, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me.

People: For if you remain silent, I will be like those who go down to the pit.

Leader: Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place.

People: Praise be to the Lord, for He has heard my cry for mercy.

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me.

People: My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise Him.

Leader: The Lord is the strength of His people, a fortress of salvation for His anointed one.

People: Save your people and bless your inheritance; be their shepherd and carry them forever.

***Opening Hymn** "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" UMH #334
(sing twice)

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** (By Betty Hendricks) Leader
Good morning, Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit. As we look out at the world around us, we are consumed with wonder at the rebirth of nature, and our souls are refreshed. The daffodils and tulips raise their flowers toward the sun. All of nature praises you. We are privileged to join their song of praise for we know that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Your final words to us, according to the Gospel of John, are "Follow me." It is our greatest desire to do so. And so we gather this morning with great anticipation to hear

your voice clearly in our prayers, in our worship, in our listening, and in your presence in our community. You came that we have life and have it abundantly. Please be with us today. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering One Another the Peace of Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM "Shepherd Your Flock" Nan and Dennis Allen

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Ezekiel 34:1-12](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Lesson:** [John 10:1-14](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "The Shepherd's Voice" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Response "Where Charity and Love Prevail" UMH#549
(v. 1,2,6)

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns

Silent Prayer followed by the Pastoral Prayer

The Offering of our Gifts

*Doxology

***Offering Prayer (Unison)** (By Betty Hendricks)

Dear Lord, we are the sheep of your flock, and we ask to hear your voice guiding us to that rich, new life. Your pastures are green, your seed is ready to be sown, and we, your disciples, are eager to do the planting so that you may have a full harvest. We ardently desire that all those who we encounter also have

life and have it abundantly. We thank you for this opportunity to celebrate with you this morning. Please help us to be attentive to your presence among us. May this offering contribute to Your harvest. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" UMH#474

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" UMH#672

Postlude

Join Us For Coffee Hour

Coming Up:

May 7th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - "The way, and the truth, and the life" Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word to hear how Jesus IS the way to the Father - and why we pray "in Jesus' name"! ([John 14:1-14](#)). Join us on the way!

Join us Wednesday's @ 7:30am for
Wednesday-Wakeup Devotional & Fellowship



[Zoom Link](#)
(Live Meeting)



[YouTube \(https://bitly.com/WWakeup\)](https://bitly.com/WWakeup)
(Recorded Sessions)

Pastor: Reverend Charles J. Schif Liturgist: Darlene Dobler-Palin
Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola Lay Leader: Rose Aiello
Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

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Worship Livestream Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96540669674?pwd=OEVTYXdlLzBucDR4YzBvdEwvSlkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 965 4066 9674

Passcode: 2819

Dial-in: +1 929 205 6099

United Methodist Church of Monroe

A member of the Greater Bridgeport Cooperative Parish

515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, April 30, 2023

"Growing in the Body of Christ"