

Order of Worship Sunday, November 27, 2022 - First Sunday of Advent
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: PennsValleyParish.info

For the transformation of the world, we make disciples.

We study God's Word and offer praise and worship, strengthening each other for outreach beyond the church walls.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS The birth of Jesus was something promised that actually came to pass. I can trust that Jesus is still working today and that gives me hope.

SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

P: For in God's house we shall find hope and healing.

L: In God's house we shall find forgiveness and friendship.

P: May peace be within the walls of this house of God.

L: Come, let us go to the house of the Lord.

P: Come, let us sing our praises to God who loves and redeems us.

† CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus UMH #196

† LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – Week 1: We Light the Candle of Hope

L: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (*Psalms 122:1 NRSV*)

P: We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

L: "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths'" (*Isaiah 2:3 NRSV*).

P: We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

Light the first candle on the Advent wreath.

† OPENING PRAYER

Lord of light and life, we come to you this day in celebration of the witness of your Son Jesus Christ.

Open our hearts, our spirits, and our lives to listen to his words for us. Help us to be faithful disciples for you; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

† HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UMH #206

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 Ready for the Christ of Christmas Matthew 3:1-12

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

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2-7 // Matthew 1:22-23 // Romans 15:4

MESSAGE Hope Is at The Heart Of Christmas

† CLOSING HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! UMH #211 verses 1-4

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

November 29 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC, Coburn. Contact: Paula Smith

December 1 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation at St. James UMC, Coburn starting at 9:30am

December 1 – First night of the Advent Study “The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God’s Voice in Advent”, 4 Thursday evenings 7-8pm online via Zoom. Registration and more information on our website.

December 4 – Watch The Chosen Episode 3: Jesus Loves the Little Children 6pm at St. James UMC, Coburn, all are welcome. Youth Pizza Study is at 5-5:50pm for grades 7-12pm.

December 6 – Sprucetown Church Ad Council Meeting 7pm at the church, all are welcome

December 8 – Week Two of the Advent Study online. Details at PennsValleyParish.info

December 11 – Christmas Lunch at Sprucetown Church starting at 12:15pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services; 3pm at Sprucetown UMC; 6pm at St. James UMC, Coburn

December 25 – Watch a special message online at PennsValleyParish.info or listen at 814-422-6238.

ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

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

District Superintendent: Rev. Brenda Leigey District Website: statecollege.susumc.org

Bishops: Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball Conf. Website: susumc.org

The Penns Valley Charge is part of the Penns Valley Cluster; State College District; Susquehanna Annual Conference; Northeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church

CCLI #11541746 Several elements of today’s worship are from Ministry Matters, Feasting on the Word, the United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022.