

# Sunday Worship

December 29, 2024, 10:00 am

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

**Worship Theme:** Reflecting on the Christmas Story

**Prelude** "Christmas Medley"

**Welcome & Announcements (see insert)**

## \*Call to Worship

**Leader:** Like the people who found hope in a manger

**People:** **Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, rest on us!**

**Leader:** Like Wise Men traveling to see a new star,

**People:** **Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, reveal to us!**

**Leader:** Like Scrooge yelling from his bedroom window,

**People:** **Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, guide us!**

**Leader:** Great, good news-carrying Spirit

**People:** **Rest on us as you did on Simeon.**

**Leader:** Illuminating, light-bringing Spirit

**People:** **Reveal to us as you did to Anna!**

**Leader:** Holy, Holy, Holy Spirit

**People:** **Guide us as you guided the wise men long ago!**

**\*Hymn** "Joy to the World" UMH #246 vs. 1,2,4

## \*Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

The circle is completed. God's plan has been revealed. The preexistent Word of God, the love and acceptance of God throughout creation, violated by humanity in Eden, broken through distrust and disobedience, is now mended through the coming of God into the world in the form of a child. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. Amen.

## Words of Assurance

**Offering One Another the Peace of Christ**

A Time for Children of All Ages

## Proclaiming God's Word

**Who was Simeon?**

[Luke 2:25-35](#) (CEB)

**Who was Anna?**

[Luke 2:36-38](#) (CEB)

**Hymn** "Love Came Down at Christmas" UMH #242

**Herod and the Magi**

[Matthew 2:1-12](#) (CEB)

**Mapping it Out**

**Hymn** "Away in a Manger" UMH #217

**We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns**

**Lord's Prayer**

## Offering Our Gifts

**\*Doxology** "In the Bleak Midwinter" UMH #221 v. 4 only

## Offering Prayer (Unison)

**O Lord, the light of your peace shines like the dawn! Give us eyes of faith so we will see that Christ is present in our midst. You have covered your people in the finest clothes, the garments of salvation! Receive these gifts as a sign of our gratitude and commitment to live into our new reality in Jesus Christ. We ask this as a people clothed in your Son's grace. Amen. (Isaiah 61)**

**\*Hymn** "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH #238 vs 1,3,4

## \*Sending Forth

**Leader:** May the Christ who by his Incarnation gathered into one thing earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

All: AMEN

Leader: Go forth in Peace and Joy.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!!

\*Benediction Response "Go Tell It on the Mountain" UMH #251  
(refrain only)

Postlude

**Join us for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall**

**Coming Up:**

**Jan. 5th - Regular Service @10am - Epiphany of the Lord**

Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word to hear of Jesus' visit by the wise men ([Matthew 2:1-12](#))

**Jan. 12th - Regular Service @10am - Jesus gets Dunked! 😊**

Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word on the Baptism of Jesus ([Luke 3:15-22](#)) Ready to take a dip?

---

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

Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola

Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

Email: [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org)

Telephone: 203.268.8395

Web site: [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)

Email: [Pastor@UMCMonroe.org](mailto:Pastor@UMCMonroe.org)

Pastor's cell: 203.560.2220



**Worship Livestream Zoom link:**

<https://zoom.us/j/96540669674?pwd=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwwSlkyQT09>

**United Methodist Church of Monroe**

*A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish*

515 Cutlers Farm Road  
Monroe, CT 06468

**Sunday, December 29, 2024**

***"Growing in the Body of Christ"***