

UMCM Morning Worship

August 27, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Belief in the Living God

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements (see insert)

Rose Aiello

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Psalm 84* Leader

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

People: **My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**

Leader: Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God.

People: **Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.**

Leader: Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

People: **Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;**

Leader: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

People: **Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.**

***Opening Hymn** “Christ for the World to Sing” UMH #568
(v. 1-3)

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** *by Patti Early* Leader
Loving God, thank you for this time when we come together to worship you, to hear your Word, the messages you have for us, and to sing your praises. Help us to lay our burdens, concerns and doubts at the foot of the cross. While we are not worthy to receive the keys to the Kingdom of heaven, Lord, we humbly ask you to open our hearts and minds to receive your unconditional love and unmerited grace. Like Peter, may we proclaim you as “*the Messiah*,”

the Son of the Living God” without hesitation. We pray this in Jesus’ Holy name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sign of Peace

Special Music

“Brother James’s Air”

**Ann Wainwright,
Patti Early**

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Romans 12:1–8](#) (NRSV)

Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 16:13–20](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“But who do you say that I am?”

Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** “The Church’s One Foundation”
(v. 1,2,4)

UMH #545

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)

Heavenly Father, through our worship today, we’ve endeavored to “*present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You.*” May we continue to do the same throughout the week by our actions, our thoughts, and our words. May these gifts be the continuation of that worship, trusting You more deeply with these treasures. With your strength, allow them to inspire us, and those around us, to declare from our hearts that Jesus is “*the Messiah, the Son of the living God.*” We trust you and we love you, Lord. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "Grace Alone" TFWS #2162

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" TFWS #2153
(v. 1 & 3)

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour hosted by the Ed and Betty Hendricks

Coming Up:

September 3rd - Communion Sunday Worship Service @10am -

Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word as the cross begins to cast a shadow on Jesus' time with his disciples ([Matthew 16:21-28](#)) Are you prepared to take up your cross?

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

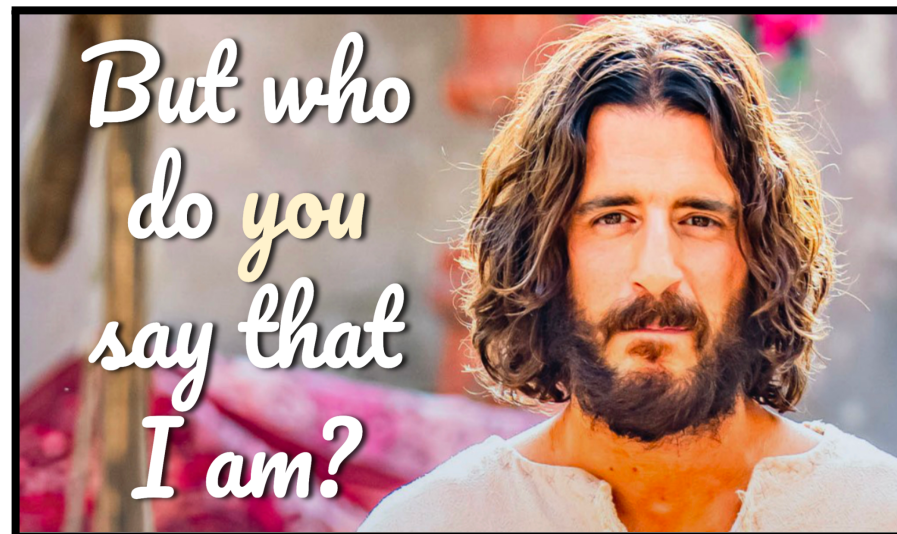
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Worship Livestream Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96540669674?pwd=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, August 27, 2023

"Growing in the Body of Christ"