

Order of Worship for September 13, 2026 Rethink What is Honorable

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we seek to grow in faith, love boldly, and make disciples by continually asking:

How am I loving God? How am I loving the people God puts in front of me?

How am I inviting others to embrace the hope of Christ in their lives?

† - Please rise in body or spirit where you see the cross

CENTERING WORDS We want to do the right things. But wanting to be right, and being right, are not always the same thing. Jesus shows us what is right but cannot make us willing to follow.

† 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 seeking the wisdom of God.

P: Lord, teach us what is right.

L: When our own understanding seems certain,

P: Teach us to trust You more than ourselves.

L: When pride makes correction difficult,

P: Give us humble and teachable hearts.

L: When Jesus calls us to rethink, surrender, and change,

P: Give us courage to follow.

L: Come, let us worship the God who is truth and who leads us in the way of life.

P: Lord Jesus, show us what is right and make us willing to follow. Amen.

† OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, we come to You wanting to live faithfully and do what is right. Yet You know how easily we can mistake our own understanding for Yours. Give us minds that seek truth, hearts humble enough to receive correction, and spirits willing to surrender whatever keeps us from following Jesus. Where we are right, strengthen us to stand faithfully. Where we are wrong, love us enough to show us. And wherever Christ leads, give us courage to follow. We surrender our certainty, our pride, and our need to have the last word to the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN Open My Eyes, That I May See UMH #454

† 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]

HYMN OF PREPARATION Jesus Is All the World to Me UMH #469 v. 3 only

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Proverbs 3:5–7 // Philippians 4:8–9 // Luke 10:25–37

MESSAGE Rethink What Is Right

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, We confess that sometimes we come to You asking You to confirm what we have already decided rather than asking You to show us what is right. We have mistaken certainty for truth, agreement for evidence, good intentions for righteousness, and our own understanding for Yours. Forgive us. When we are wrong, make us teachable. When we are right, keep us humble. When truth costs us something, give us courage. When following Jesus requires surrender, loosen our grip. Above all, make us more interested in becoming like Christ than in proving ourselves correct. Amen.

† CLOSING HYMN Have Thine Own Way, Lord UMH #382

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

*Reflection: What would I have to surrender if Jesus showed me
I was wrong about something I am certain is right?*

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

September 21 – Trinity Ad Board and Trustees meeting 7pm

September 23 – 3rd Quarter Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting 7pm at Trinity UMC.

September 27 – Fall Hayride & Potluck at Trinity UMC, 3pm hayride, 5pm potluck. All are invited!

Raindate is October 4th.

SAVE THE DATE - Church Conference is Nov. 7, 1pm at Sprucetown UMC. Members of the church are encouraged to attend to be well informed and to vote on officers and more for 2027.

ABOUT OUR CHURCH:

Pastor: Theresa M. Heiser; theiser@susumc.org Our Church Website: PennsValleyParish.info

Conference Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Michelle Bodle District Website: statecollege.susumc.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.