

UMCM Morning Worship

December 10, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Peace

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Rose Aiello

Advent Candle Lighting Peace Aiden Wallace

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 85 Leader

Leader: Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

People: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.

Leader: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

People: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

People: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

***Opening Hymn** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" UMH #213

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Lord Jesus, we are here to *prepare the way of the Lord!* Just as your prophets of old spoke of your arrival, and John the baptizer did the same after them, you call *us* to prepare as well. Not through online shopping or decorating our houses, but by purifying our hearts and opening *that* door to welcome you in. Once that "uneven ground has become level", then *the glory of the Lord shall be revealed*, and we, as your people, shall see your glory together! We praise you. We love you. It's in your name that we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "Advent Alleluia" Douglas E. Wagner

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Isaiah 40:1-11](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Lesson:** [Mark 1:1-8](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Preparing the House" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "Angels From The Realms of Glory" UMH#202
(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)

O generous Lord, receive our thanks for every blessing you make possible in our lives. You are our true light and peace. May your blessed light and your holy peace fill our hearts and our world. In the midst of our preparation for your glorious birth, we offer you these gifts to share so that your love will shine brightly through our church and community. May these offerings glorify you and lead all to your sacred path. Amen.

*Sending Hymn	“Lord, I want to Be A Christian” (v. 1,2,4)	UMH #402
*Benediction		
*Benediction Response	“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” (sing twice)	UMH #204
Postlude		

Coming Up:

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. Schiff Liturgist: Rose Aiello
Keyboards: RoseAnne Homola Lay Leader: Rose Aiello
Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

Email: umc@umcmonroe.org Telephone: 203.268.8395
Web site: www.umcmonroe.org
Email: 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 Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish
515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, December 10, 2023

“Growing in the Body of Christ”