

Order of Worship Sunday, December 22, 2024 4th Sunday of Advent, Year C: Come, Let Us Adore Him!
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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS With fullness of heart, soul, and mind, we gather to glorify God and to rejoice in God, our Savior.

SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Rejoice in the presence and love of Christ.

P: We rejoice in the one who lives in our hearts.

L: Rejoice, for Christ brings justice and peace to our world.

P: We rejoice in the one who calls us to justice and peace.

L: Rejoice with faith and hope.

P: We rejoice in the one whose promises are true.

† OPENING PRAYER

Lord, be with us this morning as we encounter Mary and hear of the wondrous news that she received. Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. We are called to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name. Open our hearts and our spirits today to receive with great joy the love that you have for us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN Angels from the Realms of Glory UMH #220

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 - (The Lord's Prayer "trespass")

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST – St. James UMC & Sprucetown UMC

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

Leader: When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, "But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day." (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, "But you, O churchy, from you shall come forth for me..." What? What might God be calling forth from us?

Congregation: God invites us to receive the promise of God's salvation and the sustenance of God's mercy and grace, enabling us to live the promise as God-bearers to the world. As Christ was born in Bethlehem, so too we answer God's invitation to have Christ born among us today and every day.

Leader: We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God's love for all creation.

[Light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath.]

HYMN OF PREPARATION O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH #234 v. 3-4

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a // Hebrews 10:5-10 // Luke 1:39-55

MESSAGE The Promise of Love in Advent

† CLOSING HYMN Love Came Down at Christmas UMH #242

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT We celebrate the arrival of the holy child – the one who reverses fortunes and re-creates the world with justice and peace.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

Today – Christmas Concerts at Trinity UCC, Centre Hall. Penns Valley Men's Chorus 2pm. Community Christmas Choir 3:15pm

Christmas Eve Services are Dec. 24 at 3pm at Sprucetown UMC and 6pm at St. James UMC. Invite your friends and neighbors to worship with us!

December 29 – No worship service or Sunday School at Trinity UMC, Woodward.

January 2 - Ladies Coffee & Conversation for all ladies 9:30am at St. James in Coburn

January 12 – 2nd Sunday Potluck Lunch following worship at Sprucetown UMC. Bring a covered dish to share. Worship at 11am, lunch follows, then the Administrative Board/ Trustees meeting. All are welcome.

January 15 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC. Contact Paula Smith to learn how to get involved.

January 16 - Ladies Coffee & Conversation for all ladies 9:30am at St. James in Coburn

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

Susquehanna Conference Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez Conference 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 #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.