

The Holy Way Presbyterian Church



Statue of St. Stephen, by Hans Leinberger (active 1510–30)

“Look,” Stephen said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” Acts 7:56

June 29, 2025

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman – Pastor

Welcome to Worship

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries

(...singing Happy Birthday, God Loves You!) If you would like to participate in our tradition of celebrating your birthday or anniversary by giving money towards church improvements, music department, or children's ministry, please waive your hand, or stand up and your donation will be received in the basket!

***Call to Worship**

Alfonso Valenzuela

One: Please Stand in body or in spirit for the Call to Worship.

Welcome home, welcome in.

All: Here we find a song for our souls and healing for our wounds.

One: Welcome home.

All: Here find children's laughter that chases dark clouds away, and quiet prayers that lead us to still waters and green pastures.

One: Welcome to this holy space.

All: Here there are friends with a tender embrace, and here there are words that heal brokenness and reveal God's grace.

One: Welcome home. God has been expecting you. The candles are lit, and the door is open. Welcome to this festival of renewal and hope.

***Opening Prayer**

***Opening Hymn #664 – Morning Has Broken**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

A Time of Silence

[Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession—confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God’s beloved child.]

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing of the Peace**

Since God has made peace with us, let us make peace with each other.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

(Please share the Peace of Christ with each other)

Celebrations, Joys and Concerns

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer...

Our Offerings to God

Offertory Music

***Doxology (607)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, Whom we adore. Amen*

Offering Prayer

O God, because we have been given so much, help us to give more.

Because we are loved so much, give us the strength to love more.

Because we are accepted as we are, give us the grace to accept others without judgment or prejudice.

We give ourselves and our gifts with grateful hearts. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Alfonso Valenzuela

Let Us Pray: Almighty God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed this day, may our hearts be enlightened and our spirits strengthened that we may be more faithful followers of Jesus, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Scripture Psalm 31:1-5, 14-16

Alfonso Valenzuela

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God....

...But I trust in you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my God."

My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

Anthem

Scripture Acts 6:1-8

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Message

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

***Sending Hymn** #307 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

***Benediction**

***Song:** *Let There be Peace on Earth*

Postlude:

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

Announcements:

**Thank you to Judy McElroy for being our accompanist today while Astrid is on vacation.*

**Deacons will meet after worship today.*

**Bible Study is Tuesdays in the Conference Room. You can also join by Zoom. Just click on the link on the front of the website.*

**Buildings & Grounds will not meet this month.*

**Congregational Life will meet after worship next Sunday, July 6.*

**Have a safe and Happy 4th of July!*

Morning Has Broken 664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

THE CHURCH

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.