

UMCM Morning Worship

October 15, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Living Like Paul

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Darlene Dobler-Palin

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Psalm 138* Leader
Leader: I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

People: **I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness.**

Leader: When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

People: **May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord, when they hear what you have decreed.**

Leader: May they sing of the ways of the Lord, for the glory of the Lord is great.

People: **Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, he sees them from afar.**

Leader: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.

People: **You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.**

***Opening Hymn** "He Has Made Me Glad" TFWS #2270

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Heavenly Father, we have come here to *rejoice*. Your Word tells us to *rejoice in the Lord always*. However, it's not always easy to rejoice when pressures, and tragedies, and losses in this world make *rejoicing* a foreign concept. But, I guess that's why we're here. We need You. Your Word also encourages us to simply *make our requests known to You*. Are you big enough to handle those requests? Today, Lord, we trust that You are. You are the Creator and the Sustainer - and we need You today. Please be with us as we *rejoice* - in You. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "I Will Bless Your Name" Kenn Mann

A Time for Children of All Ages

We welcome new members! Stephen & Jill Rose

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Epistle Lesson: [Philippians 4:1-9](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 22:1-14](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Don't Worry. Rejoice!" Patti Early

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "Take Time to Be Holy" UMH #395
(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)

Loving Jesus, we come to your altar today with our gifts. We come to center our minds, and our offerings on the things that are *true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent and worthy of praise*. We do this because you, Lord, can be described by each one of those attributes. May these gifts, and our service to you, be used by you and seen by the world as *true, honorable, and excellent* so that the world may see *our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven*. We pray this all in your precious name. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH #526

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Rule of Life" See Insert

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour

Coming Up:

October 22nd - Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we continue to study God's Word as Jesus teaches us to "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's" ([Matthew 22:15-22](#)). Pay taxes AND Pay attention to God! 🙏

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: Darlene Dobler-Palin
Keyboards: Bill Schmalkucke 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 Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish
515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, October 15, 2023

"Growing in the Body of Christ"