

The Holy Way Presbyterian Church



“A place at the table”

August 31, 2025

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman – Pastor

Welcome to Worship

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dee Ellis

(...singing Happy Birthday, God Loves You!)

***Call to Worship**

Marianne Hamilton

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

Gathered to worship God,

All: we are all right where we belong.

Called to this celebration of worship by God's Spirit,

All: we approach God with joy in our hearts.

Nourished by the love of Jesus, God's Son,

All: we gladly feast at this banquet of grace.

Come. Let us worship the Lord!

***Opening Prayer**

Marianne Hamilton

O God, We are welcomed into your presence this day by your gracious hospitality. Grant that we will lay aside our cares and anxieties to concentrate our thoughts on you alone. Open us to the teaching and guidance for living which we receive, that we will be strengthened to walk with you and follow wherever you lead us. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Opening Hymn #838 – *Standing on the Promises of God

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we compare ourselves with others, wondering if we are better than them. We judge one another, trying to justify ourselves. We seek to establish our superiority by assuming positions of honor. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to see ourselves truthfully and to love one another with humble, gracious spirits. 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

God alone has the authority to judge, and by the grace of Jesus Christ, God has declared that we are forgiven of all our sin.

Thanks be to God!

***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

Gracious God, we offer to you these gifts, both as signs of our gratitude and as instruments of your reign. Use these gifts, and us, that your way of love and peace, transformation and hope might flourish in this place. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Marianne Hamilton

Let us pray: Open our hearts and minds, O God, by your Holy Spirit's power, that as scripture is read and the Gospel announced, we might receive with open hearts whatever you speak to us this day. Amen.

Scripture Proverbs 25:6-7

Marianne Hamilton

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Anthem

Scripture Luke 14:1, 7-14 (The Message)

One time when Jesus went for a Sabbath meal with one of the top leaders of the Pharisees, all the guests had their eyes on him, watching his every move.

Jesus went on to tell a story to the guests around the table. Noticing how each had tried to elbow into the place of honor, he said, "When someone invites you to dinner, don't take the place of honor. Somebody more important than you might have been invited by the host. Then he'll come and call out in front of everybody, 'You're in the wrong place. The place of honor belongs to this man.' Embarrassed, you'll have to make your way to the very last table, the only place left.

"When you're invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, 'Friend, come up to the front.' That will give the dinner guests something to talk about! What I'm saying is, If you walk around all high and mighty, you're going to end up flat on your face. But if you're content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself."

Then Jesus turned to the host. "The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends and family and rich neighbors, the kind of people who will return the favor. Invite some people who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of the tracks. You'll be—and experience—a blessing. They won't be able to return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God's people."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Message

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

***Sending Hymn #775** *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

***Benediction**

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

<i>Let there be peace on earth</i>	<i>Let peace begin with me,</i>
<i>And let it begin with me.</i>	<i>Let this be the moment now.</i>
<i>Let there be peace on earth</i>	<i>With ev'ry step I take</i>
<i>The peace that was meant to be.</i>	<i>Let this be my solemn vow;</i>
<i>With God as our Father</i>	<i>To take each moment and live</i>
<i>Christians all are we.</i>	<i>Each moment in peace eternally.</i>
<i>Let us walk with each other</i>	<i>Let there be peace on earth</i>
<i>In perfect harmony.</i>	<i>And let it begin with me.</i>

Postlude:

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

Announcements:



****Next Sunday, September 7, we will move back into the sanctuary for worship. We need folks that are willing to bring goodies and folks that can set up and/or clean up for Fellowship Hour in the Ranch House after worship. It doesn't take much and directions are provided. Can we count on you? Sign up to help today!!***

****Next Sunday, Congregational Life will meet after worship.***

****Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.***

****Interested in finding out more about membership at The Holy Way? Please join Pastor Elizabeth after church on **September 28th from 11am to 1pm**, to explore joining our family. Lunch will be provided. Please talk to Pastor Elizabeth for more details.***



838 Standing on the Promises

1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,
 2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
 3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
 4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
 when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
 bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
 lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
 by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
 o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
 rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of "stand" and "promise(s)," the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (see no. 353).

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me 775

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

The two equal phrases in each line suggest that this African American spiritual shares some characteristics of work or field songs that were used to coordinate the efforts of slaves involved in tasks (road clearing, ditch digging, etc.) that needed combined rhythmic strokes.