

# *The Holy Way Presbyterian Church*



*Gamaliel the Elder.*

*“Rabbi Gamaliel I, was a leading authority in the Sanhedrin in the early first century CE. He was the son of Simeon ben Hillel and grandson of the great Jewish teacher Hillel the Elder.*

*In the Christian tradition, Gamaliel is recognized as a Pharisaic doctor of Jewish Law. Gamaliel was named as a member of the Sanhedrin in the fifth chapter of Acts and the teacher of Paul the Apostle in Acts 22.”*

***June 22, 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**

*Rick Dees*

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

Gathered here are the people of God, who come to sing praise and seek guidance for the lives we live.

**All: Gathered here are the people of God, who come in joy and sorrow, in peace and despair.**

Gathered here are the people of God, who come in thanksgiving and regret, in hope and grief.

**All: We are the people of God! We give gratitude for this day, which will not dawn again.**

Let us lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving.

### **\*Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn #611**      *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

### **Call to Confession**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**Righteous God, we confess with sorrow that we often forget who has given us light, who has made our garden grow with waters of love. We forget your living word and move off your paths to serve our own worldly desires. We**

**leave your cultivated field to venture out into the wilderness on our own. We quarrel with one another trying to decide “who is the greatest.” We make our own faces the benchmark for all faces. Help us to remember Jesus, reconciling the whole diverse world in himself.**

### **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**

**Gracious Spirit, you have showered us with your gifts, and we embrace you with thanksgiving. May our embrace be arms wide open, ready to share, to**

**serve and to love. Use our spiritual gifts so that we may live the spiritual life, moving according to the Spirit's heated touch and bending in the direction of God's holy will.**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

*Rick Dees*

Let us pray: Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing and in our living. Amen.

### **Scripture Acts 5:17-26**

*Rick Dees*

(Peter and the Apostles kept preaching and healing.) Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, “Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life.” When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, “We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside.” Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on. Then someone arrived and announced, “Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!” Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

### **Anthem**

### **Scripture Acts 5:27-42**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned Peter saying, “We gave you strict orders not to

teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

When the council heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill the apostles. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. Then Gamaliel said to the council, "Fellow Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him, but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. After him Judas the Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!"

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Message**

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

**\*Sending Hymn #744**      *Arise Your Light Has Come!*

**\*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.*

*\*Do you have a favorite hymn that you would like to hear the church sing this Summer? Send your favorites to Pastor Elizabeth: [revelyman@gmail.com](mailto:revelyman@gmail.com)*

*\*Kathy is on vacation this week. Pastor Elizabeth will be in the office Monday & Tuesday.*

*\*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.*

*\*Deacons will meet after worship next Sunday, June 29th.*



## ADORATION

## 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-lect thy rays;  
3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a - bove.  
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.  
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash - ing sea,  
Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife.

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

# 744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the bass part providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a different voice part.

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1–2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974  
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894  
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FESTAL SONG  
SM  
(this tune in a lower key, 815)