

Order of Worship for November 1, 2026 All Saints Day/Holy Communion

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 Blessed be the Lord, and all of God's beloved people. Blessed by love, we are blessed indeed.

† 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: Bless the Lord, whose love shines upon us.

P: Bless the Lord, my soul!

L: Bless our lives, that reflect God's love.

P: Bless the Lord, my soul!

L: Bless our worship, that it may glorify God.

P: Bless the Lord, my soul!

† OPENING PRAYER

Glorious God, we come into your holy presence with joy and gratitude. Bless this time of worship to draw us closer to you. Bless our lives to shine brightly with your love. Bless our work in the world to bring your justice and compassion to life. In your holy name, we pray. Amen. AMEN.

† OPENING HYMN Shall We Gather at the River UMH #723

† 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 & Sprucetown]

HYMN OF PREPARATION Glory Be to the Father UMH #71

SELECTED SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 1:3-9

SERMON Life After Death

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE UMH p. 12

† CLOSING HYMN For All the Saints UMH #711

† COMMISSION & BLESSING

*Reflection: If our hope in Christ is not limited by death,
shouldn't that hope make a difference in how we live today?*

PENNS VALLEY CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS – Calendar also on PennsValleyParish.info

- District Day for Clergy and Laity: Congregational Care, Saturday, December 5 from 9am – 2pm at Woodycrest United Methodist Church in State College. Lunch is provided. Register online at our website or on the sign up sheet near the bulletins.

– This month's East Penns Valley Food Pantry items will be announced asap at Trinity Woodward and St. James Coburn. Sprucetown's item of the month for the Penns Valley Food Bank, in addition to non-perishable food items, is sandwich bags. A donation box is located inside the church door.

November 3 – Sprucetown UMC Ad Board and Trustees meeting at 7pm. All are welcome!

November 4 – St. James Trustees meeting 6:30pm, Ad Board at 7pm

November 5 & 19 – Ladies Coffee & Conversation 9:30am at St. James UMC. All ladies are welcome.

November 7 – Our Church Conference, 1pm at Sprucetown UMC. Members of the church are encouraged to attend the holy conferencing for our church and vote on 2027 officers and more.

November 8 – Rev. Dr. Michael Stine fills the pulpit. Pastor Theresa on vacation Nov. 8-10 but still on call for urgent pastoral needs.

November 8 – Sprucetown UMC's potluck lunch following the service. Theme: Thankful for Our Favorites: Bring something you love. Mom's tastiest casserole, comfort food, or dessert, etc.

November 15 – Guest Speaker: Susan Evans Nogler from Angel Pack ministry FierceLove4Good

November 16 – Trinity Woodward UMC Trustees and Ad Board meeting 7pm. All are welcome!

November 18 – Soup Kitchen at St. James is one week early due to Thanksgiving. Contact: Paula Smith

November 22 – Harvest Home Sunday – Rethink Series finale

November 22 – Penns Valley Community Thanksgiving Service 3pm at St. James UMC, Coburn

November 29 – 1st Sunday of Advent

November 30-December 21 – Advent Book Study: Advent Can Still Change the World, by Josh Scott.

Register on our website at PennsValleyParish.info. Meeting Mondays 7-8pm by Zoom

December 24 – Christmas Eve services: 3pm at Sprucetown UMC, 6pm at St. James Coburn UMC

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.