

Order of Worship for Sunday, October 22, 2023 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, Year A  
My Help Comes from the Lord Guest Speaker: Edie Hertzog  
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)  
For the transformation of the world, we study God's Word in context to be equipped to live Jesus' Way.

CENTERING WORDS Seek God's presence, that God's goodness, mercy and grace may bless and strengthen you.

#### SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

##### † CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome this day to a celebration of God's magnificent creation!

**P: Thanks be to God the Creator who has loaned to us such a beautiful planet.**

L: Welcome this day to a recognition of God's redeeming love!

**P: Thanks to God the Redeemer who has given us God's only Son as our Example and Teacher, Our Savior and Redeemer!**

L: Welcome this day to the joy of God's Holy Spirit of truth and power!

**P: Thanks to God the Sustainer who walks with us every day, guiding and guarding our steps.**

##### OPENING PRAYER

**Merciful and Just God, we gather here this morning, each of us with many concerns on our hearts. Our hearts are concerned with systems of injustice which strip people of their dignity and their very lives. Help us to be those who would seek peace with justice, who would fight for those who are oppressed, offer voices for the voiceless and dignity for all humankind. Be with us this day and guide our steps toward a more just world in your name. AMEN.**

##### † OPENING HYMN How Firm a Foundation UMH #529

##### † 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.***

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

##### HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty UMH #64

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Psalm 121

MESSAGE My Help Comes from the Lord - Edie Hertzog

† CLOSING HYMN How Great Thou Art UMH #77

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)

Harvest Home Food Drive – Bring non-perishable food items to benefit the local food pantry through November 19<sup>th</sup>!

October 24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting 7pm at Trinity Woodward

October 25 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC, Coburn. Contact Paula Smith to learn more.

November 1 – St. James Trustees meet at 6:30pm, Administrative Board at 7pm

November 2, 16 - Ladies Coffee & Conversation at St. James in Coburn at 9:30am. All ladies welcome.

November 4 – Fall Bazaar at Sprucetown UMC 9am-2pm, gently used items, crafts and more.

Homemade soup and baked goods will be available. Great items for Thanksgiving and Christmas!

November 5 – Fall Back! Turn your clocks back at 2am so you get that extra hour of sleep! ☺ It is All Saint's Sunday when we honor all the new saints who have joined the Church Eternal in the last year, as well as all who have gone before.

November 7 – Sprucetown Ad Board and Trustees will meet at 7pm. All are welcome!

November 12 – Monthly potluck lunch following worship at Sprucetown UMC

November 19 – Harvest Home Sunday when we bless the food pantry donations.

November 19 – Penns Valley Community Thanksgiving Service at 6pm hosted by Faith Alive

Fellowship on Rt 45 near the high school. Anyone willing to sing in the volunteer choir should show up to rehearse at 5pm.

November 20 – Trinity Woodward Trustees and Ad Board meets at 7pm.

November 29 – Soup Kitchen at St. James. Contact Paula Smith for details.

December 2 – Christmas Party at St. James UMC, Coburn 2-4pm. Sing Christmas carols then watch *Buck Denver Asks Why is It Called Christmas* enjoy warm cider and hot cocoa, take festive photos at the photo booth with lots of fun props, decorate Christmas cookies and have a wonderful time of fellowship! We will be awarding best Christmas gear, so break out those awesome sweaters, hats and whatever you've got! Let's get together and have a great time celebrating our Lord and King!

CCLI #1671542 Elements of 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.