

#### **COMMISSION & BLESSING**

FOR FURTHER STUDY: Known By Name

Read Exodus 33:12-23

Share a time when were felt the presence of God. Where were you? Who was there with you?

What practices enable you to experience the presence God? [For example, prayer, reading Scripture, worship, silence, solitude, and so on.]

Read the passage, again trying to place yourself in Moses's shoes. How does it feel to hear God say that God knows your name (v.17)?

How does assurance of God's presence (Matthew 28:20) and God's intimate knowledge of us enable us to press on during difficult times?

Being assured of God's presence and trusting that God knows us intimately and still chooses to love us is the foundation of our story as Christians. Yet, many Christians are very reluctant to share their testimony or giving witness to what God has done in their lives. Take a few moments and allow participants to write out their testimonies. A simple outline for a testimony is to (a) explain life before Christ, (b) talk about how you encountered Christ, and (c) note the difference Christ has made in your life.

Ever-present God, we give you thanks for your abiding presence with us. Guide us to be more aware of opportunities to abide in your presence that we might be assured of status as beloved children of God. Give us the freedom and courage to live as the beloved children of God who are known and loved by you. Amen.

CCLI #1671542 Several elements of today's worship are from MinistrtyMatters.com, Sermons for Kids, FreeBibleImages.com, the United Methodist Book of Worship and The Abingdon Worship Annual.

# Sprucetown United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 18, 2020

Message Series: Thriving

This week's Message: God's Imprint on Our Lives Stewardship is less about what we give than about who and whose we are.

20 "This engraving—who does it look like?

And whose name is on it?"

21 They said, "Caesar."

"Then give Caesar what is his, and give God what is his."

22 The Pharisees were speechless. They went off shaking their heads.

Matthew 22:0-23 The Message paraphrase

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

NEEDED: An Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference June 3-5, 2021 at Hershey Lodge. Costs covered by the charge. The alternate would need to go if the LM from Sprucetown cannot attend. Lay Members to Annual Conference must be full, professing members of the church. See Pastor Theresa if you are available to serve.

Nov. 1 - Communion Sunday, *Turn the Clocks back the night before!*Nov. 2 - PV Charge SPRC 4th Qtr meeting 7pm at Trinity UMC, our Lay Members to Annual Conference must be set prior to this meeting.
Nov. 23, 30, Dec. 7, 14 7-8pm Pastor Theresa will lead "Incarnation" Advent study by Adam Hamilton via Zoom. The book is available at all book stores. Sign up at PennsValleyParish.info.

Dec. 2 - Gingerbread House Night 7-8:30pm, \$35, sign up sheet in back Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Services; 3pm Sprucetown UMC, 6pm St. James UMC, Coburn, watch anytime after 3pm online, listen by phone.

Theresa M. Heiser, Pastor | Office: 814-883-9510 | theiser@susumc.org Visit us online at SprucetownUMC.org and PennsValleyParish.info Services are offered online at PennsValleyParish.info and Facebook.

Listen to the most recent message by phone toll free at 814-422-6238.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We belong to God.

P: God's stamp is on our lives.

L: God's love and compassion is built into us.

P: God's mercy and hope flow through us.

L: Let's celebrate the powerful presence of God.

P: Let's rejoice in all the opportunities God gives us to serve. AMEN.

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

God of power and might, help us to recognize the imprint of your love and mercy in our lives. Open our hearts to that love that we may grow in our faith and be strengthened in our witness to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE We Honor God

If you can, please have a coin ready to hold in your hand for the story.

# BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS - DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above with heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS - PASTORAL PRAYER (The Lord's Prayer "trespass")

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Matthew 22:15-22, Genesis 1:26

MESSAGE God's Imprint on Our Lives

HYMN God of Grace and God of Glory

