

Order of Worship Sunday, December 25, 2022 Christmas Eve – Jesus is the Heart of Christmas
Hear Pastor’s Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: PennsValleyParish.info

† SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE O, Come All Ye Faithful #234 (sung by Nicki & Teresa Leiby Sprucetown / sing verses 1 & 2 St. James)

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy.

Many: To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

One: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

Many: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!

One: Let us now go to Bethlehem.

† LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We have heard the call to keep watch. But what are we keeping watch over? Maybe we’re looking for something that will define us, something that will remake us, transform us. Some relationship, some hope, some love that will make us new. Maybe we’re looking for the gift we remember this night.

Many: O holy Child of Bethlehem - Descend to us, we pray - Cast out our sin and enter in - Be born to us today - We hear the Christmas angels - The great glad tidings tell - O come to us, abide with us - Our Lord Emmanuel!

One: What we go out to see in the disorder of our world is not necessarily the Christ child or the light that glows within. No, I think what we watch over is the world that he came to save: the masses of humanity who think they can find salvation in the stuff of this life, like we know we do sometimes. When we forget. A world that has room for a Savior, even when we’ve forgotten it. And part of what we’re keeping watch for is to see whether we can make room—room for grace, room for joy, room for peace, even at our worst. At our most needy. And most helpful, and grace-filled. Keep watch. Let us light these candles and complete this circle as we rejoice in the light that shines in the darkness and declare with joy and with hope –

Many: Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Hallelujah. Amen. Light the Christ candle.

† HYMN Angels We Have Heard On High #238 verses 1-2

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE The Candy Cane Song

BLESSING 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

A CELEBRATION IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-35

Congregational Response To a Maid Engaged to Joseph (verses 1 & 2) #215

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-7

Congregational Response What Child is This? (verses 1 & 2) #219

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-14

Congregational Response The First Noel (verses 1 & 2) #245

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:15-20

Congregational Response Joy to the World (verses 1 & 2) #246

MESSAGE Jesus is the Heart of Christmas

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE Hymnal p. 12

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Bread and Cup

SHARING THE LIGHT

† HYMN Silent Night, Holy Night

† COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

† POSTLUDE

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services; 3pm at Sprucetown UMC; 6pm at St. James UMC, Coburn both will be streamed live via Zoom with links available at PennsValleyParish.info, recordings available later
December 25 – 8:30am Worship at Faith Spring Mills and a message online and by phone at 814-422-6238.

December 27 – Soup Kitchen at St. James in Coburn. Contact Paula Smith for information.

January 1 – Unified Communion service to be held at 9:45am at St. James UMC in Coburn with live streaming via Zoom and message by phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238, 8:30am Worship at Faith Spring Mills.

January 4 – St. James Trustees meet at 6:30pm, Ad Board meets at 7pm. All are welcome!

January 5 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation at St. James UMC at 9:30am. All ladies in the valley welcome!

January 7 – Information session regarding the state of our denomination will be presented 2:30-3:30pm at St. James UMC, open to all who attend the PV Charge churches

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, Trevor Miller through Outreach.com, the United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022.