

# Sunday Worship

**<Remote - Zoom/YouTube Only>**

**January 25, 2026 10:00 am**

\*Denotes Standing, in body and/or spirit

**Worship Theme:** Strength to Follow the Light

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Welcome & Announcements (see insert)**

Leader

**\*Call to Worship (Responsively) Psalm 27**

Leader

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

People: **to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

Leader: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

People: **he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.**

Leader: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

People: **"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek.**

**\*Opening Prayer (Unison) a UMC Angel**

Leader

Loving Jesus, thank you for bringing your light into our world. May your gift of light bring hope and healing to our brokenness. We ask you, Lord, for the grace to answer your call. Shine your divine light into the dark corners of our lives, our minds, and our hearts. Grant us the courage to surrender any doubts and fears; to lay down our nets and follow You. May our lives become beacons of your love, drawing others to your light. In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.

**Words of Assurance**

**Offering the Peace of Christ**

## A Time for Children of All Ages

### WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

**Old Testament Lesson:** [Isaiah 9:1-7](#) (NRSV)

Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gospel Lesson:** [Matthew 4:12–23](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Message** **"The Light Shines in the Darkness"** **Pastor Chuck**

### WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

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

Pastoral Prayer

**\*Doxology**

The Offering of our Gifts

**Offering Prayer (Unison)** *a UMC Angel*

Lord, you call us to leave our comfort zone and follow you. May this offering be a sign of our readiness to go where you lead. We ask to be a holy light to all who live in darkness. Shape us into being true disciples and sources of hope for those in need. As we give, remind us that your kingdom is near. Bless our generous gifts and our actions. May they be instruments that proclaim this good news of your love, hope and peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

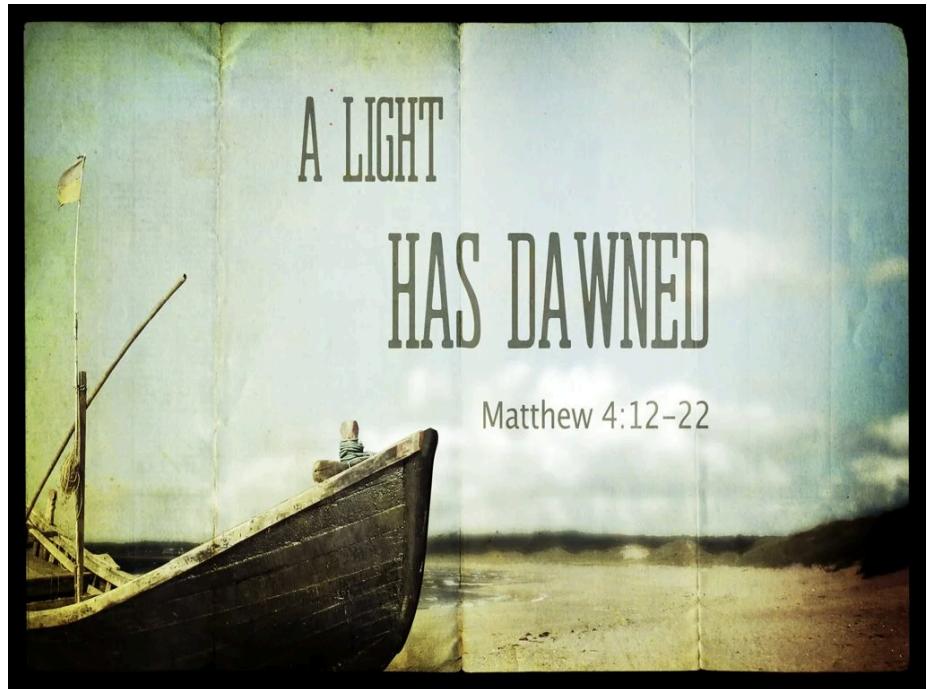
**\*Benediction**

**Stick around on Zoom to catch-up with your Church Family!**

**Coming Up:**

**February 1st. - for Communion Sunday Worship Service @10am**

- Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word in Matthew as we hear the "Beatitudes" ([Matthew 5:1-12](#)) Are you "blessed"?



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Join us Wednesday's @ 7:30am for  
**Wednesday-Wakeup** Devotional & Fellowship



[Zoom Link](#)  
(Live Meeting)



[YouTube \(<https://bitly.com/WWakeup>\)](#)  
(Recorded Sessions)

Pastor: Reverend Charles J. Schif

Liturgist: Amy and Michelle  
Rajpolt

Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola

Lay Leader: Patti Early

Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

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

Telephone: 203.268.8395

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Pastor's cell: 203.560.2220

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

**Worship Livestream Zoom link:**



**United Methodist Church of Monroe**  
*A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish*

515 Cutlers Farm Road  
Monroe, CT 06468

**January 25, 2026 10:00 am**  
***"Growing in the Body of Christ"***