

Sunday Worship

April 7, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Believe

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Alleluia, The Strife Is O'er" Franklin Rutter

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Anita Stabler-Hussey

*Call to Worship (*Responsively*) Leader

Leader: We have been freed!

People: **Fear and death have no claim on us!**

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen!

People: **Even though we have not touched his wounded hands, yet we believe.**

Leader: Even though we have not heard him speak our names, yet we believe.

People: **Let us celebrate God's love through the life of Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

*Opening Hymn "Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise" UMH #312
(v. 1,2,4)

*Opening Prayer (*Unison*) Leader

Lord of surprises, you have offered us the greatest miracle of all time, the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Last Sunday, we sang and celebrated, but a week has passed and we may have slid back into our old ways of perceiving your presence and love. Shake us up, Lord, and cause us to look with new eyes on our Savior, who came that we might have life, abundantly serving all who are in need. Open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ and erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Offering One Another the Peace of Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM "We Remember You" Hal Wright

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson: [Acts 5:27-32](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*Gospel Lesson: [John 20:19-31](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Message "Funny, Not Funny" Rose Aiello

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Response "Come, Share the Lord" TFWS#2269
(v. 1-3)

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns

Silent Prayer followed by the Pastoral Prayer

The Offering of our Gifts

*Doxology

Offering Prayer (Unison) by Denise Wiley

Loving Jesus, you are our Risen Lord, the giver of eternal life and our source of freedom. To you we give thanks and praise for all your blessings. We joyfully offer these gifts to you Lord and ask for your blessings upon them. We offer them for your glory and to be a help to those in need, including those who may doubt your loving presence in the world. As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. 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 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" TFWS #2088
(sing twice)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Christ is Alive" UMH #318
(v.1)

Postlude

Coffee Hour Hosted by the Reynolds Family

Coming Up:

Apr. 14th - Sunday Worship Service @10am - "BBQ w/Jesus!"
Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word to hear about how Jesus shared the richness of Scripture while enjoying a meal with his best friends ([Luke 24:36-49](#)). Pull up a seat and enjoy!

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
Pianist/Organist: 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=OEVTYXdlLzBucDR4YzBvdEwwSlkyQT09>

United Methodist Church of Monroe

A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish
515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, April 7, 2024

"Growing in the Body of Christ"