

Order of Worship for Sunday, April 11, 2021 with Pastor Theresa

2nd Sunday of Easter - His MIGHTY Strength series: Emptied

Listen at 814-422-6238. Watch online at www.PennsValleyParish.info

* Not included in recorded service due to copyright restrictions on the platforms

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: This is the day to walk in the light.

P: This is the day to share signs of peace.

L: This is the day to believe where we have not seen.

P: This is the day to embrace what we cannot touch. Let us worship the Lord of life who emptied himself for our sake.

OPENING PRAYER

God of manifold blessing, come to us this day. Come and bless us. Come and lead us into the light. We come to you to find peace. We come to rediscover joy. We come to believe where we have not seen. We come to touch the glory of everlasting life that is possible through the power of your Son and the Holy Spirit. We come here today so we may truly live. AMEN.

* HYMN Easter People, Raise Your Voices UMH 304

BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – 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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Seeing is Believing

JOYS AND CONCERNS - (The Lord’s Prayer “trespass”)

SELECTED SCRIPTURE John 20:19-31, 1 John 1:1-2:2

MESSAGE Emptied

* HYMN He Lives UMH 310

COMMISSION & BLESSING

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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BIBLE STUDY: Unless I See

Read: John 20:19-31

This passage is dense with concepts and ideas (forgiveness; how does the risen Christ walk through doors or walls?; the relationship between believing and seeing, and so on). Write out the questions that surface for you in this passage. Find answers to them.

Can you identify with Thomas's skepticism about the disciples' claim (v. 25)? Why or why not?

Some have referred to the modern American culture as an age of skepticism. Do you think that is accurate? How might that influence some people's reluctance to share the good news?

What one sign (v. 30) would you wish to see that might strengthen your belief?

How does our faith grow in times when we don't "see" God's presence around us?

CLOSING PRAYER

Merciful God, we are amazed that almighty God would come and live among us. Dying and rising from the grave seems almost impossible to comprehend. We give you thanks that you are beyond our imaginations, for if we could understand you, you would be only as large as our imaginations. Help us to trust you and to continue believing that we might see even more how you are at work in the world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 15 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation 9:30am at St. James UMC, Coburn. All are welcome.

April 18 – Youth Pizza Study for teens in grades 7-12 will meet April from 5-6:30pm at St. James UMC.

Pastor Theresa and a safe sanctuaries cleared volunteer host a pizza supper followed by a teen centered study that includes games and prizes! RSVP required by Noon of the study day by phone or text to Pastor Theresa 814-883-9510

May 4 – Trinity Woodward Ladies Aide Meeting, 6:30pm

May 4 – Sprucetown Ad Council/Trustees Meeting 7pm

May 5 – St. James Trustees Meeting 6:30pm, Ad Council 7pm

May 6 – National Day of Prayer – St. James UMC open for prayer 8am-7:30pm and prayer resources will be made available at all churches for anyone wishing to pray at work or at home.