

UMCM Morning Worship

March 3, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Trusting in God

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Communion Aria" Franklin Ritter

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) John Rajpolt

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 19 Leader

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

People: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

People: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

Leader: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

People: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

Leader: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

People: sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

***Opening Hymn** "Lift High The Cross" UMH #159
(v. 1,3,4)

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** by Patti Early Leader

Loving God, we have come into your house of worship seeking to hear your Word, sing your praises, and gain a richer understanding of your will and desires for us. Forgive us when we turn our focus away from you and are distracted by the things of this world. Fill our hearts with a zeal for you to bring others to know the risen Christ – the living temple that was resurrected in three days – and the

promise of your presence in our lives always. We give you all honor and praise in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem

"This is for You"

Nan and Dennis Allen

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Epistle Lesson: [1 Corinthians 1:18–25](#) (NRSV)

Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Lesson:** [John 2:13–22](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Paying the Price"

Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response**

"Lord I Want to Be A Christian"
(v. 1,2,4)

UMH #402

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 taught us what is truly valuable in life. Following Your Word, and Your will, are more valuable than the *finest gold*, and the *sweetest honey*. However, we know that money is just a tool that we can use to either lift each other up, or push each other down. May this offering be used to lift up. May it be used to align us, and those who will receive it, closer to following Your will. Have your way, Lord, have your way. We pray this in Jesus' name. 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 "How Great Thou Art" UMH #77

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Great is Thy Faithfulness" UMH #140

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour

Coming Up:

March 10th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we are reminded that God so loved the world... ([John 3:14-21](#))

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: John Rajpolt

Keyboards: RoseAnne Homola

Lay Leader: Rose Aiello

Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

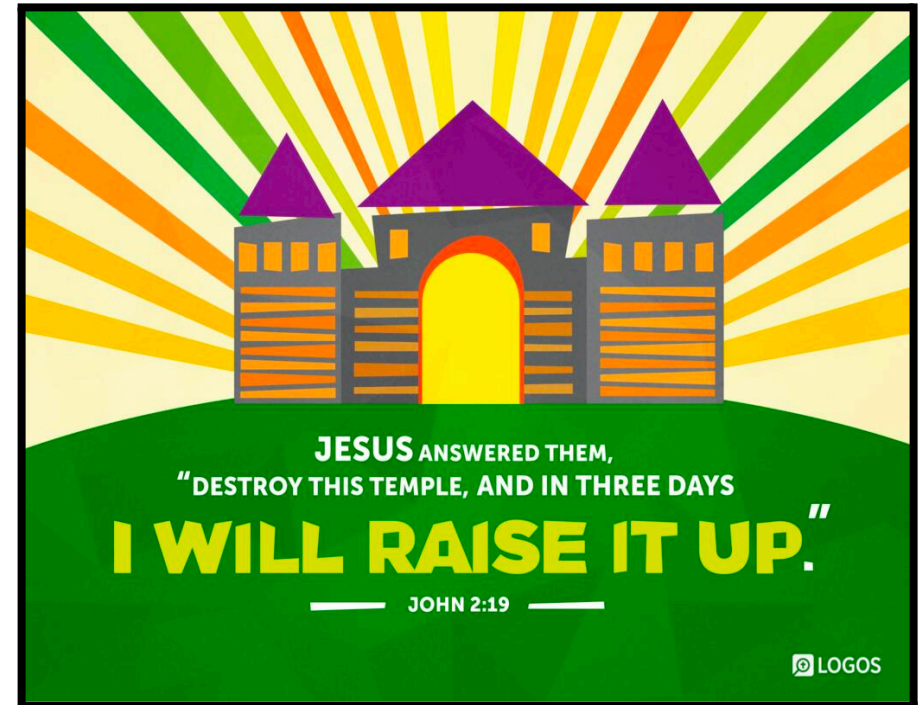
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Pastor's cell: 203.560.2220



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

March 3, 2024, 10:00 am

"Growing in the Body of Christ"