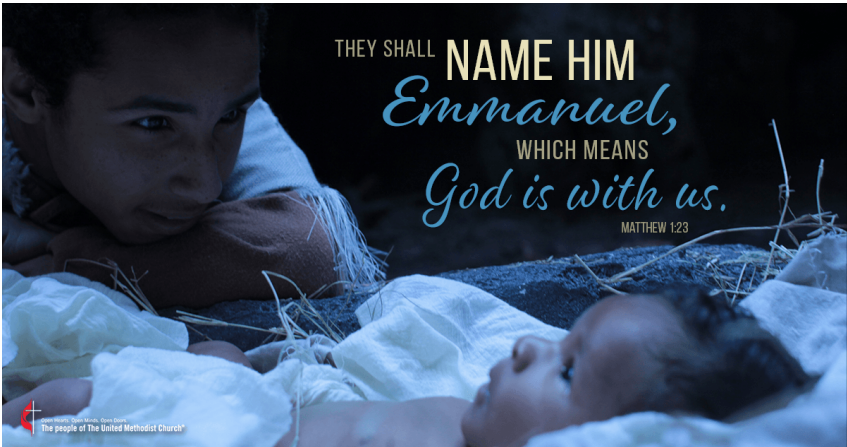


Sunday, December 24, 2020 Christmas Eve

Where We Belong: Home in the Word

God, as the Word made flesh in Christ, find a place to dwell with us.

To watch online go to PennsValleyParish.info and click Christmas Eve Worship link available starting 12am December 24th. You may also call the local sermon by phone number to listen to the service at 422-6238.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dec 27 - Worship prerecorded and online/phone at 422-6238 only.

Dec 27-Jan 2 - Pastor Theresa is on vacation. Rev. Debra Daily will be available for urgent pastoral needs by calling 1-570-541-9074.

Jan 3 - Charge Churches reopen for worship. Services will continue to be offered online at PennsValleyParish.info, Facebook and by the local phone number 422-6238.

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

Visit us online at PennsValleyParish.info

Faith UMC, 107 Two Steeples Lane, Spring Mills

Saint James UMC, 501 Main Street, Coburn

Sprucetown UMC, 177 Upper Georges Valley Rd, Spring Mills

Trinity UMC, 224 Trinity Lane, Woodward

Services are offered online at PennsValleyParish.info and Facebook.

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

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP O Come, All Ye Faithful

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Latin antiphon, *Hodie Christus natus est*)

One: On this night, Christ is born!

Many: Now the Savior has appeared.

One: On this night, the heavenly chorus resounds!

Many: All creation rejoices!

One: On this night, the church throughout the world joins their cry:

Many: Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Open us, O God, to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind with the shepherds to Bethlehem to see the glorious redemption you have brought to pass through the Newborn lying in a manger. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: Can you see the light of the candle of MORE HOPE!

Many: Jesus is MORE HOPE in our hard times.

One: Can you see the light of the candle of MORE PEACE!

Many: MORE PEACE rules where Jesus is KING!

One: Can you see the light of the candle for MORE JOY?

Many: MORE JOY is a sign that Jesus lives within us.

One: Can you see the light of the candle of MORE LOVE?

Many: Jesus shows us how to show MORE LOVE for others.

One: Tonight, we light the candle of Christ!

Many: Jesus shines as a bright light in the darkness of the world.

When Jesus shines in our lives, we are messengers of hope, peace, joy and love, making the world brighter!

HYMN Angels We Have Heard On High

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

† The Doxology: *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.*

† The Prayer of Dedication

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE A Candy Cane Song

A CELEBRATION IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:26-35

Congregational Response To a Maid Engaged to Joseph (v. 1 & 2) UMH#215

1 To a maid engaged to Joseph, the angel Gabriel came.

“Fear not,” the angel told her, “I come to bring good news, good news I come to tell you, good news, I say, good news.

2 “For you are highly favored by God the Lord of all, who even now is with you. You are on earth most blest, you are most blest, most blessed, God chose you, you are blest!”

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-7

Congregational Response O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1 & 2) UMH
#219

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-14

Congregational Response The First Noel (v. 1 & 2) UMH#245

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

(Refrain)

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:15-20

One: The word of God for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Home in the Word

Pastor Theresa Heiser

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

CONFESSION AND PARDON.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Leader to people:

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People to leader: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

Leader and people: **Glory to God. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth...*

*..And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ..*

*..And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine..*

*..Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for
ever.

Amen.

The body of Christ broken for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Bread and Cup

WE SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright.

'Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and⁷

mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth! Jesus Lord, at thy birth!

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
"Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born."

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace; remembering that our God, Emmanuel is indeed
always with us.

All: Amen.

Please extinguish your candle carefully.

May God richly bless you this Holy Christmas Day.