

Order of Worship Sunday, December 8, 2024 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A: 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 God's salvation is like a refiner's fire, cleansing our impurities and making us clean and blameless before the Lord.

SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: A voice cries in the wilderness:

P: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

L: A challenge is uttered from on high:

P: "Make straight the paths of our God."

L: Every valley will be lifted up.

P: Every mountain will be made low.

L: The winding path will be made straight,

P: and every rough way will be made smooth.

† OPENING PRAYER

God of our deliverance, you meet us in our need. You fill the valleys of our insecurities with hope and bring low the mountains of our pride and conceit. As we await your Son and the glory of your salvation, guide our feet in the ways of peace. AMEN

† OPENING HYMN Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming UMH #216

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 PEACE

Leader: The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness"

Congregation: In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

Leader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

[Light another purple candle on the Advent wreath.]

HYMN OF PREPARATION O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH #234 verse 2

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Malachi 3:1-4 // Philippians 1:3-11 // Luke 3:1-6

MESSAGE The Passion That Moves Us Forward

† CLOSING HYMN Hail to the Lord's Anointed UMH #203

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT Christ brings light to our darkness and hope to disperse the shadow of death around us. Seek the Lord with a passion for peace and find life anew.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

Monday, December 9, 16 – Advent Book study “On the Way to Bethlehem” begins. It runs 4 Mondays 7-8pm via Zoom. Registration required, start at any time. More at PennsValleyParish.info

Next Sunday we will celebrate Gaudette (Joy) Sunday! The 3rd Sunday of Advent will feature extra hymns and some history about them. We invite you to join us! Feel free to wear your favorite festive outfit or sweater.

Next Sunday – “A King for All Nations” choral concert at Faith UMC, Bellefonte 4pm.

December 19 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation for all ladies 9:30am at St. James in Coburn

December 22 – Christmas Concerts at Trinity UCC, Centre Hall. Penns Valley Men's Chorus 2pm.

Community Christmas Choir 3:15pm. (Choir volunteers are welcome. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights at 7pm at Trinity UCC in Centre Hall.)

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.

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