


**WELCOME** WELCOME members and guests!  
Attendance books are located at the end of each row. Please take a moment to share your contact information with us. We are glad you selected this church as your place of worship today and hope you will come again. Please stop by one of our information centers to learn more about our church.

**WORSHIP** TRADITIONAL 8:30AM & 11AM  
CONTEMPORARY 9AM & 11AM  
FOUNDRY CAMPUS 9AM

**NURSERY** For infants & toddlers through age 4. Rooms 36 & 38.

**KIDS** Kid's Church (Pre-K4 -2nd grade) at **9AM & 11AM** worship services following the offering, held in Room 30. **\*\*Kids must be potty trained to participate in Kid's Church.**

**COMMUNICATIONS** Sign up for our newsletter & other communications! Email us at [info@firstmethodistmonroe.com](mailto:info@firstmethodistmonroe.com) or call the church office 318-325-7335.

**GIVE**  Text "GIVE" to 318-217-8383, go to [FIRSTMETHODISTMONROE.COM/GIVE](http://FIRSTMETHODISTMONROE.COM/GIVE), or Scan the QR code

**WEB** Sundays at **9AM & 11AM**  
[firstmethodistmonroe.com/watch](http://firstmethodistmonroe.com/watch),  
Facebook: @methodistmonroe  
YouTube: @firstmethodistmonroe

**TV** Sundays **11AM**  
The CW & ABC KAQY  
(when not preempted by special programming)

**RADIO** Sundays **8:30AM**  
KMLB 540AM



**Christmas Eve TREATS**

**LET'S MAKE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FOR OUR COMMUNITY!**

Bring your favorite Christmas treat to the church  
**DECEMBER 22-24**



## CHRISTMAS FOR THE CHILDREN

Sunday, December 14

ALL WORSHIP SERVICES ON MAIN CAMPUS  
We will be collecting unwrapped gifts for children (birth - 17 years old). Gifts will be donated to the Salvation Army.

## KINGDOM KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 14

5:00 PM | Fellowship Hall  
Come support our children and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas together!  
Everyone is welcome!

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ with five beautiful Christmas Eve worship opportunities:

Contemporary - **4PM** in the Fellowship Hall  
Worship on the Bayou - **4PM** (new this year!)  
Traditional - **6PM & 11PM** in the Sanctuary  
Foundry Campus - **6PM**

3900 LOOP ROAD, MONROE, LA 71201  
CALL OR TEXT 318-217-8383 | [FIRSTMETHODISTMONROE.COM](http://FIRSTMETHODISTMONROE.COM)

**firstmethodist**  
m o n r o e

What Everyone Needs  
**THIS CHRISTMAS**

HOPE LOVE JOY PEACE JESUS



# firstmethodist

m o n r o e

**THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
December 7, 2025 at 8:30am & 11:00am

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**PRELUDE** \_\_\_\_\_ Schubert  
*Ave Maria*  
Hallie Yarbrough, Violin  
Hunt Neely, Accompanist

**THE GREETING**

(Text “**HERE**” to 318-217-8383)

**\*HYMN #384** \_\_\_\_\_ *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** \_\_\_\_\_ Braxton Jennings (8:30)  
Larry & Dianne Lashley(11:00)

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way,  
May the Word sent from God through the prophets  
lead us to the way of salvation.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Kem Alexander  
  
The Apostles' Creed

**\*GLORIA PATRI**  
  
All are invited to pray at the altar.  
Please come down during the Gloria Patri.

**THE PASTORAL PRAYER**

(Text “**PRAY**” to 318-217-8383)

**\*HYMN #224** \_\_\_\_\_ *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(Text “**GIVE**” to 318-217-8383)

**THE OFFERTORY** \_\_\_\_\_ arr. Pederson  
*I Wonder As I Wander*  
Hallie Yarbrough, Violin  
The Chancel Choir

**\*THE DOXOLOGY**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

After the Children’s Message all Pre-K4 - 2nd graders  
are invited to Kid's Church, in Room 30,  
during the 9am & 11am services.

**SCRIPTURE READING** \_\_\_\_\_ 1 John 4:7-21

**THE MESSAGE** \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. John O’Leary(8:30)  
Rev. Dr. Brian Mercer(11:00)

WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS THIS CHRISTMAS  
**Love**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

Offerings made during communion will go to  
support our Pastors discretionary fund

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Communion & visitation team members please  
come forward during the final hymn to receive  
your communion sets.

**INVITATION TO COMMITMENT**

(Text “**JOIN**” to 318-217-8383)

**\*HYMN #242** \_\_\_\_\_ *Love Came Down at Christmas*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** \_\_\_\_\_ Hunt Neely, organist

\*Those who are able please stand.

**TODAY**

The rosebud on the altar today is in celebration of the birth of  
**Micah Ethan John**, born November 25, 2025. He is the son of  
Dr. Sarah Kuruvilla John and Dr. Joseph John, baby brother of  
Elizabeth Grace John, grandson of Dr. Sumna Kuruvilla, grand-nephew  
of Dr. Mollie John, great grandson of Dr. Mary and Dr. M. J. John.

**USHER/GREETER TRAINING - TODAY at 10:10am or noon** in the Parlor.  
Whether you are currently serving or interested in serving, please plan to  
join us to learn more about being a part of our Hospitality Team! Any ques-  
tions, please reach out to Emily Martin (537-0906).

**MINISTRY OF H.O.P.E.** Christmas gifts are on the table across from the  
reception desk and are ready for delivery to your assigned shut-in.

**THIS MONTH**

**POINSETTIAS & CHRISTMAS BEAUTY**

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church in memory or in honor  
of someone or donate to Christmas beauty, fill out an order form in the  
main hall. \$20 each.

**GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP: June 2–9, 2026**

Join us for an incredible opportunity to serve in Guatemala! To register or  
for more information go to firstmethodistmonroe.com. Sign up by Jan. 4.

**BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS**

**Monday, December 22 | 1:00 PM | Fellowship Hall**  
Grandparents and their grandchildren are invited to a “Birthday Party for  
Jesus!” We’ll make a craft, play games, and enjoy birthday cake together!  
Help us bring joy to a needy mom by bringing a wrapped baby gift to pres-  
ent to Life Choices’ Baby Closet. Urgent needs include: Size 4, 5, & 6  
diapers, winter boy & girl clothing (newborn–24 months), baby shampoo,  
diaper rash cream, & baby wipes. Please RSVP by Sunday, December 14  
to nflowers@firstmethodistmonroe.com.

**CHRISTMAS EVE TREATS**

Bring your favorite Christmas treat to the church to be labeled, Dec. 22-24,  
and after the Christmas Eve service pick up a treat and deliver it to the  
location on the label. Treats are for those working throughout Christmas  
Eve to thank them for their service.

**NEXT MONTH**

**GENEVA CASTLE SCHOLARSHIP SPRING 2026**

A new application must be submitted each semester in order to be consid-  
ered. Applications and fall grades must be submitted by January 1. Appli-  
cations are available in the church office or you can text “COLLEGE” to  
318-217-8383.

**SAVE THE DATE: CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING**

**Sunday, January 11, 2026 | 10:10-10:50 AM**  
All parents of 6th graders are invited to a Confirmation information meet-  
ing. Mark your calendars and plan to join us as we prepare for this import-  
ant season in your student’s faith journey.