

Order of Worship Sunday, March 9, 2025 1st Sunday in Lent, Year C  
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 God is our refuge and strength, our companion and guide. Leaning into this truth helps us find our way through difficult seasons of our lives.

† 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: When Jesus was in the wilderness, he was tempted to save himself.

**P: We often look for the good things for ourselves first, before the well-being of others.**

L: Jesus was offered salvation if he turned stones to bread; if he accepted wealth and power; if he tested God's commitment to him.

**P: In all these things, Jesus remained strong in his commitment to God.**

L: May our commitment be as strong.

**P: May our lives be placed in God's caring hands throughout our journey.**

† OPENING PRAYER

**Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We are enticed, cajoled, and "sweet-talked" into moving from lives of service to lives of self-centeredness. We need your healing love. As you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to you through serving others. AMEN.**

† OPENING HYMN I Want a Principle Within UMH #410

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 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days UMH #269

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 26:1-11 // Romans 10:8b-13 // Luke 4:1-13

MESSAGE The Garden Reversal: Overcoming Temptation and Trusting in God

† CLOSING HYMN It Is Well with My Soul UMH #377

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: Alone and in the wilderness, Jesus refused Satan's tempting offers. Rather than be the Son of God on our terms, Jesus was steadfastly determined to serve God on God's terms, not to forsake his God ordained mission.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://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. The class will be led by Pastors Carrie Granche (Pleasant Gap), Sandy Kraft (Grace Centre Hall) and Pastor Theresa.

- March 10 – 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 today.
- March 12 - Mid-Week Lent Service 7pm at Brush Valley Fusion of Faith, 113 Madisonburg Pike Rd, Madisonburg, introducing the Lent series "I Am". "I am the Bread of Life" with holy communion.
- March 13 – Pastor Theresa attending the Clergy Day Apart with Bishop Hector.
- March 17 – Trinity Ad Board and Trustees Meeting 7pm, all are invited to attend.
- March 18 – You are invited to the Mountain Valley District Lent Worship Service on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:30 pm hosted by Greater Buffalo Run Valley UMC, 112 Trinity Court, Bellefonte. A special offering will be received for the Sierra Leone Initiative.
- March 19 – "Cooking for a Crowd" will be offered at Grace UMC in Centre Hall on March 19th from 1:00 until 3:30. No pre-registration or fee is required. Cooking for Crowds is a program to help nonprofit organizations and their volunteers understand the risks involved with preparing large volumes of food and the important food safety practices that need to be implemented to ensure a safe event. Please share this opportunity with groups and organizations you know.
- March 20 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation hosted by St. James UMC, Coburn 9:30am. All ladies welcome.
- April 20 - Easter Sunday 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