

# UMCM Morning Worship

January 5, 2025, 10:00 am

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

**Worship Theme:** The Faith of the Wise Men

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Prelude** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" Robert Thygerson

**Welcome & Announcements (see insert)** Rose Aiello

**\*Call to Worship (Responsively)** *Isaiah 60* Leader

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**People:** **For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

Leader: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**People:** **Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you.**

Leader: A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

**People:** **They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

**\*Opening Hymn** "We Three Kings" UMH #254  
(v. 1,3,5)

**\*Opening Prayer (Unison)** *by T. Anne Daniel* Leader  
**Dear God, reveal to us this day what our eyes look for but cannot see; what our ears hear and cannot understand. Shine your light on the pages of our lives. In the places where we share the dark, everyone looks bright, and everything looks right. We are not anxious to move out of our darkness where we are fooled. In the darkness, our motives are not clear, our ideas are not voiced, and our relationships are not questioned. But when your light shines, everything is like an open window. We see clearly. Help us to move on with you, Light of lights. We praise you and pray in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

## Words of Assurance

## Offering the Sign of Peace

**Choir Anthem** "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" Adger M. Pace  
R. Fisher Boyce

## A Time for Children of All Ages

### WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

**New Testament Lesson:** [Ephesians 3:1-12](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 2:1-12](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** "Lessons from the Magi" Patti Early

### WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

## 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)

**Lord Jesus, today we bring you these gifts. While they might not be gold, frankincense, and myrrh, they are still given to honor your kingship, divinity, and sacrifice for us. Lord, when we give, we reveal our hearts. In your power, use these gifts, and heal the hearts that gave them, to do your work, and shine your light into this world. In the end, it is you who truly gives more than we can ever imagine. We worship you. We love you. We give all back to you. It's in your name that 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 "A Star Shone Bright" WS #3051  
(v. 1,3,4)

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response "Shine, Jesus, Shine" TFWS #2173  
(refrain only)

Postlude

*Join Us for Coffee Hour*

#### Coming Up:

**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?

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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: Rose Aiello

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=OEVTYXdILzBucDR4YzBvdEwvSlkyQT09>

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

**January 5, 2025, 10:00 am**

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