

UMCM Morning Worship

September 3, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Following the Will of God

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Anita Stabler-Hussey

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Isaiah 53* Leader
Leader: He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.
People: **He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.**
Leader: He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
People: **Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.**
Leader: Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering,
People: **yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.**
Leader: But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;
People: **the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.**

***Opening Hymn** "All Who Hunger" TFWS #2126

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Most Holy Jesus, we hunger today. While we've been blessed beyond anything that we deserve, we still hunger for the earthly things that we *don't have* rather than the heavenly gifts that we *do have*. Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us for setting *our mind not on divine things but on human things*. You are truly our treasure. As we take in your Word in the readings, and your very self in Communion, give us the strength to set our minds on you. We are yours today. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sign of Peace

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson: [Romans 12:9–21](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 16:21–28](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Thy will be done..." Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "Take Up Thy Cross" UMH #415
(v. 1,2,4)

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, you've guided us, taught us, and filled us with your Spirit. We thank you for those gifts. We now give our lives, and these gifts, back to you. For what would it benefit us to hold onto these treasures, if it meant losing our connection with you? Let this time of giving prepare our hearts to *remember* how you sacrificed for us, so that we can *take up our cross, and follow you*. We love you, Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Pastor Chuck

Prayer of Thanksgiving

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" TFWS #2140
(v. 1,3,5)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" UMH #557
(v. 1)

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour

Coming Up:

September 10th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us *LIVE* or *ONLINE* as Jesus reminds us that "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" ([Matthew 18:15-20](#))
Come to church - Hang out with Jesus!

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: Anita Stabler-Hussey
Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola Lay Leader: Rose Aiello
Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

Email: umc@umcmonroe.org Telephone: 203.268.8395
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Worship Livestream Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96540669674?pwd=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwwSlkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 965 4066 9674

Passcode: 2819

Dial-in: +1 929 205 6099

United Methodist Church of Monroe

A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish

515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, September 3, 2023

"Growing in the Body of Christ"