

Order of Worship Sunday, May 25, 2025 6th Sunday of Easter, 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 Nobody is expected to believe in Christ or to speak up for Christ on our own. The Holy Spirit comes alongside us and helps us.

† 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: May God be gracious to us and bless us.

**P: May God's face shine upon us and bring us peace!**

L: Let all people praise you, O Lord.

**P: Let all people shout their joy to your holy name.**

L: God blesses us continually throughout all our lives.

**P: Thanks be to God, for God's eternal love and blessing. AMEN.**

† OPENING PRAYER

**How magnificent the sight must be! The vision of John proclaims a crystal river flowing from God's throne, comforting light, peace and hope for all God's people. Darkness is vanquished. Open our eyes and our hearts to catch a glimpse of this vision. Help us to place our trust in you, that we may faithfully serve you, knowing what awaits our eyes in glory. AMEN.**

† OPENING HYMN Forward Through the Ages UMH #555

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 Sweet Hour of Prayer UMH #496

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Acts 16:9-15 // Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 // John 14:23-29

MESSAGE Open Eyes, Open Hearts, and Meaningful Sacrifice

† Closing Prayer:

**God of Peace and Sacrifice,**

**We remember today those who gave all that others might live.**

**We thank you for their courage, their vision, their unwavering service.**

**Open our eyes to see the needs before us.**

**Open our minds to understand the call you place on our lives.**

**Open our hearts to be teachable, humble, and ready to serve.**

**Help us to carry forward the peace of Christ—not as a passive comfort,  
but as a powerful, world-changing gift.**

**In the name of Jesus, our Savior and our Peace, Amen.**

† CLOSING HYMN The Battle Hymn of the Republic UMH #717

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: What peace are you willing to help build—even if you never get to see it fully bloom? The most lasting visions require courage and sacrifice—be ready to serve so others can see the light more clearly.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://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 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 1 – Communion Sunday

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

**The Penns Valley Charge and Community Worship & Picnic** is hosted by St. James this year and will be held July 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:30am at Coburn Park pavilion.

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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.