

June 26, 2022

The Third 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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Musical Call to Worship

Thankful for God's Grace

G.F. Handel, 1725

Welcome & Announcements

Moment of Quiet & Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: To abide in you; to find strength in you; to worship you in these moments,

People: We gather, O God.

Leader: To challenge the evil around us; to bring healing to the hurt; to offer hope to
the vulnerable,

People: We follow Jesus, our brother.

Leader: To learn how to live; to put away our old gods; to stick with God in
every moment,

People: We listen, Holy Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God!

Opening Prayer

Kristina Logan, Deacon of the Day

***Our Church's Covenant**

inside front cover of hymnal

Sacrament of Baptism

Amar Winter Perez & Lydia Rose Perez

Invitation, Welcome & Address

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather to celebrate the gift
of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

People: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.

Pastor: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

Questions of the Parents & Sponsors

Congregational Assent

People: We promise our love, support and care.

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our
faith in the Triune God. Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of Baptism * Act of Baptism * Prayer for the Baptized

Introduction of the Baptized and Congratulations

Students may remain with their families, there is no Sunday School today.

***Hymn**

Morning Has Broken

(insert)

Call to Confession – Unison Prayer - Silent Prayer

Restoring God, too often we accept the conditions of the world around us and impose limitations on what is possible. We bind ourselves to societal conventions, norms, and pressure rather than follow you and your way. We conform to the values of this world rather than pursue the fruit of the Spirit. Show us the path of life and freedom in you. Teach us to plant seeds of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. May we perennially bear that fruit. Amen. ~silence~

Contemplative Moment

Words of Assurance

***Passing of 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.*

***Hymn**

My Shepherd Is the Living God

NCH 247

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.

Time for Giving

Invitation

Offertory

You Light Up My Life
Ed Burke, guitar and vocals

Joseph Brooks, 1977

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

***Doxology, Presentation and Prayer of Dedication**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, the Word in flesh, born low,
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore,
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen!*

Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:1-18, page 1038

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

Sermon

Before the Sending

Rev. Jennifer Gingras

***Hymn**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service (verses 1 & 4)

NCH 495

Sending

The congregation is seated while the Senior Pastor, Deacon Kristina Logan and Moderator Arlene Redmond gather around the Baptismal font.

Introduction *(led by Moderator Arlene Redmond)*

Friends in Christ, today we give thanks to God for Pastor Jenn and ask for God’s blessings as we send her for Sabbatical rest. Bless this intentional time of growth and discovery both for her and for our congregation. May she and her family return to our community refreshed and nourished with God’s Spirit as we seek to serve our neighbors.

Congregation: We wish Godspeed to Pastor Jenn as she begins her sabbatical.

Moderator: As you journey, God dwell with you while we are away from one another.

Pastor: God’s blessing on you while I am gone from you.

Deacon: May God fill you with the Holy Spirit as you study and visit new surroundings.

Pastor: I thank God for the ministry we share and the gift of this time away.

Deacon: We pray that you experience the gift of spiritual growth in your journey and that you return renewed and energized for ministry.

Pastor: I pray that you, too, might be renewed and energized to serve in God’s name.

Congregation: We send you with our blessing.

Unison Prayer *(led by Deacon Kristina Logan)*

Let us pray together... Spirit of God, bless Pastor Jenn during her sabbatical. Renew her for ministry through this time set aside for reflection and study, the refreshment of a break from daily tasks and routine, and the excitement of new learning and direction. Grace her with your presence and keep her steadfast in the faith while we are gone one from another. Go now in peace, to love and to serve! Amen.

Parting Music

Let All Things Now Living

Tune: ASH GROVE

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

Please join us for a time of **fellowship** following the service in Wilton Hall.



If you'd like to **give online** during worship (or anytime), simply scan this QR code, which will take you to our VANCO electronic giving page. Thank you so much for your support.

Thank you for assisting in this morning's worship!

- **Deacon:** Kristina Logan
- **Usher:** Maria Barresi
- **Trustee:** John O'Rourke
- **Counter:** Fred Dubois
- **Web Steward:** Scott Young



*The flowers this morning are given
in celebration of Pastor Jenn's Birthday!*

and

by Leanne McEvoy in celebration of PRIDE month



Flowers for Worship: 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. If you do not have access to a computer for online signup, call Diane in the office 203-268-9327, and she will help! You

may choose to arrange flowers from your garden, purchase an arrangement, or send a check (\$25) to Monroe Congregational Church (memo: "flowers" & the date) or use our website to pay online, and we will order for you. If you are supplying the flowers yourself, please set them up between 9:30am and 9:45am, before worship. Thank you!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAC2CA5FEC61-flowers>



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

Sara Post ⁽²⁹⁾

Jenn Gingras ⁽³⁰⁾

Betsy Gilberti ⁽⁰²⁾

Dan Sullivan ⁽³⁰⁾

George Massar ⁽⁰¹⁾

Jim Gill ⁽⁰²⁾

David Walker ⁽³⁰⁾

Sheldon Smith ⁽⁰¹⁾

Thomas Hyde ⁽⁰²⁾



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)

Stacy & Mark Andrejczyk ⁽²⁹⁾ and Mary Jo and Bill Brett ⁽⁰¹⁾

Trustees



The **Monroe Summer Day Camp** will be renting our MCC campus again this year. The camp will provide added income for the church during the months of June, July and August paying \$550 per week for 65 campers and \$10 more for each additional camper with a cap of 75 campers this year.

If you need to enter the building between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday please stop into the office and ask Diane to notify the camp director. If the office is closed, please ask someone to notify the camp director, Karen, of your presence.

Christian Education



This Month in Senior PF: *June 26 – Trust & Teambuilding*

Outreach

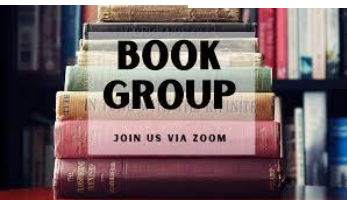


The **Mustard Seed Thrift Shoppe** needs YOU! If you have a couple of hours to spare either on Tuesdays, Fridays or Saturdays, we are looking for your help. **Summer sorting, tagging and hanging happens on Tuesdays at 9:30AM.** Volunteers will help you with what needs to be done. Sales associates are needed for two-hour shifts starting from 10AM to 3PM on Fridays and Saturdays. A procedure list can be emailed or you can visit the Shoppe when someone is manning the counter. It's fun and quite rewarding. Please contact Susie Cuseo with any questions or comments at thecuseos@yahoo.com or 203-268-0280.

Fellowship



Young At Heart's next luncheon to be announced!



MCC Book Club is open to all church members.

For more information, please call Paula Haggstrom 203-452-0850
email: pjsh55@gmail.com We will continue meet via Zoom.

July 20th, 7 pm - The Last Mona Lisa by Jonathan Santlofer, Host: Julie McClenathan
August 17th, 7 pm - The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes, Host: Kristina Logan



Prayer Partners Look for signups in August. It's so easy to do: complete the sign-up sheet, receive a letter in the mail from Susie Cuseo with the name of who to pray for, share a conversation with them during coffee hour, send them a card or note in the mail using the church's address as the return and then meet in May 2023 at the "Big Reveal" potluck to find out who's been praying for you. Contact Susie Cuseo with any questions or comments at thecuseos@yahoo.com or 203-268-0280.

With apologies to Eugene Field, The Sugar-Plum Tree poet



The Strawberry Festival

Have you ever heard of the **Strawberry Fest**?
Tis a marvel of great renown!
It thrives by hard work of **MCC's best**
In the center of Monroe Town;
The fruit that it fetes is so wondrously sweet
(As those who have tasted it say)
That all young and old have only to eat
Of that fruit to be happy next day.

When you've got to the church, you would have a hard time
To not have a smile on your face;
The fest is so grand that no person could frown
Or wish to be another place!
For on the lawn cavorts a **big red berry**,
And delighted folks prowl all around.
And, quick on their feet, nimble of wit, each **chair** he
Amazes us so, that joys do abound.

You say but the word to any **PFer**,
They work with such good-natured zest,
That the task is complete and well done in a blur
As all who attend can attest.
Others are **assembling, hulling, and slicing**,
Baking, face-painting, greeting, and teaching,
Kneading, cashiering, sanitizing, and dicing.
Sorting, dipping, blending and preaching.

Thanks to **ALL**. To the **cleaners, DJs, musicians and builders**,
The **planners, the pickers, sign-in folks, shoppe- and book-keepers**.
As you carry away of the **JAM** that we made
As much as your backpack can hold,
Do, come, MCC, take a pat on the back,
A round of applause and a cheer
For the success that we together achieved
In our festival's 50th year.



Morning Has Broken Insert

In Our Prayers

Dave Fuller (Gail Olson's brother); **Michael Barresi** (Maria's Son); **Jennifer Bittar** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend); **Jackie Bleakney; 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; Bruno Forte** (friend of Nancy Hedine); **David Fischman** (Sue Granello's Friend); **Marge Fox; Fern Griffith** (Ashley Levin's friend); **Karen Guinness** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Gina & Liz** (Wendy Colegrove's friends); **Gary & Nancy Hedine; Mary & Rachel Heerema** (Julia Gutierrez's mom & sister); **Bob Heffernan** (Ann Zeiner's son-in-law); **Brian Hopkins** (Donna Konkol's cousin); **Bill Irwin** (Cheri's husband); **Vera James** (Jenn Wissink's mother); **Kelti** (friend of Liska Gutierrez); **Walter Lane** (Marge Fox's brother-in-law); **Danny Larkin** (Donna Konkol's relative); **Mary-Margaret Logan** (Andrew's mother); **Monica Lynch** (Bethany Dupuis' friend); **Jacque MacLean** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Nicole Malia; Mike** (Janie Allen's son); **Mike** (Dot's friend); **Jean Moffat; Olivia Morrison** (Donna Nickdow's niece); **Joe Mumper** (Julie McClenathan's friend); **Bert Muizullis; Kathy Nivison** (Andy's mother); **Pat Nugent; Ocampo family** (friends of Liska Gutierrez); **Missy Olson; Osborne** (Colegrove's Family friend); **Dean Perosino** (Gayle Hammond's brother); **Donna Parratt; Geno Piacentini** (Karen MacDonald's husband); **P.T. Philip** (Liz Sampson's father); **Norman & Jan Ricker** (Linda & Jack Fracassini's friend); **Regina Roberts** (Kathy Maiolo's niece); **Alfredo Rodriguez** (Osirus Gutierrez's cousin); **Noah Santiago** (Shari Carrano's great-grandson); **Connor Scalia** (Jen Nivison's friend); **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 and Dick Thompson** (Gary's cousins); **Richard Turco** (Jack Fracassini's cousin); **Susan Walker; Charles L. Wynn, Sr.,** (and his mother) **Alleane** (friends of Will Duchon); **Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

The concerns of our world: *The people of Ukraine; LGBTQ+ children and their families facing discrimination; those who serve or live in war or conflict zones around the world; 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: Washington: **Rachel Hoffman** (Vaughan Askue's daughter), Virginia: **Chris Meneses** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend), Georgia: **Zachary Peters** (Jacob Parker-Burgard's cousin), Kuwait: **Jon Sanchez** (Don Whiteley's grandson-in-law), South Carolina: **Bob Peters** (Don Parker-Burgard's brother-in-law)

MCC Community Calendar

Week of Sun. June 26th

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Trustees (Zoom)
5:00 pm Senior PF

Tue. June 27th

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Pastor Jenn is on sabbatical until October 1.

Welcome sabbatical supply pastor, Rev. Peggy Allen!

Week of Sun. July 3rd

Communion
10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Senior PF

Mon. July 4th

Independence Day – Office Closed
7pm Outreach (Zoom)

Tue. July 5th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Week of Sun. July 10th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Senior PF

Tue. July 12th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. July 13th

7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)

Week of Sun. July 17th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Senior PF

Mon. July 18th

7:30 pm Council

Tue. July 19th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Sat. July 23rd – Sunday July 31st

Sr PF Mission Trip to Frakes, KY

Week of Sun. July 31th

10:00 am Worship

Mon. Aug 1st

7:00 pm Outreach

Tue. Aug 2nd

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. Aug 3rd

7:00 pm Fellowship (Zoom)

Week of Sun. Aug 7th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Senior PF

Tue. Aug 2nd

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Week of Sun. Aug 14th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Senior PF

Mon. Aug 15th

7:30 pm Council

Tue. Aug 16th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. Aug 17th

7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)