

July 18, 2021

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 am

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

Fairest Lord Jesus

Silesian Melody, 1850

Welcome & Announcements

Moment of Quiet & Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather in the name of Jesus Christ – members of God’s family,

People: And brothers and sisters to one another.

Leader: There are no outsiders here among us,

People: No one has any special standing or bragging rights.

Leader: For we have been brought together by the redeeming love of Jesus.

People: Let us join together in worship.

Opening Prayer

Michael Pfalzgraf, Deacon of the Day

***Our Church’s Covenant**

inside front cover of hymnal

***Passing the Peace**

*In order for those tuning in from home to feel included,
please turn and greet the webcam as you share signs of peace with one another.*

Call to Confession – Unison Prayer - Silent Prayer

God of all times and places, we confess that we have wandered from your pathway, lusting after the false gods of this age. We have disobeyed your commandments and violated your covenant with us. We have banished strangers and denied hospitality. Our words, spoken in haste, have caused conflict, tension, and pain. Forgive us, O God. Let your healing waters of divine love flow through us, welling up like a refreshing spring; reviving our souls and purifying our hearts. Reestablish us on the path of mercy and compassion for the sake of the One who is our guardian, guide and stay; Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen ~*silence*~

Words of Assurance

Children’s Message

Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer -- Lord’s Prayer

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 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart Frederick Atkinson, 1870

*Our offering plate will be passed among us today.
You may also choose to give online at www.mcc-ucc/donate.*

Scripture Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 page 916 & 917

If you would like to read along, Bibles may be found underneath the pew in front of you.

Sermon Vacationing With God The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Smith, Guest Preacher

Benediction

Parting Music Lead On, Eternal Sovereign Tune: LANCASHIRE, 1836

God is still speaking, welcome to all who are worshipping with us today, in-person and online! Worship is live streamed on church’s You Tube Channel under CCLI Streaming License #2169137 on: <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc>, as well as on our Facebook page “Monroe Congregational Church, UCC”

We are an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ, and we invite everyone to join in the full life and ministry of this church. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus’ model of loving acceptance and welcome to all persons, inclusive of every age, race, ability, economic and social status, nationality, faith background, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital standing and family structure.

COVID-19 Safety: In order to keep our community members safe (*including children under 12, the immune-compromised and those not yet fully vaccinated*), please follow these guidelines:

- Please stay home if you feel sick or have a fever (catch us on YouTube/Facebook)
- Please wear a mask indoors (if you need one, just ask!)
- We have provided hand sanitizer and tissues in the pews, please use carefully as the chemicals are corrosive on wood and other surfaces

Thank you for assisting in this morning’s worship!

- **Deacon:** Michael Pfalzgraf
- **Usher:** Clark Gingras
- **Trustee:** Dave Allen
- **Counter:** Bill Stadler
- **Coffee Hour Host:** Jessica Pfalzgraf and Kathy Allen

In Our Prayers

Jackie Ajello (Michele Mount's mother); **Michael Barresi** (Maria's Son); **Ben** (Maria Barresi's son-in-law's brother) **Jennifer Bittar** (Loraine Zeiner's friend); **Byron Brown & Bruce Bryant** (friends of Will Duchon); **Cheryl Ciambriello** (Wendy Colegrove's friend); **Lori Cimeno** (Peggy & Ron Villani's Daughter); **Dot Dralus; Matt Duchon; Marge Fox; Rachel Fracassini** (Jack & Linda Fracassini's niece); **Meredith Gibson** (Paul & Judy Coward's niece); **Fern Griffith** (Ashley Levin's friend); **Karen Guinness** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Gina & Liz** (Wendy Colegrove's friends); **Gary & Julie Hedine** (Nancy Hedine's son & daughter-in-law); **Mary & Rachel Heerema** (Julia Gutierrez's mom & sister); **Bob Heffernan** (Ann Zeiner's son-in-law); **Heather Henning; Brian Hopkins** (Donna Konkol's cousin); **Vera James** (Jenn Wissink's mother); **Heather Joyce** (Paul & Judy Coward's daughter); **Kelti** (friend of Liska Gutierrez); **Walter Lane** (Marge Fox's brother-in-law); **Logan/Weiss family; Mary-Margaret Logan** (Andrew's mother); **Jacque MacLean** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Nicole Malia; Mike** (Janie Allen's son); **Rev. Jonathan Miller** (Paul & Judy Coward's friend); **Jean Moffat; Olivia Morrison** (Donna Nickdow's niece); **Joe Mumper** (Julie McClenathan's friend); **Kathy Nivison** (Andy's mother); **Pat Nugent; Ocampo family** (friends of Liska Gutierrez); **Olson Family; Ray Osborne** (Colegrove's Family friend); **Dean Perosino** (Gayle Hammond's brother); **Geno Piacentini** (Karen MacDonald's husband); **P.T. Philip** (Liz Sampson's father); **Norman & Jan Ricker** (Linda & Jack Fracassini's friend); **Barbara Rivel** (Judy Coward's friend); **Regina Roberts** (Kathy Maiolo's niece); **Kelly Rodman** (Angela Cross' friend); **Alfredo Rodriguez** (Osirus Gutierrez's cousin); **Roshong** (Judy Coward's nephew); **Lisa Rozmus** (friend of the Pfalzgraf family); **Noah Santiago** (Shari Carrano's great-grandson); **Connor Scalia** (Jen Nivison's friend); **Nicholas Scalzo** (Angela Cross's Father); **Carlos Serrano** (Kathy Maiolo's cousin); **Yessika Siccardi** (Sampson family friend); **Bernie Sippin; John Skarupa** (Barb Pellegrino's brother); **Christine Stadler; Christian & Dain Steiner** (Julie McClenathan's nephews); **Claire Stenzel** (June & Myron Winger's granddaughter); **Olga Terwilliger** (Nancy Hedine's sister-in-law); **Ian Thompson** (Gary's cousin); **Dick Thompson** (Gary's cousin); **Meg Trogolo** (Paul & Judy Coward's niece); **Richard Turco** (Jack Fracassini's cousin); **Charles L. Wynn, Sr.,** (and his mother) **Alleane Wynn** (friends of Will Duchon); **Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

The concerns of our world: *Those who serve or live in war or conflict zones; first responders and those who serve in law enforcement; those who suffer discrimination; those who struggle with mental illness, addiction, divorce or separation; Caregivers; the homeless, homebound and refugees; Our friends living on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and in Oaxaca, Mexico*

Those serving in the military, veterans & their families: New York: **Zachary Gingras**, Washington: **Rachel Hoffman** (Vaughan Askue's daughter), Virginia: **Chris Meneses** (Loraine Zeiner's friend), Georgia: **Zachary Peters** (Jacob Parker-Burgard's cousin), Kuwait: **Steven Roshong** (the Coward's nephew), South Carolina: **Bob Peters** (Don Parker-Burgard's brother-in-law), Afghanistan: **Samuel Siciliano**, North Carolina: **Jake Terifay**



The flowers this morning are given in loving memory of The Rev. Alastair Sellars, on behalf of his loving wife, children and grandchildren.

Would you like to honor or remember a loved one, or celebrate a milestone? You can do so, while also helping Monroe Congregational Church continue its tradition of fresh **flowers** on the communion table. Check out our easy online sign up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAC2CA5FEC61-flowers>

If you do not have access to a computer, call Diane in the office 203-268-9327, and she will help you sign up!



to the following people and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number is birth date)

Kate Parker-Burgard ⁽²⁰⁾
Paul Haringa ⁽²¹⁾

Carol Kelly ⁽²¹⁾
Erin Brown ⁽²⁴⁾

Owen Michael Correll ⁽²⁴⁾

Happy Wedding Anniversary to the following couples and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number is anniversary date)

Rich & Michelle Correll⁽²⁰⁾ and John & Trees Whitbeck ⁽²³⁾

Fellowship



MCC Summertime Coffee Hour Hosts

Are you interested in providing refreshments for our church members and friends following Sunday worship! All you need to do is arrive at the kitchen by 9:45 to get the coffee going (instructions found on kitchen wall). Providing baked goods or other snacks are always welcome (but not mandatory). Please review the available slots on our SignUpGenius website link below and click on the date you would like to sign up for. There are slots for 2 people per Sunday (although one can do it, it's fun to serve with a friend). If you don't have access to a computer just call Diane in the office and she will help you get signed up - Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAC2CA5FEC61-mccsummertime>

MORNING CIRCLE

Morning Circle will not meet in July or August. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 8 at 11AM in Wilton Hall.** We plan on having Ray Giovanni from Union Savings Bank to discuss the local scams affecting the community and also collecting pet supplies for the Food Pantry. Please contact Jackie Bleakney with any questions or comments at 203-268-5275



MCC Book Club

All meetings will continue to be via Zoom for now.
Questions -contact Mary Unger (203) 268-5754

July 14th - The Chilbury Ladies' Choir by Jennifer Ryan
August 11th - Evvie Drake Starts Over by Linda Holmes
September 8th - American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins
October 13th - A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
November 10th - Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

Outreach



Help is needed for the Mustard Seed Thrift Shoppe. We are looking for volunteers to help sort, tag and hang on Mondays at 9AM. All you would need to do is show up, sort the merchandise and then hang them in the appropriate place in the Shoppe. Help is also needed behind the counter on Fridays (shifts from 10-12:30 and 12:30-3) and Saturdays (shifts from 10-12 and 12-2). Come **mid-August we are looking to return to regular business days** including Thursdays (shift from 12-3). Responsibilities are quite easy: you can either shadow a volunteer during work hours

or run through the list that I can send to you. Please show up to sort on Mondays at 9AM or contact Susie Cuseo for any questions at thecuseos@yahoo.com or 203-268-0280.

MCC Community Calendar

PF Mission Trip to Hancock, Maine July 10th -18th

Week of July 18th

Guest Preacher –Rev. Dr. Sheldon Smith
10:00 am Worship

Mon. July 19th

9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Tues. July 20th

7:00 pm Bereavement Group
8:00 pm Deacons Zoom

Week of July 25th

Outdoor Worship!
9:30 am DOD setup for Outdoor Worship
10:00 am Worship

Mon. July 26th

9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Week of August 1th

10:00 am Worship with Communion

Mon. August 2nd

9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Tue. August 3rd

8:00 pm Outreach Zoom

Pastor Jenn will be on vacation from 8/5 – 8/14

Fri. August 6th

Office Closed –Diane on vacation

Week of August 8th

Guest Preacher –Rev. Dr. Sheldon Smith
10:00 am Worship

Mon. August 9th

9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. August 11th

Book Club Zoom

Week of August 15th

Outdoor Worship!
9:30 am DOD setup for Outdoor Worship
10:00 am Worship
11:30 Trustees Zoom

Mon. August 16th

St George's Supper
9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Week of August 22nd

10:00 am Worship
1:00 pm Deacons Planning Zoom

Mon. August 23rd

9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag
5:00 pm Council Planning Meeting

Fri. August 27th

Office Closed –Diane on vacation

*Pastor Jenn will be on vacation from
8/26 – 9/4*

Week of August 29th

Guest Preacher –Emma Rae Carroll
10:00 am Worship

Mon. August 30th

Office Closed –Diane on vacation
9:00 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag