

Sunday Worship

December 8, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: The Messenger of Peace

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Berceuse de Noel" Sera Douglas
Christmas Lullaby

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Anita Stabler-Hussey

Advent Candle Lighting McManus Family

***Call to Worship** Luke 1

Leader: *A prophecy of Zechariah, father of John the Baptist:*
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

People: **He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,**

Leader: Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,

People: **the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear**

Leader: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

People: **to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

People: **to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

***Opening Hymn** "What Feast of Love" WS #3170

***Opening Prayer (Unison)**

Holy Jesus, in this season of Advent, we look forward to your arrival. Not only to remember your first coming as the Christ Child,

but look forward to your second coming to heal your world. May today's worship remind us you are the ultimate messenger of Peace. Oh Lord, how we need that message! While we wait, let us embrace the fact that you offer to provide today, "*the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding.*" Deliver that message into our hearts today, we pray in your name. Amen.

Words of Assurance Offering One Another the Peace of Christ

Choir Anthem "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Mark Andrew

A Time for Children of All Ages Sunday School

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Malachi 3:1-7b](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Luke 3:1-9](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Message "Don't shoot the messenger" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns

Silent Prayer followed by the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

***Doxology**

The Offering of our Gifts

Offering Prayer (Unison)

Lord Jesus, as we once again approach Your altar to give, we're reminded of how much you already gave. Beyond the obvious gift of yourself, you also gave us Peace with the words, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*" As we offer

our tangible treasures here today, may we be bold enough to also offer the gift of our peace back to you. Peace for our family. Peace for our neighbors. Peace even to those who fight back. You gave to all, may we give to all. Only in your strength, and in your name, do we pray. 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 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" UMH #211
(v. 1,2,4)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Walk in the Light" Insert

Postlude

Join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Dotti Hossler and Christine Reynolds

Coming Up:

December 15th. - Third Sunday of Advent Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we are BLESSED with a message through a Christmas pageant put on by our Church family!

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)



Worship Livestream Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96540669674?pwd=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwvSlkyQT09>

United Methodist Church of Monroe

A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish

515 Cutlers Farm Road

Monroe, CT 06468

Sunday, December 8, 2024

"Growing in the Body of Christ"