

# UMCM Morning Worship

July 16, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Spreading Seeds

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Ed Hendricks

**\*Call to Worship (Responsively) 2 Cor. 9:6-10** Leader  
Leader: The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,  
People: **and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.**

Leader: Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

People: **And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.**

Leader: As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

People: **He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.**

**\*Opening Hymn** "Hymn of Promise" UMH #707

**\*Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader  
Good Morning Lord and Happy Sunday to You! We are blessed to be here again, with You. Thank You for continuing to search and reach out to each one of us. I am reminded of this as I reflect on today's scripture from Matthew: You "*went out of the house and sat beside the sea*". But as the crowds gathered, you went out of your way to get into a boat just so that you could continue to teach those around you. We are those people today. Open our eyes, our minds, and our hearts to experience You, and Your teachings, more deeply today. We love you Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "Fill Us With Your Love, O Lord" Carol Browning

A Time for Children of All Ages

## WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

**New Testament Lesson:** [Romans 8:1-11](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Searching for Fertile Soil" Pastor Chuck

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Response "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" TFWS #2158

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns

Silent Prayer followed by the Pastoral Prayer

\*Doxology & the Offering of our Gifts

Offering Prayer (Unison)

Dear Heavenly Father, please accept our gifts we give to You today. These gifts are truly Yours, and we are returning them to You. We just ask that these gifts we are offering: our treasures, our talents, our hearts, and our love; that they fall on good soil. Let them be multiplied in Your hands. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

\***Sending Hymn** "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" UMH #404

\***Benediction**

\***Benediction Response** "More Precious than Silver" TFWS #2065  
(sing twice)

**Postlude**

*Join Us for Coffee Hour*

**Coming Up:**

**July 23th - Sunday Worship Service @10am** - Join us **LIVE** or **ONLINE** as we resume our study of God's Word as Jesus explains the Parable of the Weeds among the Wheat ([Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#))  
*Let's do some weeding!*

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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: Ed Hendricks

Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola

Lay Leader: Rose Aiello

Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

Email: [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org)

Telephone: 203.268.8395

Web site: [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)

Email: [Pastor@UMCMonroe.org](mailto:Pastor@UMCMonroe.org)

Pastor's cell: 203.560.2220



**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, July 16, 2023**

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