

Order of Worship for Sunday, December 26, 2021 – 1st Sunday after Christmas

For the transformation of the world, we make disciples. We study God's Word and offer praise and worship as we strengthen each other for outreach beyond the church walls.

Theresa M. Heiser, Pastor Visit the charge site at [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)

Listen to the message 24/7 at 814-422-6238. Visit [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info) for more details!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Coffee with the Pastor Wednesday at Earlstown Diner 8:30am. Stop by and chat.
- Learn more about the structure of the church and develop church leadership skills at the Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course training offered Friday, January 21st 6:30-9pm and Saturday, January 22nd 9am-5pm led by Penns Valley Cluster pastors, hosted at Grace UMC, Centre Hall. Cost of \$25 covers the participant's guide, refreshments and lunch Saturday. This enjoyable and informative training is open to everyone. Register online at [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info) or contact Pastor Theresa to sign up. Scholarships available to cover the cost.

CENTERING WORDS Christmas comes, Christmas goes...but God's love is everlasting. Babies are born, babies grow up...but God's love is everlasting. The God who made the entire world is with us here and now, and forever and ever. Alleluia!

SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE *Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary. Pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

CALL TO WORSHIP / ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY

One: Christ is born!

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: Jesus is among us!

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: The Word has become flesh!

**Many: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*One: Light all of the Advent candles*

One: We light these candles once again in celebration of the light of life, now with us forevermore. For the Word has become flesh and is dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Many: Glory to God! Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Swaddle us in your love, O God, that we may grow in wisdom and favor, as Samuel and Jesus before us. Clothe us with your compassion, and wrap us in your kindness and mercy, that we may be known for**

**our humility, gentleness, and patience. Bind us in love and unity, through the power of your Holy Spirit, that our words and deeds may be done in the name of Christ Jesus, our guide and guardian. AMEN.**

† OPENING HYMN Good Christian Friends, Rejoice UMH #224

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 Losing Jesus

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

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Luke 2:41-52

MESSAGE ...is Born

RESPONSE TO THE WORD (*Responsively*)

As Samuel and Jesus before us, let us grow in favor with God and people.

**We will put on compassion and kindness like a garment.**

Let us clothe ourselves in humility and gentleness.

**We will wear patience and tolerance like a cloak.**

As Samuel and Jesus before us, let us grow in wisdom and understanding.

**We will put on Christ each and every day.**

† CLOSING HYMN Love Came Down at Christmas UMH #242

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

† CHORAL BENEDICTION Hark, the Herald Angels Sing v. 3 UMH #240

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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CCLI #11541746 Several elements of today's worship are from Ministry Matters, Feasting on the Word, Worship Design Studio, the United Methodist Book of Worship and The Abingdon Worship Annual.