

Order of Worship for Sunday, April 7, 2024 – Second Sunday of Easter, Year B  
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)  
For personal transformation, we study God's Word to learn how we shall live, offer praise and worship  
and strengthen each other. For the transformation of the world, we make disciples.

CENTERING WORDS The risen Christ comes to us and says, "Peace be with you." May we lay down the worries of our lives to welcome the peace of Christ.

#### SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

##### † CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have been freed!

**P: Fear and death have no claim on us!**

L: Christ the Lord is risen!

**P: Even though we have not touched his wounded hands, yet we believe.**

L: Even though we have not heard him speak our names, yet we believe.

**P: Let us celebrate God's love through the life of Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

##### † OPENING PRAYER

**Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. AMEN.**

##### † OPENING HYMN In Christ There Is No East or West UMH #547

##### † 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 Trust and Obey UMH #467

##### SELECTED SCRIPTURE Acts 4:32-35 // 1 John 1:1—2:2 // John 20:19-31

##### MESSAGE Living in a Post-Resurrection World: Seeing is NOT Believing

† CLOSING HYMN We Are the Church UMH #558

† OUR SHARED COMMISSION Prayer for the Unity of Christ's Body, the Church

**Help each of us, gracious God, to live in such elevation and courageousness in spirit, nobility of feeling, generosity of mind and restraint, that the Head of the church may never have cause to say to any one of us,**

**“This is my body, broken by you.” Amen.**

† BLESSING

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

April 14 – Potluck Lunch following Worship at Sprucetown. Last one till September!

April 16 – Historic Paradise Church Cemetery Association meeting 7pm at St. James UMC, Coburn.

Anyone who is interested in the care and improvement of Paradise Cemetery is welcome.

April 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Bible Study at St. James UMC, Coburn 10am. All are welcome.

April 18 - Ladies Coffee & Conversation 9:30am at St. James UMC, Coburn. All ladies welcome.

April 23 – May 3 – The General Conference of the United Methodist Church will be held in Charlotte, NC. There is a General Conference Guide available on our website that may answer questions about how the conference works, what will take place, and more. This is the only body that speaks for the UMC.

April 27 – Ladies' Tea at Sprucetown UMC 2pm. Join us for an afternoon tea party and fellowship. Please bring a photo of your Mother or your Mother figure. RSVP by Saturday, April 13 by signing up at the church. Sign-up sheet is near the bulletins. Questions? Contact Tami Spotts at 814-280-5480.

May 1 – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Bible Study 10am hosted at Sprucetown UMC. All are welcome.

May 1 – St. James Trustees meet at 6:30pm and Ad Board at 7pm. Members are welcome to attend.

May 2 – National Day of Prayer

May 2 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation at St. James UMC, Coburn 9:30am. All ladies welcome.

May 7 – Sprucetown UMC Ad Council and Trustees meeting 7pm. Members are welcome to attend.

May 11 – Spring Cleaning at St. James UMC, Coburn 9am. Volunteers are needed inside and outside.

Prayer request: The 2024 Susquehanna Annual Conference will be held May 30-June 1 at the Community Arts Center in Williamsport. You can watch sessions online and keep up to date at [susumc.org](http://susumc.org). Please lift our Lay Member to Annual Conference, Beth Brown (Sprucetown UMC) and Pastor Theresa Heiser for Spirit led discernment and excellence of service. Thank you.

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

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 2024.