

May 24, 2020

7th Sunday of Easter

10:00 am

The Monroe Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming ✦ congregation.

Our deacons and pastors hope you will feel at home here.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you in Christ's name.

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Prelude This is My Song (Finlandia, J. Sybillius, 1899) David Bailey, Guitar

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands so far away,
This is my home, a country where my heart is,
Here grew my hopes and dreams for all mankind.
But other hearts in other lands are beating,
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight shines on clover leaf and pine,
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
And skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my prayer, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their lands and for mine.

Welcome & Announcements

Love Litany Fruits of the Spirit

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Grace Larry Wissink, Deacon of the Day

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring to all the good news of your saving love. But we struggle sometimes. Our faith takes a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. We look for the quick and easy answers. Forgive us. You, who raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. Challenge us to move in directions of peace and hope for all people. These things we pray in the name of our risen Lord. AMEN.

Sharing Peace

Hymn Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away) NCH 595

Some glad morning when this life is over, I'll fly away
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away

Refrain

I'll fly away, o Glory, I'll fly away (In the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life are gone, I'll fly away
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away (refrain)

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away
To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away

Morning Prayers

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Jesus Walked Katherine Logan, vocals, piano & violin

Scripture 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57

Sermon Seasons Rev. Jennifer Gingras

Hymn Shall We Gather at the River NCH 597

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
With it's crystal tide forever, flowing by the throne of God?

(refrain)

*Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river, that flows by the throne of God.*

On the margin of the river, washing up it's silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. (refrain)

As we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. (refrain)

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver, with the melody of peace. (refrain)

Benediction

Postlude Rigaudon (M. Ravel) Will Duchon, Piano

Sunday Morning worship is published by 9 am Sunday on our church's new You Tube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc>

Join us for a zoom coffee hour at 10:30, when we can share updates and prayer concerns: <https://zoom.us/j/460134127?pwd=cjYrUDhSSkppdjNMYjhvQ0ZDci9hUT09> .

If your computer's video or microphone capabilities aren't working with ZOOM, or you'd prefer to call over a LAN line, you can dial 1 (929) 205-6099, enter Meeting ID: 460 134 127 and Password: 894471

Socially Distanced Office Hours

Pastor Jenn will be offering socially distanced office hours by appointment after May 20th on the parsonage side lawn, provided the weather holds. If you are unable to leave your home, she can also come to you and stay (socially distanced) outside your storm door for a chat. Arrange with her by calling 203-895-5607.



In-Person, Outdoor, Socially Distanced Senior PF to begin May 31st

As our state begins to slowly open back up, it's time to think about what leaning into that might look like at church. I've spent time closely researching and monitoring CDC protocol for houses of worship, our regional minister's recommendations, and local conditions (including regular communication with our town's Board of Health). The adult advisors and high school leadership team will be able to begin a no-contact, outdoor, socially distanced PF program for our high schoolers beginning on May 31st at 5 pm. Our junior high youth group (Jr PF) will continue a zoom-only platform for now.

Protocols for In-Person, Outdoor, Socially Distanced Senior PF

- If you have a cough (not allergy related)/fever, you must stay home
- PF takes place outside (bring lawn chair)
- Masks are mandatory (we will have extras), maintain physical 6 ft distance
- No sharing food (bring your own snack)
- No singing (aerosolizes germs 20 ft)
- No immediate contact (hugs, holding hands)
- Wash hands frequently (will setup outdoor hand wash station, hand sanitizer)
- Bathrooms are a source of cross contamination, please try to limit their use if at all possible
- No Summer PF's at individual's home (need to control safety conditions, puts an unfair burden on hosting family)
- If protocols can't be followed, or if conditions in our local area change, we will discontinue in-person PF and resume to a Zoom-only alternative

Thank you! Please reach out to Pastor Jenn with any questions at 203-895-5607.