

Order of Worship Sunday, February 23, 2025 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany  
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)  
† - Please rise in body or spirit where you see this symbol.

CENTERING WORDS Love is an all or nothing proposition. Only by loving your enemies as well as your friends do you live as children of the Most High.

† SERVICE OF THE ACOLYTE (The Sanctuary Song, twice) *Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true, with thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come and learn the ways of life.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus and learn the ways of life.**

† OPENING PRAYER

**Inexhaustible source of love and life, be with us in our time of worship as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son. Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone. Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness with which we hope to be treated. May our every word and deed make known that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. AMEN.**

† OPENING HYMN The Gift of Love UMH #408

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet UMH #601

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Genesis 45:3-11, 15 // 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 // Luke 6:27-38

MESSAGE When Jesus' Words Challenge Us

† CLOSING HYMN Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult UMH #398

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: Embrace the challenge to live generously, to love radically, and to allow Jesus' words to change us, even when it's hard, to more fully live the life Christ has for you.

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

If you would like to understand better your church, sharing your faith, caring ministries, and more, consider taking the Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course. We will meet Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 6:30-9pm and Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 9am – 5pm at Grace UMC, Centre Hall. The participant's booklet is required reading for the training. Details are on the flyer on our bulletin board and our website. Registration is required no later than March 26<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Contact Pastor Theresa. Led by PV Cluster pastors.

February 26 – Soup Kitchen ministry at St. James UMC. To join, contact Paula Smith 814-422-8150.

February 27 - A Concert of Praise and Worship featuring the Chi Rho Singers 7pm at Greater Buffalo Run Valley UMC, 102 Trinity Court Bellefonte.

March 3 – Begins the Lent Book Study on Max Lucado's *In the Footsteps of the Savior: Following Jesus Through the Holy Land*. Details on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info). Register by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

March 4 – St. James Trustees meet at 6:30pm, Ad Board at 7pm. Note this is a Tuesday night.

March 5 – Community Ash Wednesday Service hosted by St. James UMC, Coburn at 7pm. Service includes imposition of ashes.

March 6 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation hosted by St. James UMC, Coburn 9:30am. All ladies welcome.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Palm Sunday is April 13

Easter Sunday is April 20 – Services; Trinity UMC 7am, St. James UMC 8:30am, Sprucetown 10am

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)

Susquehanna Conference Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez Conference Website: [susumc.org](http://susumc.org)

The Penns Valley Charge is part of the Penns Valley Cluster; State College (Mountain Valley) 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.