

Order of Worship Sunday, March 23, 2025 3rd Sunday in Lent, Year C
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: PennsValleyParish.info
† - Please rise in body or spirit where you see this symbol.

CENTERING WORDS God offers us water to drink, the bread of life, and the sweet wine of salvation all without price. Yet, we often seek food and drink that does not satisfy.

† 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: We have come this day to learn about what God expects of us.

P: Sometimes we really don't want to know what God wants. We are afraid to make the commitments God seeks.

L: God is persistent. God will not let us off the hook so easily.

P: But we have failed so many times in the past. How can we possibly serve now?

L: Open your hearts to receive forgiveness and healing. Listen to God. Be ready to work with God for hope, peace, justice and love.

P: Be with us, Lord. Help us to turn around, to see you, to serve you, to witness to your Love.

† OPENING PRAYER

Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and spirits this morning, Lord, that we may be healed of our faithlessness, freed from our fears and anxieties, and placed on the pathways that lead to peace and service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN God Is Here UMH #660

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 We Gather Together UMH #131

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Isaiah 55:1-9 // 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 // Luke 13:1-9

MESSAGE Clinging to Christ in Each Other

† CLOSING HYMN The Church of Christ, in Every Age UMH #588

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: Who nurtured your faith? Who has been a gardener in your life, encouraging you to bear fruit? And how can you be that presence for someone else?

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info
If you would like to understand better your church history, how the church functions, and more take the Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course. Designed to encourage and inform anyone, this class also serves as an excellent resource for new and existing leaders. The class will be led by Pastors Carrie Granche (Pleasant Gap), Sandy Kraft (Grace Centre Hall) and Pastor Theresa.

- March 24 – Chapters 5 & 6 of our Lent Book Study on Max Lucado's *In the Footsteps of the Savior: Following Jesus Through the Holy Land*. Details on PennsValleyParish.info. Register today. Begin anytime, attend as you are able. The study is 7-8pm by Zoom with videos from Max Lucado.
- March 26 – Lent Services; 7pm Trinity UCC in Centre Hall. Arrive at 6pm to sing with the choir.; 7pm at Brush Valley New Life Church, 123 Madisonburg Pike, Madisonburg, message "I Am the Door".
- March 28 – Donate blood at the Millheim Legion Noon -6pm
- April 1 – Sprucetown Ad. Board and Trustees meeting 7pm. All are encouraged to attend.
- April 3 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation hosted by St. James UMC, Coburn 9:30am. All ladies welcome.
- April 20 - Easter Sunday Services; Trinity UMC 7am followed by refreshments and Sunday School, St. James UMC 8:30am, Sprucetown 10am with breakfast at 9am

ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

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