

The Holy Way Presbyterian Church



“The Conversion of St. Paul.” Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571–1610)
The psychological dimension is very modern: Saul, the persecutor of Christians, is knocked flat on his back before the viewers’ eyes and almost into their space. He is converted through the penetrating light of God—“a light from heaven flashed about him” (Acts 9:3). He does not react in fear but opens his arms to receive as much of the light as possible. His eyes are closed to indicate the blindness that he endures for three days. His commission to be the apostle of the gentiles is symbolized by Caravaggio’s depiction of him in Roman garb.

July 6, 2025

The Sacrament of Communion

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**

Christine Morales

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

New life, new creation, alive our sense of wonder:

All: The time has come to be reborn; the kingdom is right here.

One: Do we know within us the call to change our hearts?

All: Do we wish to be made whole in a living faith?

One: Is our willingness to forgive a sign of openness to receive the greatest gift of God's great love?

All: If we do, the Spirit is alive in us.

One: The time has come to be reborn; the kingdom is right here.

***Opening Prayer**

Opening Hymn 515 - *I Come with Joy

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we, like Saul, are blind. We have been blinded by the media, we have been blinded by false prophets, we have been blinded by our education, we have been blinded by our own self-righteousness, we have been blinded because we think we know better than God. God, let there be an

Ananias in our lives, who with the fear and trembling of your servant can share with us again the power of the gospel and remove from our eyes that which blinds us.

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

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good, and your creation provides us with an abundance of what we need. May our gifts of all kinds and our labor contribute to the building of a blessed community which welcomes all people, that sees all people, and that works for justice for all people. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Christine Morales

Let us pray: Startle us, O God, with your truth and open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love. Speak your word to us; silence in us any voice but your own and be with us now as we turn our attention, our minds and our hearts, to you, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Psalm 65

Christine Morales

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
 you forgive our transgressions.
Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
 to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
 your holy temple.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
 O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
 and of the farthest seas.
By your strength you established the mountains;
 you are girded with might.
You silence the roaring of the seas,
 the roaring of their waves,
 the tumult of the peoples.
Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it;
 you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
 you provide the people with grain,
 for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.

Anthem

Scripture Acts 9: 1-19

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if Saul found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days Saul was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to

him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. Ananias laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and his sight was restored. Then Saul got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, Saul regained his strength.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Message

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation

Liturgy for the Table

One: The Creator be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Prepare your hearts.

All: We prepare our hearts for God’s bounty.

One: Let us give thanks to the God of our family.

All: For this community, we give thanks.

One: Holy One we give you thanks joyfully....

Thanksgiving At The Table

One: Blessed are you, Holy and Glorious One!

All: Your creativity lasts over the lifetimes!

One: Greeting each of us with mercy, and grace!

All: Praise to you for the creation that reflects your diversity

One: Praise to you for the earth and all its creatures

All: Praise to you for the chosen family Jesus found in the disciples

One: Praise to you for the work of Jesus, who calls us into the liberation of the oppressed

All: Praise to you for the Holy Spirit poured out on us now!

Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup *(All are welcome to receive communion. We serve grape juice instead of wine and offer gluten free alternatives so that all may partake. Please hold the elements until all are served and we take communion together. We sing "Let us Break Bread Together" as we are served communion.)*

Prayer after Communion

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***Sending Hymn #39** *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

***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>

***Please stand in body or in spirit**

I Come with Joy

515

Capo 3: (D) (G) (A) (D) (Bm)
F B \flat C F Dm

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

(Asus) (Am) (G) (F \sharp m) (D)
Csus Cm B \flat Am F

free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

(Em) (D/F \sharp) (G) (A) (Am7) (D)
Gm F/A B \flat C Cm7 F

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com-mu - nion bread, in Christ's com-mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE
8.6.8.6.6

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주



Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며



All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 러 주 시 니



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주