

Order of Worship Sunday, February 22, 2026 1st Sunday in Lent  
Hear Pastor's Sermon by Phone 24/7 at 814-422-6238 PennsValleyParish.info  
For the transformation of the world, we make disciples. We study God's Authentic 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 the cross

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS Jesus' temptation in the desert prompts us to ask: What tempts 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: Temptation surrounds us every day.

**P: Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven.**

L: Opportunities to stray litter our path.

**P: Happy are those whose sin is covered.**

L: Though we stumble and fall, God's mercy picks us up.

**P: God's grace brushes us off.**

L: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice.

**P: God's love meets us here.**

### † OPENING PRAYER

**Righteous God, we need your presence in our lives if we are to resist temptation. Send your angels to minister to us when the tempter comes to call. Put not our hearts to the test, but shelter us in your protective love. For you are our God and we are your people. Amen.**

### † OPENING HYMN Take Time to Be Holy #395

† 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 OF THE PEACE [St. James UMC and Sprucetown UMC]

HYMN OF PREPARATION Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days UMH #269 v. 1 & 2 only

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 // Matthew 4:1-11

MESSAGE Tempting Conversations

† CLOSING HYMN Amazing Grace UMH #378

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

Parting Thought: Jesus reminds us that temptation loses its power when we answer it with trust in God rather than urgency to satisfy ourselves.

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)  
February 23 and Monday nights through March 23 – Lent Book Study: “The Grace of Les Miserables” Details on our website and on the flyer on the bulletin board.

February 25 – Soup Kitchen at St. James UMC, Coburn. Contact: Paula Smith

March 1 – Communion Sunday

March 3 – St. James Trustees meeting at 6:30pm with Ad Board at 7pm

March 5 and 19 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation at St. James starting at 9:30am. All ladies welcome!

March 8 – Sprucetown Church’s Potluck Lunch follows worship.

March 16 – Trinity UMC’s Ad Board and Trustees meeting 7pm at the church

March 21 – District Celebration of Laity Worship Service hosted by Mt. Nittany UMC, 10am. All laity are welcome. This service celebrates you!

March 29 – Palm Sunday

April 2 – Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7pm at St. James UMC, Coburn. Part of the East Penns Valley Ministerium’s Lent offerings. All are welcome.

April 5 – Easter Sunday Services; Trinity UMC 7am, St. James UMC 8:30am, Sprucetown UMC 10am with a light breakfast served at 9am

ABOUT OUR CHURCH: Visit our church’s website at [PennsValleyParish.info](http://PennsValleyParish.info)

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)

Northeast Jurisdiction of the UMC Website: [nejumc.org](http://nejumc.org)

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 2026.