

Order of Worship Sunday, Sunday, August 24, 2025 Equipped to Follow: Jesus' Way of Discipleship

Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 - Website: PennsValleyParish.info

For the transformation of the world, we make disciples. We study God's Word and offer praise and worship to strengthen each other for mission field beyond the church walls.

† - Please rise in body or spirit where you see this symbol.

**CENTERING WORDS** We weren't made to walk this journey alone. Faith grows not in isolation, but in connection with Christ, and with one another. As we worship today, let's open our hearts to the truth: God is enough and we need each other.

† **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 come together not as strangers, but as branches of the same Vine.

**P: We are connected by the love of Christ, called into community by God's design.**

L: This is not a solo journey. Faith grows where hearts gather, prayers rise, and lives intertwine.

**P: Let us worship the One who made us to walk together: God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.**

† **OPENING PRAYER**

**Gracious God, You created us for connection with You and with each other. In a world that often tells us to go it alone, remind us again of the joy and strength found in community. As we gather in Your name, open our hearts to Your Word, and open our lives to one another. May this time of worship draw us closer to Jesus, the true Vine, and closer to the body of Christ in which we belong. In His holy name we pray, 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 - PASTORAL PRAYER** (The Lord's Prayer – "trespasses")

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

HYMN OF PREPARATION The Church's One Foundation UMH #545 v. 1 only

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Genesis 2:18 // Romans 12:4-5 // 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 // John 15:5-12

MESSAGE Connected by Design: Jesus, Faith, and the Need for One Another

† CLOSING HYMN O Church of God, United UMH #547

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

PARTING THOUGHT: Am I growing like a redwood—tall and together—or trying to stand alone in shallow soil?

Key Memory Verses

- John 15:5 (NASB) - "I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."
- Romans 12:5 (NASB) - "So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually parts of one another."
- 1 Corinthians 12:27 (The Message) - "You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your 'part' mean anything."

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)  
September 2 – Sprucetown Ad Board and Trustees Meeting 7pm. All are welcome.

September 3 – St. James Trustees meet 6:30pm, Ad Board at 7pm. All are welcome.

September 4 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation 9:30am at St. James UMC, Coburn.

September 28 - Fall Hayride & Picnic at Trinity UMC, Woodward 3pm [Rain date Oct. 5]

October 26 - Trust Based Relational Intervention, TBRI, training is specifically designed for Ministry Leaders & Volunteers to better understand children and teens of trauma and will equip attendees with practical tools to support vulnerable children. Lunch at 12:30pm followed by training until 4pm at Calvary - Harvest Fields 150 Harvest Fields Drive; Boalsburg. RSVP by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contact [hillary@keyfam.org](mailto:hillary@keyfam.org) with questions or to reserve your place.

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. Dr. Michelle Bodle 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; 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 2025.