

# Sunday Worship

April 26, 2026 10:00 am

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

**Worship Theme:** The Shepherd and the Gate

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Prelude** "Largetto" Mark Davis

**Welcome & Announcements (see insert)** Leader

**\*Call to Worship (Responsively)** Psalm 23 Leader

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**People:** **He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.**

Leader: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**People:** **Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me.**

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**People:** **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**\*Opening Hymn** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" UMH #381  
(v. 1,3,4)

**\*Opening Prayer (Unison)** Leader  
Jesus, our Shepherd, lead us today! *We, like sheep, have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way. We need your guidance. We need your protection. We need your companionship. May we hear your voice today. We pray that you open our minds and our hearts to follow you despite all the "noise" and "darkness" of the world. You are the gate. You are the path of life, for in your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

**Words of Assurance**

**Offering the Peace of Christ**

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "Shepherd Your Flock" Nan & Dennis Allen

**A Time for Children of All Ages**

## WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

**Epistle Lesson:** [1 Peter 2:19-25](#) (NRSV) Leader

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

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

**\*Gospel Lesson:** [John 10:1-10](#) (NRSV)

Lector: The Word of God for the People of God

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

**Message** The Shepherd and the Gate Pastor Chuck

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

**\*Hymn of Response** "They Will Know We are Christians by our Love" TFWS #2223  
(v. 1,2,4)

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

**\*Doxology** The Offering of our Gifts

**Offering Prayer (Unison)**  
Heavenly Father, we return to you. *For we were going astray like sheep, but now we have returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls.* Forgive us for our wanderings. We return with willing hearts to serve and treasures for your kingdom. Please accept these gifts. Use them and multiply them to grow your Church. May they be tools to bring more sheep into your sheepfold. May your will be done. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

\***Sending Hymn** "Since Jesus Came into My Heart" TFWS #2140  
(v. 1,3,5)

\***Benediction**

\***Benediction Response** "People Need the Lord" TFWS #2244

**Postlude**

*Join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Gail Mas*

**Coming Up:**

**May 3rd. - Communion Sunday Worship Service @10am - Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word ([John 14:1-14](#)) to be reminded that Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the life. Is there another way to God? Not according to Jesus. Join us!**

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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: Juliana and Daisy  
Sherwood

Pianist/Organist: RoseAnne Homola

Lay Leader: Patti Early

Music Leaders: Patti Early and RoseAnne Homola

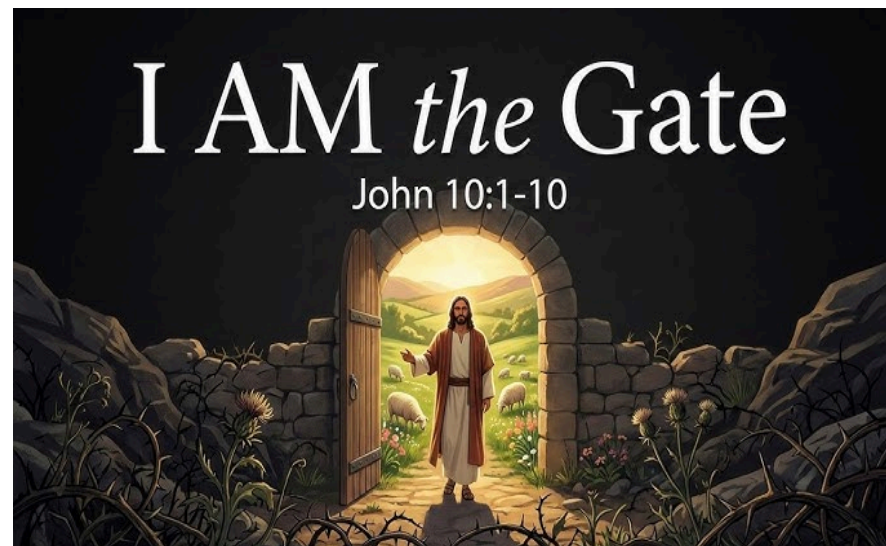
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**[Worship Livestream Zoom link:](#)**



**United Methodist Church of Monroe**

*A member of the Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish*

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**Sunday, April 26, 2026**