

UMCM Morning Worship

February 4, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Galatians 4 - Hagar and Sarah

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "The Prayer Perfect" Robert Thygerson

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Anita Stabler-Hussey

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Psalm 143* Leader

Leader: Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;

People: **In your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.**

Leader: I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.

People: **I spread out my hands to you; I thirst for you like a parched land.**

Leader: Answer me quickly, Lord; my spirit fails.

People: **Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit.**

Leader: Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you.

People: **Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.**

Leader: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;

People: **may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

***Opening Hymn** "Open Our Eyes Lord" TFWS #2086

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** *By Brian Sherwood* Leader

Dear Lord, please open our minds and our hearts to hear your words today. Let us give ourselves over to your Holy Spirit so that we might hear your teaching and apply it to our lives. Help us to rejoice that we have been given liberty and grafted into your family through our beloved Jesus' sacrifice. Let us celebrate that in this freedom we will be part of your splendid inheritance. Let us remember that we are not to be yoked to the world, but instead are free to pursue a relationship with You. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "Come Unto Me" William David Young

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Epistle Lesson: [Galatians 4:21-5:1](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [John 17:1-15, 21-27](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Slave or Free?" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" UMH #139
(v. 1,2,5)

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, thank you for this opportunity to worship you. We've listened to your Word, searched for your guidance in our prayers, and sung praises to your name. We do this because we want to, and not because we need to. In that same spirit of *freedom*, we offer these gifts to you. In your divine power, please free us from the burdens of fear in "not having enough" or of letting go of control. You know the plans you have for us, and we put our trust in you. Use this offering as you will, for all the Glory belongs to You. 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 "There is a Balm in Gilead" UMH #375

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Go Now in Peace" UMH #665

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour

Coming Up:

February 11th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we continue the study of Paul's letter to the church in Galatia ([Galatians 5](#)) What's in your Fruit Salad?!? 😊

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
Keyboards: 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 Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish

515 Cutlers Farm Road

Monroe, CT 06468

February 4, 2024, 10:00 am

"Growing in the Body of Christ"