

Order of Worship for Sunday, February 25, 2024 2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B  
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 Letting go of the old to make room for the new, we are invited to trust a future we cannot yet see – a future, nonetheless, that God holds firmly in hand.

#### SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

##### † CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Hear of God's promise.

**P: The promise rests on grace.**

L: God gives life to the dead.

**P: The promise rests on grace**

L: God calls into being things that did not exist.

**P: The promise rests on grace.**

L: God came to us through Jesus.

**P: The promise rests on grace.**

L: Jesus died and rose again to save us.

**P: God's grace comes to us through our faith.**

##### † OPENING PRAYER

**God, you have given us everything. What can we give in return for our lives? Be our guide on our Lenten journey. Help us to deny ourselves, pick up our cross and follow Jesus. We welcome the chastening direction in our lives as we worship you today. AMEN.**

##### † OPENING HYMN How Great Thou Art UMH #77

##### † 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")

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST WITH ONE ANOTHER (St. James Coburn)

HYMN OF PREPARATION There's a Wideness in God's Mercy UMH #121

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7, 8-17 // Romans 4:13-25 // Mark 8:31-38

MESSAGE The Power of Sacrifice: What Matters Most

† CLOSING HYMN The Church of Christ, in Every Age UMH #589

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

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

**Life After Loss** helps you to focus on your loss, face the pain of it, and set about to reintegrate your life. Recommended for those experiencing a loss by death that occurred at least 3 months prior to our 1st session. Classes are every Sunday for 5 weeks starting April 7th from Noon-2:30pm at Christ's United Methodist Church, 1200 Allegheny Street, Julian. A light lunch is provided each week. If you would like more information about the group or would like to register for the free sessions, contact Rev. Karen L. Weiss, 814-883-7595, [kweiss@susumc.org](mailto:kweiss@susumc.org). Please share this with anyone who may benefit.

**Book Study:** Pastor Theresa is leading a book study on *The Third Day – Living the Resurrection* Tuesdays via Zoom from 7-8pm. See the bulletin board or our website for registration information. Join anytime. Attend when you are able.

**A Laity Celebration** will be held March 9th at 10am hosted at Mount Nittany UMC in Lemont. You are encouraged to join us for glorious music including a bell choir, inspiring stories, and holy communion.

February 28 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC in Coburn. Contact: Paula Smith 814-880-6023

March 6 – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Bible Study 10am at Sprucetown UMC, 177 Upper Georges Valley Rd.

March 7 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation hosted at St. James UMC 9:30am. All are welcome.

March 9 – A Laity Celebration 10am at Mt. Nittany UMC, 1500 E. Branch Road, State College

March 10 – Sprucetown Potluck Lunch following worship.

March 28 - Maundy Thursday service will be held March 28<sup>th</sup> 7pm at St. James UMC, Coburn

March 31 - Easter Sunday is March 31, 2024 – Sunrise Service 7am at Trinity Woodward; 8:30am at St. James Coburn; 10am at Sprucetown UMC with breakfast prior to the service

#### ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

Pastor: Theresa M. Heiser; [theiser@susumc.org](mailto:theiser@susumc.org); 814-883-9510; PO Box 211, Centre Hall PA 16828

District Superintendent: Rev. Brenda Leigey District Website: [statecollege.susumc.org](http://statecollege.susumc.org)

Bishops: Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball Conf. Website: [susumc.org](http://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