

## Welcome & Invocation

Call to Worship (from UCC Worship Ways)

One: At the start of every day, God shakes us awake to the possibility of reconciliation and joyful abundance.

**Many: May our Great Redeemer, who judges all with righteousness, reward the tormented with justice.**

One: In every season, God tends to the child within us, bringing into harmony all distress and despair.

**Many: May our Beloved Emmanuel defend the cause of the deprived, give deliverance to the abused, and overwhelm the will of the oppressors.**

One: Throughout all generations, God bestows upon the people a peace that is everlasting.

**Many: May the Prince of Peace rain down blessed mercy upon the people, showering the earth with righteousness and peace.**

Hymn            Come, O Long Expected Jesus    #122

Advent Candle Lighting

Prayer

**We thank you, dear God, for your faithfulness. Help us to be a hopeful people, even in difficult times. May we be a source of hope to people everywhere who suffer in body, mind, or spirit that they too may know that you are with them. Amen.**

Scripture        Isaiah 11:1-10  
Sermon

Hymn            The Baptist Shouts            #115

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Christmas Fund Offering

Prayer of Dedication

**Communal Creator, we dedicate these offerings to the restoration of right relationships in the world, our community, and within our own hearts.**

**Continue to empower us to be advocates of peace at every size, for everyone, and in every place. Amen.**

Announcements

Hymn                      Angels From the Realms of Glory    #126

Blessing

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*Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.*

*- Desmond Tutu*

*Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul  
- and sings the tunes without the words - and never  
stops at all.*

*- Emily Dickinson*

### **Keep in Prayer**

Ethan Schafer, Pastor Wayne,  
Lewis Poths, Linda Stark, Rollie Homan,  
Jane Sanders (sister of Jean King),  
Mike Hamer (brother of Val Ball),  
Lonnie Hall (friend of Brandon Stewart)  
Our Shut-ins: Eloise, Allen, Carol, Joan

**Offering:** May be left in the basket in the back.

### **Announcements**

**Worship Sponsor:** Lisa Sparks

**Thank you, Christian Ed.**  
for hosting our Christmas Dinner

**Sunday School** meets after worship today.

**Council, Monday, Dec. 8, 7pm**

**Coffee & Fellowship, Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:30am**

**Non-Food Bank, December 17, 9am-12pm**

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
Candlelight and Communion, 4:00pm

Church Phone: 419-465-2165  
Web: [www.monroevilleucc.org](http://www.monroevilleucc.org)  
Email: [revwayne93@gmail.com](mailto:revwayne93@gmail.com)  
& Follow us on Facebook

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Welcome to the  
Monroeville United Church of Christ

*Changing Lives to Change the World*

*“Behold, I  
bring good  
news of great  
joy!”*

December 7, 2025