Sunday Worship

October 11, 2026 10:00 am

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

Worship Theme: The Attitude of Gratitude

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude Dr. Joe Utterback

Welcome & Announcements (see insert) Lynn Abbott

***Call to Worship** *(Responsively)* *Psalm 106* Leader

Leader: Praise the Lord!
People: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
Leader: Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?
People: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
Leader: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them;
People: That I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.
Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.
People: And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord!

***Opening Hymn** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" UMH #340 (v. 1,3,4)

Opening Prayer** ***(Unison) *by a UMCM Angel* Leader

Gracious God, thank you for calling us to your great banquet - saints and sinners alike. You spread a table before us filled with the richest fare - a feast of love and mercy for the body and soul. Prepare our hearts to worship you, Lord and clothe us in your righteousness. Help us to taste and see Your goodness and celebrate every gift and grace You offer. May Your spirit inspire our praise and thanksgiving, our prayers and petitions too as we worship together in Your presence. In the Name of Your Son Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Offering the Peace of Christ**

Special Music "Shall We Gather at the River" Dr. Joe Utterback

A Time for Children of All Ages

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 4:1–9 (NRSV) Leader
Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 22:1–14 (NRSV)
Lector: The Word of God for the People of God
People: Thanks be to God!

Message **The Rejoice Always Sandwich** Pastor Chuck

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

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

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

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

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

Heavenly Father, as we approach your altar to present you with these gifts, we strive to clear our minds of worry. To not worry about how we are asked to serve. To not worry about how these funds will be used. Instead, with this prayer and with thanks, we present our humble request to you to simply have your way. Let your sovereignty be made evident in these gifts so that your son's name may be the *name above all names* and your Church unites. Until then, we will rejoice in whatever is *true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and excellent,* because you are *worthy of praise.* In Jesus' name. Amen.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

***Sending Hymn**	"Together We Serve" (v. 1,2,4)	TFWS #2175
***Benediction**		
***Benediction Response**	"God is So Good" (v. 1-2)	TFWS #2056
Postlude	"Jericho"	Dr. Joe Utterback

Join us for the Church Cook-Out

Coming Up:

October 18th. - Sunday Worship Service @10am - *Join us LIVE or ONLINE as we resume our study of God's Word (Matthew 14:22-32) with special guest, Pastor John Esposito as we explore "Facing your Storms."*

Special Music by Dr. Joe Utterback, internationally recognized jazz pianist and composer who served more than 30 years as Music Director at Stratford United Church. His vibrant, soulful playing has inspired congregations and audiences across the country for decades.

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: Lynn Abbott
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

515 Cutlers Farm Road
Monroe, CT 06468

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