

UMCM Morning Worship

May 21, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Commission & Ascension

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Sunset and Evening Star" Robert W. Thygerson

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Rose Aiello

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 47 Leader

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

People: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom He loves. *Selah*

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Leader: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

People: For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

***Opening Hymn** "He is Exalted" TFWS #2070

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of Jesus. You have been pursuing Your people from the beginning of time. Today, we are reminded that Jesus' ascension is the culmination of Your plan to bring us back to You. Jesus said, "*No one comes to the Father except through me.*" May we stand looking up toward heaven, awaiting Jesus' return, while living out our commission to bear witness to the ends of the earth of the presence of Jesus in our lives. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering One Another the Peace of Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM "Shine Jesus, Shine" Graham Kendrick and Mark Hayes

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson: Acts 1:1–11 (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Lesson:** Luke 24:44–53 (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Response "I Love to Tell the Story" UMH #156
(v. 1-3)

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)

Holy Jesus, you have blessed us with your presence on this earth. You have blessed us with your words of truth, as captured in Holy Scripture. You have blessed us with a promise *to be with us always, to the very end of the age*. We now choose to return that blessing, back to you, and to your people. May this offering of our financial gifts, and the offering of ourselves, be multiplied in your power to bless your world. May it impact the world in the name of Jesus in ways we can hardly imagine. We love you, and we thank you. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "You Alone Are Holy" TFWS #2077

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "The Trees of the Field" TFWS #2279

Postlude

Coffee Hour Host: Marybeth Mc Guire

Coming Up:

May 28th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - "Pentecost" Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word to hear about the Birth of the Church ([Acts 2:1-21](#)). Join us and get fired-up!

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: Rose Aiello
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=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwvSlkyQT09>

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, May 21, 2023

"Growing in the Body of Christ"