

Order of Worship for September 27, 2026 Rethink What is Pure

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 come here carrying everything that has found its way into our hearts this week asking God to “Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within 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: God desires truth in our deepest places.

P: Search our hearts, O God.

L: Christ calls us beyond appearances to lives transformed from within.

P: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

L: Whatever is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and worthy of praise—

P: Teach us to fill our minds and hearts with these things.

L: Come, let us worship the One who cleanses, renews, and makes us whole.

P: We come with open hearts. Lord, make us more like Jesus.

† OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, we come before You just as we are. You know what is good within us, and You know what has become mixed in along the way. The fear alongside our faith, pride alongside our convictions, resentment along with our hurt, and selfishness along with our good intentions. Search us with mercy. Show us what does not belong, and by Your grace, create in us clean hearts. Fill our minds with what is true, honorable, right and pure, and shape our lives until what comes from us increasingly looks like Jesus. We pray in His name, AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN Take My Life, and Let It Be UMH #399

† 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 Take Time to Be Holy UMH #395 v. 3 only

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Psalm 51:10–12 // Philippians 4:8–9 // Matthew 15:10–20

MESSAGE Rethink What Is Pure

† CLOSING HYMN Jesus Calls Us UMH #398

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

*Reflection: Something can begin good and still have something mixed into it.
What have I allowed to get mixed in?*

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

– We are a collection partner for Angel Packs items for victims of human trafficking. The list of items needed is available near the collection bin. Thank you for supporting FierceLove4Good!

– This month's East Penns Valley Food Pantry item is family sized boxes of Cheerios. You may bring any non-perishable food item, including the Cheerios, to Trinity Woodward or St. James Coburn. Sprucetown's item of the month for the Penns Valley Food Bank, in addition to non-perishable food items, is shampoo. A donation box is located inside the church door.

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.

October 18 – Homecoming Sunday with guest speaker Rev. Jim Parker. All are invited to lunch at Sprucetown UMC following their service. Starting at approximately Noon. If you would like to bring a dish, we have a sign up for dishes on the menu. This takes the place of Sprucetown's potluck meal for October. All charge churches are invited to the meal. Questions? Ask the pastor.

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

Susquehanna Conf. Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez

Annual Conference Website: susumc.org

Northeastern Jurisdiction Website: nejumc.org

UMC Website: umc.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.