

Order of Worship Sunday, May 11, 2025 4th Sunday of Easter, Year C, Happy Mothers Day!
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 They will know we are Christians by our love.

† 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: Jesus reminded the disciples

P: Love one another as I have loved you.

L: Jesus taught and witnessed to God's love

P: Love one another as I have loved you.

L: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness, compassion, and hope.

P: Let us love one another as Christ loved us.

† OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and Loving God, we are grateful that you have called us together this day, drawing us from darkness to the glory of your light. May our spirits rejoice at the good news you have for us today. Open our hearts to your healing love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN I Love to Tell the Story UMH #156

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, Whose Love Through Humble Service UMH #581'

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Acts 11:1-18 // Revelation 21:1-6 // John 13:31-35

MESSAGE A New World, A New Command: Love That Changes Everything

- A New Commandment for a New World, Jesus doesn't say, "Be nicer" or "Be polite." He says, "Love as I have loved you." Yes, it is hard, but through Christ we can do hard things.
- Heritage Sunday calls us to remember our Methodist roots—not in nostalgia, but in mission.

- God is making all things new—and we are in this together.
- As the hands and feet of Jesus, we let Christ love through us when we...
 - Practice resurrection by loving someone who doesn't expect it.
 - Be the new thing God is doing in a world that's tired of old hatreds.
 - Make room for people who are different than you—culturally, politically, theologically—just like Peter did.

† CLOSING HYMN Help Us Accept Each Other UMH #560

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: If someone looked at your life this week (not your beliefs, but your actions) would they be able to tell you're a disciple of Jesus, not by your words, but by your love? Let that be your witness, your legacy, and the mark you leave on the world.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

You are invited to a **Retirement celebration for our District Superintendent Rev. Brenda Leigey** June 8th with worship at 3 p.m. and fellowship from 4 – 6 p.m. It will be held at Mount Nittany UMC 1500 East Branch Road, State College. Let's appreciate our D.S.'s service together.

May 19 – Trinity UMC Ad Board and Trustees Meeting at 7pm. All are invited to join us.

May 28 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC, Coburn. Contact Paula Smith to learn more.

May 29-31 – 2025 Susquehanna Annual Conference in Williamsport; Pastor Theresa and Beth Brown (Lay Member to Annual Conference) attending. Please pray for the preparation and the conference.

June 5 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation, 9:30am at St. James UMC, Coburn. All ladies welcome.

The Chargewide Worship & Picnic is hosted by St. James this year and will be held July 20th starting at 10:30am at Coburn Park pavilion. The service features the Penns Valley Men's Chorus and a butterfly release in honor or memory of loved ones. Our new District Superintendent, effective July 1, Rev. Dr. Michelle Bodle has accepted an invitation to attend. Come, and make her feel welcome!

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; 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.