Order of Worship November 30, 2025 8:15 & 9:25 am

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

"Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland" Bach **Prelude** (8:15)

(Savior of the Heathen, Come)

"For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth" (9:25)

Tim Cochran, bass

Choral Call to Worship (9:25)

*Call to Worship (Based on Isaiah 9:1-7)

Leader: Nonetheless, those who were in distress won't be exhausted. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land,

light has dawned.

People: You have increased our joy. We rejoice before you as with joy at the

harvest.

Leader: As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the

staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor.

People: Because every boot of the thundering warriors, and every garment rolled

in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire. A child is born to us, a son is given to us!

All: Leader: Authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

People: There will be vast authority and endless peace for David's throne and for

his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and

righteousness now and forever.

The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this. All:

UMH #196 *Opening Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Lighting of the Advent Candle, the Candle of Hope

8:15 - David & Denise Snyder 9:25 - Paige Pierce

UMH #204 Musical Response "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

"The People Walked in Darkness" Handel Special Music (9:25)

Tim Cochran, bass

Time of 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response (9:25)

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (8:15) "Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)" Tomlin

Carl Fernstrum, solo

"For Unto Us a Child is Born" Handel

Sanctuary Choir

*Doxology **UMH #95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Blessing

Luke 1:5-20 *Gospel Lesson (Response: Thanks be to God.)

"Waiting on Promises Fulfilled: Hope" Message Rev. Abby Auman

UMH #213 *Closing Hymn "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

*Go and Serve

Choral Benediction (9:25)



Handel

The flowers for this morning's services are dedicated to the glory of God and are given by: Bev Bogacki in honor of Len Bogacki's 80th birthday; Carl Mieyal in honor of Dave & Angie Scavuzzo.

Prayers and sympathy of the church are extended to Gerry & Marlene Kraatz upon the passing of their daughter, **Ashley Kraatz**, on November 24.

Circle of Concern

HOSPITALIZED: Jan Wardlaw, Southwest

IN HOSPICE CARE: Margaret Eakin, home; Carol Hoglund, Holy Family Home

AT HOME: Dave Schantz, Hildi Fitzpatrick, Sandie Wojnowski, Ray Gross, Robin Szakacs, Betty Tatterson, Scott Halm, Jim Szakacs, Joe Fink, Matt Jenkins, Dave Puffer, Tammy Haseley, Bill Fiesler, Cedric Plavney, Frank & Eleanor McGee, Joyce Bakeman

FRIENDS & FAMILY: Aubrey Bowers (Linda Voyles' father), Jim Rogers (Ruth Rogers' son)

OTHER PLACES OF RESIDENCE: Rich Smyrak, Brunswick Pointe; Myrna Nored, John Lendzian, Care Core Willowood; Craig Comstock, The Avenue; Sandy Moir, Arden Court; Wendell Ebersole, Brookdale Senior Living, Sally Householder, Shurmer Place; Dave McKinnon, Lake Continuing Care Center, Tom & Marion Mueller, Vitalia North Royalton; Richard Pinkerton, Vitalia Strongsville; Jim Brickley, Jan Zverina, Nancy Jones, Kemper House; John Shanfelt, Wesleyan Village; Eva Hawk, Sally Spisak, Western Reserve Masonic in Medina; Ying Lai, Vitalia Rockside

IN UNIFORM: Bradley Chiseck, Connor Funk, Erich Reese, Elise Schraibman, Noah Polcar, Adam Schraibman, Devin Fullerman, Zak Boggs, Adam Nebenzahl, Phillip Giampapa, Chad & Nicole Droney, Brendon Horn, Bryan Rocks, Jay Rueschhoff, Brandon Vanderwyst, Jerry Pickryl, Bob Waltz, Patrick Helderman, Rebecca Helderman, Jeremy Knowles, Andrew Dyer, Richie Ward

Online Giving



November 23

Giving for Ministry: Weekly Receipts Regular Ministry Offering 2025 Hope Grows Here

\$25,126 \$5,220 Attendance Worship

Sunday School 76

*Please rise in spirit or body. Our different physical abilities mean we will assume different postures of worship.

UMH refers to the United Methodist Hymnal.

Each week's music and streaming are licensed by: CCLI #1090790, CCLI #20259337 and One License #736411-A.

Please note, security cameras are in use in our facility.

WELCOME TO STRONGSVILLE UMC!

INTRODUCE YOURSELF...

Don't worry, we won't make you stand in front of everybody. Help us get to know you by filling out some basic information and dropping the tear-off in the offering plate later in the service.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME...

To all God's children, we offer the opportunity to explore the love of God and the hope found in Christ through relationships and the study of God's Word with our Children's Ministry. Children and youth ages 3-18 can participate in Sunday School during 9:25 and 11:05 worship services. The sensory friendly class is offered during 11:05. Parents and guardians may leave children ages 0-3 in the nursery during 9:25 and 11:05 and take a pager to worship. They can stay in the nursery where children can play while listening to the worship service as well. We also welcome children in worship and are not fussed if they fuss! To learn about any of these opportunities, contact Ms. Leanne at LeanneG@StrongsvilleUMC.org.

How else can we help?

___visiting family

E-mail:

___new in community

looking for a church

Hearing aid devices and large print hymnals are available from our ushers. Children's activity bags are also available. Let us know if you have other needs while you're with us today.

?

invited by:

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON:	
Children/Youth Ministries	
Music Ministries	
Small Group Opportunities	
Missions at SUMC	
A Discovery Class where I can learn mo	ore
about SUMC.	
Contact me:	

Name:_____

Christmas Poinsettias



Poinsettias will decorate our worship center for a portion of the Christmas season, and can be dedicated in honor of and/or in memory of loved ones.

Orders are due by Sunday, December 14.

Number of plants @ \$13 each:	_
Amount enclosed: \$ Envelope # (if applicable):	
In Memory of:	-
In Honor of:	_
	_
I will not be picking up my poinsettias.	
I will pick up my plants after the la Christmas Eve service.	38
Name:	
Phone:	
E-mail:	

DID YOU R

Fostering the Future: Support Fostering the Future this holiday season! Donate and receive a beautiful, unique ornament, generously provided by The Pour Inspiration group. Stop by the Fostering the Future Fundraising Committee table in the

atrium today and December 7th after all services. Interested in planning the 2026 auction? Reach out to Paige Pierce at ppierce90@gmail.com or Barb Diver at gbdiverjr@gmail.com to join the Committee.

SAM CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: Join us Friday, December 19 at 11:30 for food and fellowship! Before lunch is served, we will enjoy a program by Jenny Cochran's jazz group. We will collection donations for ReSource Cleveland of hygiene supplies, but no shampoo. The cost is \$6 at the door. Contact the office to RSVP. See you there!

ANGEL TREE: Support Angel Tree Prison Fellowship ministry by picking out a tag on the Christmas Tree to shop for a child of an incarcerated parent, or sponsoring a child online (contact the office for the link). Thank you, church!

HAT & MITTEN TREE: Donations of hats and gloves are being collected to help as many people along our Blue Bus ministry route as possible. Simply hang your donation on the small Christmas tree located outside of the parlor.

CHRISMON TREE: In celebration of the Advent season, please take a moment to enjoy the beautiful Chrismon ornaments on display in the worship center. Each ornament is a symbol sharing something unique about our faith and all have been lovingly hand-crafted by members of our congregation. For in-depth information about the history of the Chrismon tradition and the symbolism of each piece, pick up a Chrismon booklet in the atrium.

GENERATIONS OF JOY: Embrace the holiday spirit with a celebration of musical talent across all ages! Enjoy a Christmas Cantata by the Sanctuary Choir, joyful bell ringing and performances by our children on Sunday, December 7 at 2 pm.

ADVENT: Join us in awaiting the birth of Christ this advent. Use our Reverse Advent calendar enclosed in your bulletin, pick up a print devotional in the atrium (contact the office for a downloadable version) and join us in worship on Christmas Eve:

3 PM: Traditional service with soloists, nursery care available for children under 3.

5 PM: Livestreamed contemporary service, nursery care available for children under 3.

7 PM: Traditional service with communion.

9 PM: Livestreamed traditional service with bell choir, brass ensemble, sanctuary choir.

NIGHT TO SHINE: Registration for Night to Shine 2026, a prom for people with special needs, is now open! If you would like to volunteer or know of someone who would like to be a guest, please visit www.baypres.org/night-to-shine. If you would like to make a donation, or want to know more, please contact Shelley Hoffman at sea6shell@att.net or Janet Doak at jrdoak12@gmail.com.

STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK: Donations can be brough to the Manna Room. Items most needed are: Spaghettio's, ravioli, beef-a-roni, ramen soup, Manwich, mac & cheese, canned tuna, jelly (squeeze bottle, 30 oz. or 32 oz.), peanut butter (all sizes), boxed baked goods, cereal, bars of bath soap.

While we worship, a prayer team is lifting up every person in the congregation as well as the needs, concerns and joys of the church.

You are invited to the Holy Grounds Café hosted by Café Friends for refreshments and fellowship following each service. If you would like to take a turn serving in the café contact Krissi Swab at kswab10@aim.com.



Strongsville United Methodist Church 13500 Royalton Road, Strongsville, OH 440-238-6135

www.StrongsvilleUMC.org office@strongsvilleumc.org

November 30, 2025

Worship Schedule

Sunday: Traditional - 8:15, *9:25 Contemporary - *11:05

Monday: Adult Meditative Worship - 7:30 pm

*Livestreamed service

Rev. Abby Auman, Senior Pastor Rev. Lindsey Funtik, Associate Pastor

Strongsville United Methodist Church is committed to:

Making and maturing disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

We do this by:

Showing God's Love, Sharing God's Word, and Serving in God's World



Administrative Board Meeting 12/1, 7 pm

Generations of Joy Christmas Concert 12/7, 2 pm

West Side Community House Gifts Due Back 11/30

WAITING ON PROMISES
FULFILLED: HOPE
Luke 1:5-20