

UMCM Morning Worship

February 23, 2025, 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: Love your Enemies

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Festive Praise" George Blake

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Leader

***Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 37 Leader

Leader: Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,

People: **for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.**

Leader: Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

People: **Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Leader: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

People: **He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

***Opening Hymn** "Where Charity and Love Prevail" UMH #549
(v. 1,2,6)

***Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader
Good morning, Lord. We came here this morning to worship you, but we also came here broken. While we have much to be thankful for, we have also been hurt. Hurt by our own mistakes. Hurt by others. And those scars remain. They filter our outlook and our responses so that the things of the past continue on to damage our present and our future. Forgive us, Lord, for not knowing how to forgive. Forgive us for holding on to hate and bitterness rather than striving for love. Teach us how to *love our enemies and do good to those who hate us*. It doesn't seem "normal," but we know it is your way. Teach us your way, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering the Sign of Peace

Choir Anthem "Amazing Grace/Pachelbell's Canon" Jean Anne Shafferman

Souper Bowl of Caring - Youth Moment

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: [Genesis 45:3-11, 15](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Lesson:** [Luke 6:27-38](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Message "Living the Image of God" Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn of Response** "Here is Peace" WS #3123
(v. 1-3)

We Lift Up to God Our Prayers and Concerns & Pastoral Prayer

***Doxology & the Offering of our Gifts**

Offering Prayer (Unison) by a UMCM Angel

Dear God. Our world is broken. You are aware of this. We are divided; in our world, our church, our family and even within ourselves. Please use what we are giving back to You, to heal this brokenness. Use these gifts, not only in the places where we find peace and friendship, but use these resources in places where we may find enemies. We ask You to break our hearts for what breaks Yours. Guide us to be used as Your hands and feet in this world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn "Freely, Freely" UMH #389

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Pass It On" UMH #572
(v. 1)

Postlude

Join Us for Coffee Hour hosted by Sue Simmons

Coming Up:

March 2nd. - Communion Sunday Worship Service @10am

Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word as Jesus is transfigured ([Luke 9:28-36](#)) God, and clean clothes, and dead prophets, oh my! 😊

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: Chris Shope,

Reid Geissler

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=OEVTYXdllzBucDR4YzBvdEwwSlkyQT09>

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

February 23, 2025, 10:00 am

"Growing in the Body of Christ"