

The Holy Way Presbyterian Church



Ben Wildflower - Magnificat

4040 S. Bilbray Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85746
(520) 965-2249

December 8, 2024 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

Announcements

Announce Birthdays and Anniversaries Ray Weathers
Sing Happy Birthday/Anniversary

If you would like to participate in our tradition of celebrating your birthday or anniversary by giving money towards the 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**

Terry Saxton

Children's Time

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

One: As we light this candle of peace, we remember that peace for the world begins with peace in our own hearts. We wait for the Prince of Peace, who will show us the way to end all war. Let peace begin with me – let peace begin with each of us.

Lighting The Candle of Hope and the Candle of Peace

One: Let us pray

All: Gracious Giver of Light, in you we find true and everlasting peace. While we wait for peace to reign on earth, teach us to hold the light of peace in our own hearts, to love our neighbors, and to follow in the way of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** *People Look East* (Hymn #105) Terry Saxton
Choir will sing the first verse and then congregation will join in.

Celebrations, Joys and Concerns Rev. Elizabeth Lyman
The People of the Congregation Share Joys and Concerns
(Someone will bring the microphone to you)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your presence; bring your peace; bring your light. Comfort the sick, soothe the sorrowful, bind up the wounded. Calm our spirits. Ease our burdens. Mend our hearts.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your justice; bring your righteousness; bring your goodness.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Reorder our priorities. Direct our efforts. Strengthen our resolve. Break down walls. Dismantle oppression. Overthrow tyrants.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your love; bring your compassion; bring your mercy. Heal our divisions. Seek out the lost. Restore the guilt-ridden. Widen our embrace. Teach us generosity. Show us how to forgive.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your passions; bring your fire; bring your steadfastness. Inspire our witness. Motivate our mission. Energize your church. Open our minds. Extend our hands. Overcome our lethargy.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your hope; your tenderness; your promise. Build up our common life. Hold us in our frustrations. Brighten our darkness. Release us. Renew us. Redeem us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, hear our cries; hear our whispers; hear our prayers. Now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught, saying, "**Our Father ...**"

***Passing of the Peace**

Share with one another signs of peace and love. Show the Light of Christ to one another, that we may be reminded of the peace that passes all understanding. The Peace of Christ be with you..

Congregation: And also with you.

(Please share the Peace of Christ with each other)

Our offerings to God

With gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

Offertory Music:

Astrid Chan

***Doxology:** In the Bleak Midwinter # 36, v. 4 Congregation

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Magi, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

***Offering Prayer**

All: God of righteousness, you have saved us from the worst the world can do, and have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now, as we watch for Christ's coming in glory. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Dearwyn Knittel

Let us pray: Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen

Scripture Luke 1: 26-38 (from the translation The Message) Dearwyn Knittel

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to the Galilean village of Nazareth to a virgin engaged to be married to a man descended from David. His name was Joseph, and the virgin's name, Mary. Upon entering, Gabriel greeted her:

Good morning!

You're beautiful with God's beauty,

Beautiful inside and out!

God be with you.

She was thoroughly shaken, wondering what was behind a greeting like that. But the angel assured her, "Mary, you have nothing to fear. God has a surprise for you: You will become pregnant and give birth to a son and call his name Jesus.

He will be great,

be called 'Son of the Highest.'

The Lord God will give him

the throne of his father David;

He will rule Jacob's house forever—

no end, ever, to his kingdom."

Mary said to the angel, "But how? I've never slept with a man."

Gabriel answered,

The Holy Spirit will come upon you,

the power of the Highest hover over you;

Therefore, the child you bring to birth

will be called Holy, Son of God.

"And did you know that your cousin Elizabeth conceived a son, old as she is? Everyone called her barren, and here she is six months pregnant! Nothing, you see, is impossible with God."

And Mary said,

Yes, I see it all now:

I'm the Lord's maid, ready to serve.

Let it be with me

just as you say.

Then Gabriel left her.

Anthem *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

Scripture **Luke 1: 38-56 (from the translation The Message)**

Mary didn't waste a minute. She got up and traveled to a town in Judah in the hill country, straight to Zachariah's house, and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy Spirit, and sang out exuberantly,

You're so blessed among women,
 and the babe in your womb, also blessed!
And why am I so blessed that
 the mother of my Lord visits me?
The moment the sound of your
 greeting entered my ears,
The babe in my womb
 skipped like a lamb for sheer joy.
Blessed woman, who believed what God said,
 believed every word would come true!

And Mary said,
I'm bursting with God-news;
 I'm dancing the song of my Savior God.
God took one good look at me, and look what happened—
 I'm the most fortunate woman on earth!
What God has done for me will never be forgotten,
 the God whose very name is holy, set apart from all others.
His mercy flows in wave after wave
 on those who are in awe before him.
He bared his arm and showed his strength,
 scattered the bluffing braggarts.
He knocked tyrants off their high horses,
 pulled victims out of the mud.
The starving poor sat down to a banquet;
 the callous rich were left out in the cold.
He embraced his chosen child, Israel;
 he remembered and piled on the mercies, piled them high.
It's exactly what he promised,
 beginning with Abraham and right up to now.

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for three months and then went back to her own home.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Message:

Rev Elizabeth Lyman

***Affirmation of Faith**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing was created. The life that was in him became light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The Word became flesh, a man named Jesus. He lived among us, full of grace and truth. From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace. In his name God has sent the Holy Spirit to teach us and to remind us of all that God has said. We believe that because The Word lives, we shall live also to the glory of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Come to the mountain of the Lord.

We come with hopeful hearts.

Lift up your voice with strength!

We lift our hearts and our voices to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

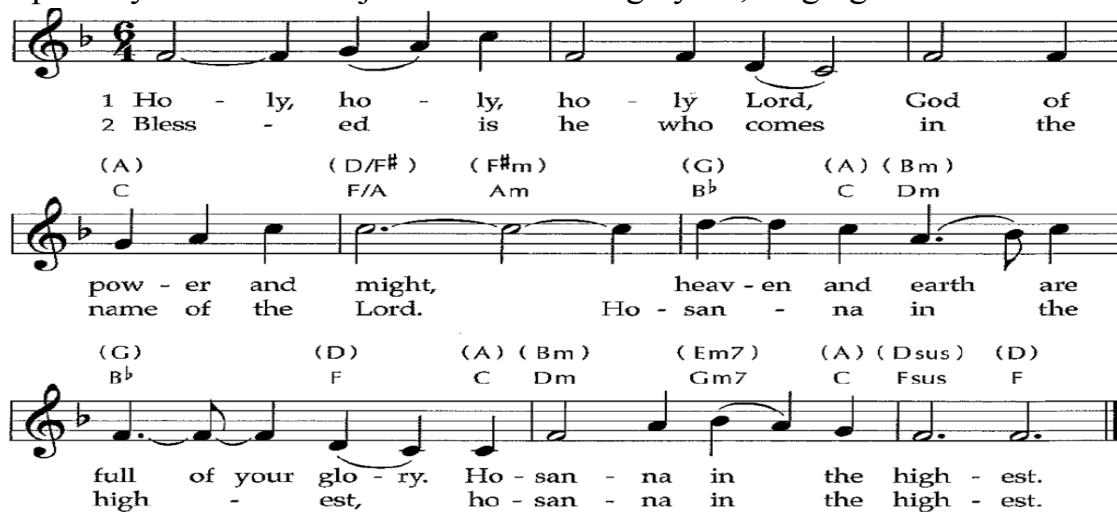
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Mighty God, Comforter and Sustainer.

You formed us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life. When our constancy was like grass, and we wandered away from you, your steadfast love endured.

You delivered us from hopelessness and fear, made a covenant to be with us always, and spoke to us through your prophets and psalmists, who looked for that time when steadfast love and faithfulness would meet, when righteousness and peace would kiss each other.

Knowing that salvation is at hand, we sing of your glory, and rejoice in your promised coming.

And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn, singing:



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)
C F/A Am Bb C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
Bb F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Promised One, our Lord Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to baptize us with the Holy Spirit. You offer comfort where there is sorrow. You speak words of tenderness where there is pain.

You make straight the crooked roads of life, that we may walk in pathways of peace. You level the mountains that block our way, and you lift up the valleys that leave us in darkness.

You show us your glory, that we may lift up our voices with strength and joy. You come with might and with compassion. You gather us together as your flock, leading us, carrying us, living among us.

You came even as a servant among us, Emmanuel, God with us, with power and strength beyond measure. You gave even your own life that we might know of your great and powerful love.

Words of Institution and Blessing of the Bread and Cup

Sharing the Meal

(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. The words are on the screen.)

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** *No Wind at the Window (Hymn #101)*

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Song:** *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (on screen) Congregation

Postlude:

Astrid Chan

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Today, December 8,** there is a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship to elect the new class of elders and deacons.

***Today, December 8,** following service, please join us for Breakfast and fellowship at Little Mexico Restaurant, 2851 W. Valencia Rd, Tucson

***Today, December 8,** Join us for **Advent Evening Gatherings at 5:00 p.m.** A time of meditation and contemplation on the texts of Christmas. Dec. 8, 15, & 22.

***Monday, December 9,** **Angel Making Party at 10:00 a.m.** in the Conference Room. Come make an angel to decorate our tree!

***Monday, December 9,** the Worship Music Committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

***Tuesday, December 10,** Session will meet at 2:00 p.m.

***Wednesday, December 11,** the Deacons will meet at 1:00 p.m.

***Next Sunday, December 15,** the Outreach/Mission Committee will meet after worship.

***Sunday, December 22,** we will have a Potluck in the Ranch House after worship! Everyone is welcome..bring your favorite dish!

***Tuesday, December 24,** we will have a **Christmas Eve Celebration at 5:30 p.m.** It will be a wonderful service of lessons and carols with a variety of special music, including our handbells!

***Sunday, December 29,** *We will be celebrating Don Kimball's life as part of our worship service. Being part of worship here at The Holy Way was integral to who Don was, so we will continue the regular worship service for a little while longer and honor Don.*

***We are collecting new, unwrapped items for Three Points.**
Items include: books, clothing, art supplies, toys & gift cards for kids infant through teens. The box is in the Narthex for collection.

***The Knitting/Hand Group is Back!** *Come make something with your hands. All skills welcome! Mondays from 10:00 a.m- Noon in the Conference Room.*

***Join us Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.** for Bible study in the Conference Room. We discuss the upcoming scriptures that will be used for preaching the upcoming Sunday. There are often goodies to share!

***Love to Sing? Join the Choir!** Choir Rehearsals are Thursdays 10:45 am -11:45 am in the Sanctuary.

***Need to contact Pastor Elizabeth?** Her email is:
PastorELymanHolyWay@gmail.com

-Pick up a Newsletter in the Lobby for a complete schedule of the life and events at The Holy Way-

105 People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look
 a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

east and sing to - day:



Peo-ple, look east:

Love, the Guest, is on the way.
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.
Love, the Star, is on the way.
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo-ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)



101 No Wind at the Window



1 No wind at the win-dow, no knock on the door;
 2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, don't hide from my face.
 3 "This child must be born that the king-dom might come:
 4 No pay - ment was prom - ised, no prom - is - es made;

no light from the lamp - stand, no foot on the floor;
 Be glad that you're fa - vored and filled with God's grace.
 sal - va - tion for man - y, de - struc - tion for some;
 no wed - ding was dat - ed, no blue - print dis - played.

no dream born of tired - ness, no ghost raised by fear:
 The time for re - deem - ing the world has be - gun,
 both end and be - gin - ning, both mes - sage and sign;
 Yet Mar - y, con - sent - ing to what none could guess,

just an an - gel and a wom - an and a voice in her ear.
 and you are re - quest - ed to moth - er God's Son."
 both vic - tor and vic - tim, both yours and di - vine."
 re - plied with con - vic - tion, "Tell God I say, Yes."

This 20th-century retelling of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38) effectively incorporates characteristic features of the folksong style its Irish tune requires, especially in the lists of “no” and “both.” The tune is named for a many-talented Irish saint of the 6th century.