

# *The Holy Way Presbyterian Church*



***July 13, 2025***

***Guest Preacher  
Kathy Americano***

***4040 S. Bilbray Ave  
Tucson, AZ 85757  
520-965-2249***

## **Welcome to Worship**

### **Announcements**

#### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

*Ray Weathers*

*(...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.

Come, people of God, and hear the good news—

The Spirit of the Lord is moving beyond our expectations.

**All: God shows no partiality, but welcomes all who seek Him.**

One: Just as Peter saw a vision and heard God's voice,

We are invited to listen and be changed.

**All: We rejoice that the grace of God is for every nation, tribe, and tongue!**

One: Let us worship the God who tears down dividing walls,

Who brings strangers together in Christ.

**All: We come with open hearts, ready to praise the God**

**Who gives life, salvation, and the Holy Spirit to all who believe!**

#### **\*Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn #662**     *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

#### **Call to Confession**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God,**

**We confess that we have too often tried to limit Your grace.**

**We draw lines that You do not draw,**

**excluding others by our words, our actions, or our silence.**

**We are quick to judge and slow to listen.**

**We hold tightly to comfort and tradition,**

**even when You call us to something new.**

**Forgive us, Lord.**

**Open our eyes to see where Your Spirit is at work.**

**Open our hearts to welcome all whom You call Your own.**

**Give us the courage to follow You—**

**even when it stretches us, even when it surprises us.**

**By Your mercy, make us more like Jesus,**

**in whose name we pray,**

**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**

**Lord, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Sovereign and our God. Amen.**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

*Alfonso Valenzuela*

Let us pray: Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life giving word and fill us with your Holy spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts. A spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Scripture Acts 10:1-48**

*Alfonso Valenzuela*

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside." When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, and after telling them everything he sent them to Joppa.

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat,

and while it was being prepared he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three men are searching for you. Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation, for I have sent them." So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish people, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the brothers and sisters from Joppa accompanied him. The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. On Peter's arrival, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, worshiped him. But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled, and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is improper for a Jew to associate with or to visit an outsider, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?"

Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered

before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.’ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.”

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, or they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**Anthem** Trio, KV 581 by Mozart

*Jesus and Astrid*

### **Scripture Acts 11:1-18**

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. **2** So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, **3** saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” **4** Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, **5** “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something

like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. **6** As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. **7** I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' **8** But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' **9** But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' **10** This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. **11** At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. **12** The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us.<sup>[b]</sup> These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. **13** He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; **14** he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' **15** And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. **16** And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' **17** If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" **18** When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Message**

*Kathy Americano*

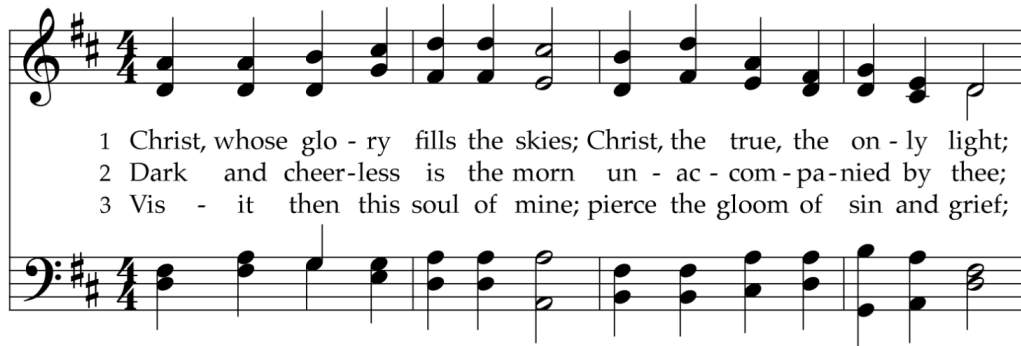
**\*Sending Hymn #450 *Be Thou My Vision***

**\*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>

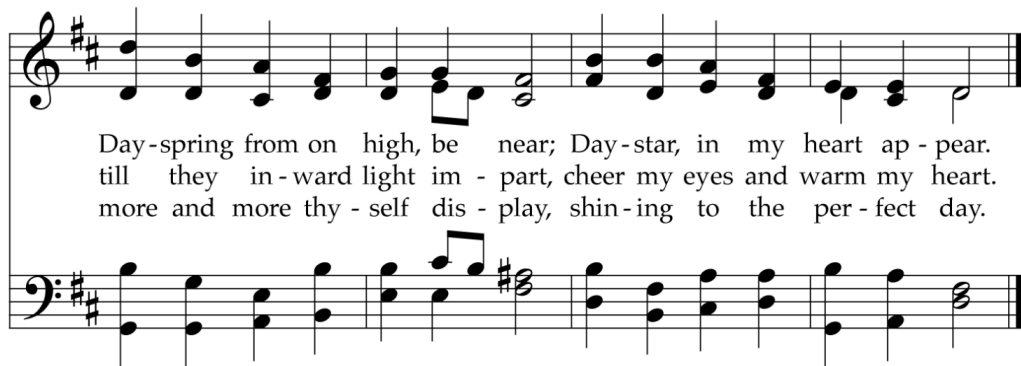
# Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies 662



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;  
joy - less is the day's re-turn till thy mer-cy's beams I see;  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.


This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

THE WORD

450


Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)  
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)  
 Bb Eb Ab Bb




naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)  
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.