

Order of Worship for Sunday, September 5, 2021 – Not So Secret Sauce Ingredient #1: Goodness

Theresa M. Heiser, Pastor Visit the charge site at PennsValleyParish.info

Listen to the message at 814-422-6238. Visit PennsValleyParish.info for more details!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS We do good works in response to salvation, not to receive salvation.

SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, be nourished by the words and witness of Jesus Christ.

P: He came that we might know of God's absolute, steadfast love for us.

L: Receive the gift of the Bread of Life and hunger no more.

P: We are grateful for Jesus Christ, who has given to us this magnificent gift.

L: Come, let us worship and rejoice!

P: Let us sing our praises to God. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of life and hope, we gather this day seeking nourishment for our souls and healing for our spirits. Give to us your living bread, that having been nourished in soul and spirit, we may be witnesses to your transforming love. Through the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we offer this prayer. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN Pass It On United Methodist Hymnal #572

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

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

SELECTED SCRIPTURE 2 Peter 1:3-8 / Ephesians 2:8-10

MESSAGE Not So Secret Sauce: Goodness & Light

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE United Methodist Hymnal p.12

CLOSING HYMN Here I Am, Lord United Methodist Hymnal #593

COMMISSION & BLESSING

THIS WEEK'S SELF STUDY: Making Distinctions

Read: [James 2:1-10, \(11-13\), 14-17](#)

- Have participants who are willing share their stories of where they have witnessed or were part of an act of favoritism.
- How do acts of favoritism reveal our belief in Jesus (2:1)? [How we treat others displays our core beliefs.]
- Why do you think there is the temptation to separate faith and works? [Too often, faith is narrowly defined as beliefs about ideas instead of a more robust understanding of faith that issues into living action.]
- James points out the distinction that was evident in the churches he was in ministry with – the distinction between the rich and the poor. What distinctions do you think James might point out that are evident in today's churches? [Rich and poor, educated and uneducated, old and young, among the races, and so on.]
- Respond to the statements: "Faith that doesn't act doesn't live out its core belief. It is faith that isn't faith." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- What is the distinction between being saved by works and what James is articulating?
- What might God be calling you to do as a response to this passage?

SENDING FORTH PRAYER

God of steadfast love, we confess our tendency to make distinctions when we should instead see people in need of grace. Empower us to be your servants who look to serve all and display your love that seeks for each person to be made whole in your grace. Amen.

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Theresa M. Heiser; theiser@susumc.org; 814-883-9510; PO Box 211, Centre Hall 16828

