

This Week's Resources for further study...

Key Scripture Acts 2:44

“All who believed were together and had all things in common.”

Read again Acts 2:42-47 then consider the following:

What was necessary to have “glad and generous hearts” and the admiration of the people around them before “day by day” the Lord made it possible to effectively make disciples and grow the first Jesus gatherings that became known as his church?

Devotion was needed. Individuals chose to devote themselves to:

- the apostles' teaching, *consistently*
- fellowship together, *consistently*
- breaking of bread together (and recognizing Jesus), *consistently*
- prayer, *consistently, and without ceasing*

The people in that day didn't have the *same* distractions as we, but they had distractions. Like them, we must be intentional about devotion to consistent practices that keep us connected to God, our family, church family and community.

When we make the decision, as believers, to make our faith the center of our lives, things change because *we* change. ***God can work on us and through us when we are consistent in our connection to Him and each other.*** This is an important truth to embrace before the stay at home ban is lifted if we truly wish to see positive changes in our lives, families, church, and community and to inspire others.

Prayer of the Week:

Dear God, we stand at the gate and peer through, sometimes we just walk by and barely stop long enough to peek in. We keep creating our own ways, other “necessary priorities” of our choosing - adding to our stress and anxiety, yet believing that we know what is in our own best interest. We ignore the voice of the one Shepherd who will guide us to peace and hope. We wander aimlessly and then wonder why we get so lost. Help us stop and listen to the Shepherd's voice. Let us place our trust in the Shepherd who has never failed us, who loves and guides our lives. Forgive us our stubbornness and stupidity. For we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.

CCLI #1671542 Several elements of today's worship are from MinistryMatters.com, Deep Blue Adventures, the United Methodist Book of Worship and The Abingdon Worship Annual.

Penns Valley Charge of the United Methodist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, May 3, 2020

Please prepare Bread/Crackers - & - Water, Juice or Wine for Communion

THE MESSAGE

The Building Blocks OF FAITH

THE BASIC, POSITIVE PRINCIPLES FOR FAITH

3 Living in Comm-unity

Join us starting at 9:30am for our 9:45am worship via GoogleMeet.

Worship Online: meet.google.com/ffu-surb-ugf

OR go directly to **PennsValleyParish.info**, click today's worship service link under *This Just In...* and click the link to join.

Worship by phone: 1-413-489-4174 PIN: 245 964 625#

To mute or unmute phone use *6 (star six)

Let Pastor Theresa know by Saturday if you want to receive a call Sunday morning from worship, rather than calling in.

Theresa M. Heiser, Pastor | Office: 814-883-9510 | theiser@susumc.org

Faith UMC, Spring Mills - St. James UMC, Coburn

Sprucetown UMC, Spring Mills - Trinity UMC, Woodward

The “church” is not closed. We are “deployed”! Ministry continues! Amen!

Please support your local church. Thank you.

Our mission is to be used by God to serve and strengthen each other as we seek to transform the world.

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...” - Ephesians 4:11-12

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

L: This is the light of Christ. **P: Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Can you hear the voice of God?

P: We hear God calling us by name.

L: Are you troubled or distressed?

P: We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.

L: Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

**P: We come to praise our Shepherding God,
whose pathways and doors lead to life.**

OPENING PRAYER

We are standing at the gate, o loving Shepherd, not sure about the journey. But you have called our names, and in your voice we hear such love and surety. Bring us safely on the journey and strengthen us that we may serve you in all that we do. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Insert

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Peter and John [A children's activity packet and link to this week's video is online at PennsValleyParish.info]

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pastoral Prayer and **The Lord's Prayer** (*"trespass"*)

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 23 UMH 137

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Light of Christ'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The vocal line lyrics are 'wea-ry, come home; ear - nest-ly, ten - der - ly,'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords. The second system also has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line lyrics are 'Je - sus is call-ing, call-ing, O sin - ner, come home!'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support.

The Case for Easter Online/Phone In Study will be held Wednesday nights starting at 7pm, lines open at 6:45pm. Have your coffee and snack ready when you log in or call in. If you're a little late calling, no big whoop. A Bible, pen and paper may be helpful, but not required.

Week 1 Apr. 22: Evidence for the Resurrection

Week 2 Apr. 29: An Excruciating Execution

Week 3 May 6: The Case for the Empty Tomb

Week 4 May 13: Eyewitnesses to the Resurrection

Join Hangouts Meet online: meet.google.com/pdi-fmmtt-uey

Or phone in to 1-316-835-0758 PIN: 711 331 973#

Mark Your Calendar!

(All events are subject to change without prior notice):

MAY

May 6 - *The Case for Easter* Online/Phone Study - Week 3, 7pm

May 10 - Message: Asking Questions?

May 13 - *The Case for Easter* Online/Phone Study - Week 4, 7pm

May 17 - Message: Sharing Our Faith

May 24 - Message: Seeking Guidance Together

548 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
 3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,
 4. O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised,



call - ing for you and for me; see, on the por - tals he's
 plead - ing for you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and
 pass - ing from you and from me; shad - ows are gath - er - ing,
 prom - ised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has



wait - ing and watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me.
 heed not his mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?
 death - beds are com - ing, com - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cy and par - don, par - don for you and for me.



Refrain



Come home, come home; you who are
 Come home, come home;



CCLI #1671542

WORDS: Will L. Thompson, 1880
 MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1880

THOMPSON
 11 7.11 7 with Refrain

He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;

thy rod and they staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me

in the presence of mine enemies;

though annointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Acts 2:42-47 & 1 Peter 2:19-25

GOSPEL READING John 10:1-10

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Living in *Community*

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

Insert

CLOSING HYMN Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

Insert

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Thank you for joining us today!

Next week: "Asking Questions" In anxious times, we seek help from others.

381 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

CCLI #1671542

1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we
 2. We are thine, thou dost be - friend us, be the
 3. Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly

need thy ten - der care; in thy pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; keep thy flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; thou hast mer - cy to re -
 let us do thy will; bless - ed Lord and on - ly

feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare.
 fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
 Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Hear, O
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! We will
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast

bought us, thine we are. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 hear us when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 ear - ly turn to thee. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 bless - ed Je - sus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus! We will ear - ly turn to thee.
 bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Consider serving as an officer in 2021

We begin the process of nominating officers to serve the church and charge toward the end of the summer. Prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to serve and become more involved with your church. Currently serving officers lists are online at PennsValleyParish.info for each church. To request a paper copy, contact Pastor Theresa.

COMBS for Mission Central and UMCOR

Donations of new combs with at least 6 inches of teeth are needed for personal care kits. The State College District churches are collecting combs that will be taken to Annual Conference for creating those kits. Place donations into the collection box near the sanctuary door when we all get together again. Thank you!