

Chimes	
Prelude	“Fum, Fum, Fum” Arr. Heather Sorenson Piano Duet with Jeanette Kuhns and Marti Lantz
Introit (8:30)	“Promise of Hope” from Four Advent Introits with Benediction Words: Marti Lunn Lantz; Music: David Lantz III Duet: Aram Tchobanian and Marti Lantz
Choral Introit (11:00)	“Promise of Hope” from Four Advent Introits with Benediction Words: Marti Lunn Lantz; Music: David Lantz III
Welcome	Pastor Monica
Announcements	Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
*Call to Worship	Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
One:	Come, people of God, bring your worries and your weariness.
Many:	We come, seeking sanctuary in God’s promise of hope.
One:	When life feels impossible and choices feel few, God is still at work.
Many:	God’s Spirit opens the way where we see no way.
One:	This is a place for hope to be born anew.
Many:	Come, Lord Jesus, and make room in us for hope.
*Hymn	“What Child Is This” 219
*Unison Prayer	Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
	God of hope, you enter our lives when we least expect it. You shine light into impossible places and speak life where we only see endings. Teach us to wait with patience, to trust with courage, and to act when your Spirit calls. Fill us with your hope and send us to be bearers of hope in the world.
	It is in the name of the One who is our hope we pray. Amen.
Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles - Week 4: Hope <i>(see insert)</i>	
Response:	“Advent Candle Song” <i>(see insert)</i> TFWS 2090
Sharing Joys and Concerns	Pastor Monica
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer	Pastor Monica
Special Music (8:30)	“One Small Child” David Reece/Arr. Lloyd Larson Vocal Duet with Jeanette Kuhns and Marti Lantz
Choral Anthem (11:00)	“Glory Will Arise” Words: Julie I. Meyers; Music: David Lantz III
Moment of Impact	Staff Christmas Gift Vin Zelizo
Call to Offering	Pastor Monica
Offertory (8:30)	“Unto Us a Boy Is Born” Gordon Young
Offertory (11:00)	“One Small Child” David Reece/Arr. Lloyd Larson Vocal Duet with Jeanette Kuhns and Marti Lantz
*Presentation of Gifts	“Doxology” 95
*Prayer of Dedication	Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
	God of hope, bless these gifts and bless us who give them. Use what we offer to turn despair into possibility and to bring your light into the darkest corners. May our giving be a witness that your promises are true and that hope still has a home in this world. It is in the name of the One who is our hope we pray. Amen.
New Testament Lesson	Hebrews 6:16-20 Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
*Gospel Lesson	Matthew 1:18-25 Jenny Bogart/Jeanette Kuhns
Children’s Message	“Anchor in God” Pastor Monica

This Week’s Schedule		
Today	8:30 & 11:00am	Worship– Fourth Sunday in Advent
	9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School-Children through Adults
	12:15pm	Christmas Play Rehearsal
	2:00pm	Soup Kitchen
	7:00pm	Longest Night Service - St. John's Lutheran Church
Monday	9:00am	Counters-Lounge
	10:00am	Pastors Meeting
	6:00pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	12:00pm	Open Sanctuary
	12:15pm	Prayer on Wednesdays - Live on Facebook and in the Sanctuary
	2:30pm	Christmas Eve Worship Service
	7:30pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
	11:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion
Thursday		Merry Christmas!
Friday		Church Office Closed
	7:30pm	N.A.
Next Sunday	10:00am	Worship
	11:15pm	Light Lunch after Worship
	2:00pm	Soup Kitchen

Prayer List - Joys and Concerns

Our Troops Todd Martin

First Responders, EMT’s, Police Officers, Firefighters

Prayer Mailboxes, Sharon Cottle, William Frazetta, the family and friends of Mandy Cunard

Special Person of the Week: Kathy Blackburne, 537 Barry Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360. Please remember her in prayer and if possible, please send a card.

Praise Song	“Soon and Very Soon”	Words and Music: Andrae Crouch
Sermon	“Room for Hope”	Pastor Monica
	(I want my listeners to make room for hope.)	
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		Pastor Monica
*Hymn	“My Hope Is Built”	369
*Benediction and Sending		Pastor Monica
*Benediction Response (11:00)	“Advent Benediction” from Four Advent Introits with Benediction, Words: Marti Lunn Lantz; Music: David Lantz III	
*Postlude	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	Henry Balcombe
*Rise in body or in spirit.		
Bold Print = Say in unison.		

Please plan to join us for Christmas Eve with family and friends.

Come to the 2:30 pm service for lessons and carols, and be home before dark.

Join us at 7:30 pm as our choirs offer beautiful music, a play is planned, and we end with Silent Night candlelight.

Looking for Holy Communion, worship with us at 11:00 pm as we offer carols, candles, and communion.

Next Sunday, December 28th, we will have one service at 10:00 am.

SOUP KITCHEN 2026 We have started filling in the Soup Kitchen 2026 calendar. Please let the office know of your interest to help feed our neighbors. To date we have served over 3,700 meals.

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT We are blessed to have incredible staff throughout the year. We recognize them at Christmas with a special gift. At the rear of the church, please include your gift in the box, so we can present it on Christmas Eve.

WINTER WEATHER Wondering about winter weather and snow? How will you know if the worship service is canceled? Announcements will be posted by 7am on the Sunday morning regarding worship. You can check your emails for cancellation or the church Facebook page. Feel free to share the news with others as well. Our congregation comes from a large geographic area. The weather in town might be different from the accumulation or the road conditions in Tobyhanna, Analomink or even East Stroudsburg. Please use your best discretion for travel. If there is a service, you can worship online.

TRAVELING NATIVITY Once more our Nativity is on the move. Follow it as it moves from window to window on its way to the manger for Christmas Eve. First into the manger are Mary and Joseph. Second come the sheep outside the manger. Then on Christmas Eve baby Jesus arrives. Later on Epiphany the wise men arrive to the manger. Our pieces were handcrafted by Joni Singer in 1963. They were given to the church in 1993.

2026 ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS There is still time to return your 2026 estimate of giving card. These help us plan well for the coming year. Copies of giving estimate cards and service surveys are available in the back of the church.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE is an opportunity for us to unite as a community and seek peace amidst the storms. Join us tonight at 7pm at St. John’s Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We will be taking a freewill offering to benefit our Housing Families Grant with Habitat for Humanity.

Connection Card

Welcome Members & Visitors!

Please let us know how we can help each other this week:

Name

Address

Email/Phone

Prayer requests, needs, comments:

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Good morning! Check in on Facebook! Facebook.com/StroudsburgUMC
Whether you are visiting with us or you are a member, WELCOME! Please fill out the “Connection Card” in your bulletin today and place it in the offering plate. Help yourself to a copy of our weekly eNews in the back of the sanctuary. We are glad that you are here today!

SERVING YOU TODAY:
Head Ushers: DeAnn Harris, CJ Penwell, Soundboard: Jackie Herrero, Alisabeth and Peter Guepet, Camera: Alex Herrero, Felicity Guepet; Streaming: Alex Herrero, Kevin Kopec
TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS ARE Jenny Bogart and Jeanette Kuhns
THE BLUE BANNER hangs in memory of Paul Warnick, given by the Warnick family.
ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTERS 8:30am Pastor Bob and Nancy Amundsen; 11:00am The Kopec family
CALENDAR FUNDRAISER Looking for a thoughtful and original gift for Christmas or a loved one? Check out our SUMC 2026 calendar! The cost is \$35.95 each with all proceeds going toward our Community Resource Center Revitalization. A sample of the calendar is in the Fellowship Room and order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Room. If you have already paid for your calendar, please pick it up from the church office during the week. ***Only 3 calendars remain. Put in your order soon, so that you don't miss this opportunity.*** Please contact the office with any questions. Thank you!

ADVENT IS HERE! One of our traditions is the lighting of the Advent Wreath for the four weeks before Christmas and Christmas Eve. We have families, friends, and church family groups light the candles and lead the liturgy. Consider signing up in the Fellowship Room. We are in need of people for Christmas Eve - 2:30pm and 11:00pm.

ADVENT BAGS AND DEVOTIONALS Our Advent devotionals and bags are here. Please don’t forget to pick one up in the Fellowship Room. Sanctuary was written specifically for our congregation by Pastor Monica and Pastor Margie and coordinates with our worship. Items in the Advent Bag are used throughout the season. You wouldn’t want to miss it.

THE CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON THE FRONT DOORS are given by Kathy and Steve Burnett in memory of Otto and Alberta Weber and Edward and Gloria Burnett.

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES We are so thankful for our staff. Over this holiday season, our church office will be closed on December 24th, starting at noon, and on December 28th. The office will be open on December 29th and December 30th. The office will be closed on December 31st - January 1st and reopen on January 2nd—regular hours resume on Monday, January 5th. Pastor Monica will be on vacation from December 25th to January 2nd. If you have pastoral care needs during that time, please contact Pastor Margie.

Would you like to receive our weekly eNews?

Email address

How did you learn about our church?

Friend/FamilyInternet/WebsiteOther

What I/we look for in a church

Please circle your age group: 18-23 24-35 36-49 50-64 65+

We cordially welcome each visitor, member and friend to our Stroudsburg United Methodist Church. We pray that God will touch your life through the worship and fellowship we share. If you would like to make Stroudsburg United Methodist YOUR church, please mention your interest to the Pastor at the end of the service.

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church	
547 Main Street	
Stroudsburg, PA 18360	
570-421-6020	
CHURCH STAFF:	
Lead Pastor	The Rev. Monica B. Guepet, M. Div.
Pastor of Visitation	Pastor Margie Good, M. Ed.
Retiring Church Secretary	Jackie Herrero
Incoming Church Secretary	Ashley Emerson
Choir Director	Aram Tchobanian
Organist	Marti Lantz
Custodian	Robert Medina
CHURCH LEADERS:	
Daniel’s Dream Team	Chairperson, Jenny Bogart
Worship	Chairperson, Rev. Monica B. Guepet
Giving and Funding Committee	Chairperson, C. J. Penwell
Property & Building	Chairperson, Kay Bucci
Staff Parish Relations Committee	Chairperson, Vin Zelizo
Missions	Chairperson, Amanda Miller
Membership & Evangelism	Chairperson, Peggy Stewart
Co-Lay Leaders	Jeanette Kuhns, Jeremy Miller

Church Office Hours - Monday - Thursday, 9am-4:30pm; Friday 9am-3pm

Facebook.com/Stroudsburg UMC **Instagram: stroudsburgumc**

Giving is easier than ever. Use this QR code to give to the general fund or special ministry. Contact the office for more information.



Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
Stroudsburg, PA
The Worship of God
December 21, 2025
The Fourth Sunday in Advent



Gather! Grow! Make a Difference - Together!
www.stroudsburgumc.com
sumc@stroudsburgumc.com

Our Mission
Share the love of Jesus in
welcoming & compassionate ways.