

UMCM Morning Worship

September 17, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Forgiveness

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude **The Lord God has Spoken** David Paxton

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Patti Schif

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Psalm 103* Leader

Leader: Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name.

People: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits

Leader: who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

People: who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

People: He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

Leader: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities

People: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear him;

***Opening Hymn** "I Will Call Upon the Lord" TFWS #2002
(each part - repeat)

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Heavenly Father, we come into Your house today as forgiven people. When we sin against others, we sin against you. And yet, you still welcome us into Your house as your precious children. You are so good to us. When we pray, "*forgive us our trespasses...*" please give us the wisdom and strength to genuinely say from our hearts, "*...as we forgive those who trespass against us.*" May we truly *live* this day as forgiven people. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "Come, Let's Celebrate Jesus" Dennis and Nan Allen

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Genesis 50:15–21](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 18:21–35](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "A Lifestyle Change" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" TFWS #2129

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) by Ed Hendricks

O Lord our God, you have every reason to be angry with us – because we have disobeyed you so many times. You have every right to be disappointed in us – because we use your name to curse those who have disappointed us. You have every right to condemn us – because, even though your Son, Jesus, commanded us to love one another, we still harbor grudges. But rather than condemnation, you promise us eternal life. We give you thanks that we are a forgiven people. We praise you, God Our Father, through Jesus your Son, in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn “Pass It On” UMH #572

*Benediction

*Benediction Response “Rule of Life” See Insert

Postlude

Join Us for Ice-Cream!

Coming Up:

September 24th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we continue to study God’s Word as Jesus teaches us about the generosity of God as He pays us, His “Laborers in the Vineyard” ([Matthew 20:1–16](#)) How much are you worth to God? Join us and find out!

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: Patti Schif
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=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwvSlkyQT09>

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 17, 2023

“Growing in the Body of Christ”