

Order of Worship for Sunday, Sunday, April 23, 2023

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.

CENTERING WORDS In the midst of confusion and doubt, Love walks beside us.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, out of the darkness of doubt

P: We come seeking the Light

L: Open your hearts to receive God's healing love.

P: Lord, help us to see you and to feel your loving presence.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, you have given yourself to us in the person of Jesus. We have his example of loving ministry as a guide for our lives. We stand as people forgiven and reconciled to you. Be with us this day. Remind us that you are always near. Guide our lives. For we ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus UMH #349

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 The Good Shepherd's Voice John 10:1-10

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

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Acts 2:14a, 36-41 // 1 Peter 1:17-23

MESSAGE I Matter: Recognizing Jesus

† HYMN Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound UMH #378

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

You are encouraged to live into the "I Matter" declaration with the Personal Spirituality Challenge on the other side of this page.

PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY: Stage 1 - "I MATTER" Daily Challenge for this week:

Created in the image of God, who is love, we redefine who we are. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7:

"4 **Love is** patient, **love is** kind and is not jealous; **love** does not brag and **is** not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, **is** not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 [**Love**] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." - NRSVA

- Now, read again replacing "Love" with "God".
- Then read replacing "Love is" with "I am" to begin to reinforce who you were created to be.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

Learning Opportunity! Fresh Expressions for Pastors and Churches is a workshop geared

toward churches who seek to create new places for new people. We need to move beyond attractional models for doing church. Join us to be challenged to create something new that IS "church" in your community. This workshop will provide both creative and practical ways to get outside the four walls to be the church where the people are! Rev. Dr. Kathleen Kind will share about Fresh Expressions on May 6, 2023, Pleasant Gap 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. A small fee of \$5 per person or \$20 for a team of five will be asked to help with the luncheon. Please email statecollege@susumc.org for your registration by April 24 –include any dietary restrictions.

Please send your payment to the State College District Ministerium at 1200 Haymaker Rd, State College, PA 16801. Questions? See Pastor Theresa.

April 26 – Soup Kitchen ministry will be held at St. James. Contact Paula Smith for details.

May 2 – Sprucetown's Ad Council and Trustees will meet at 7pm. Please join us.

May 3 – St. James Trustees meet at 6:30pm, Ad Council at 7pm. Please join us.

May 4 – National Day of Prayer – Materials will be available at church the Sunday prior and St. James' sanctuary will be available for those who wish to pray 8am-7:30pm.

May 4 - Ladies Coffee & Conversation is a gathering open to all ladies in the valley starting at 9:30am at St. James UMC, Coburn. Come and have a wonderful time with us!

May 7 – Watch the last episode of season 1 of The Chosen: I Am He starting 6pm at St. James in Coburn. This will be the last Youth Pizza Study (for grades 7-12) of the school year, starts at 5pm.

May 10 – Trinity Trustees and Ad Board will meet at 7pm. You are invited to join us.

May 12 – Sing a Happy Welcome to Spring hymn sing is 2pm at St. James UMC with John Abbott accompanying. ALL are welcome! Sponsored by the East Penns Valley Red Hats.

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, A Preacher's Guide Lectionary Sermon Series Thematic Plans for Years A B and C, Feasting on the Word, The United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023.