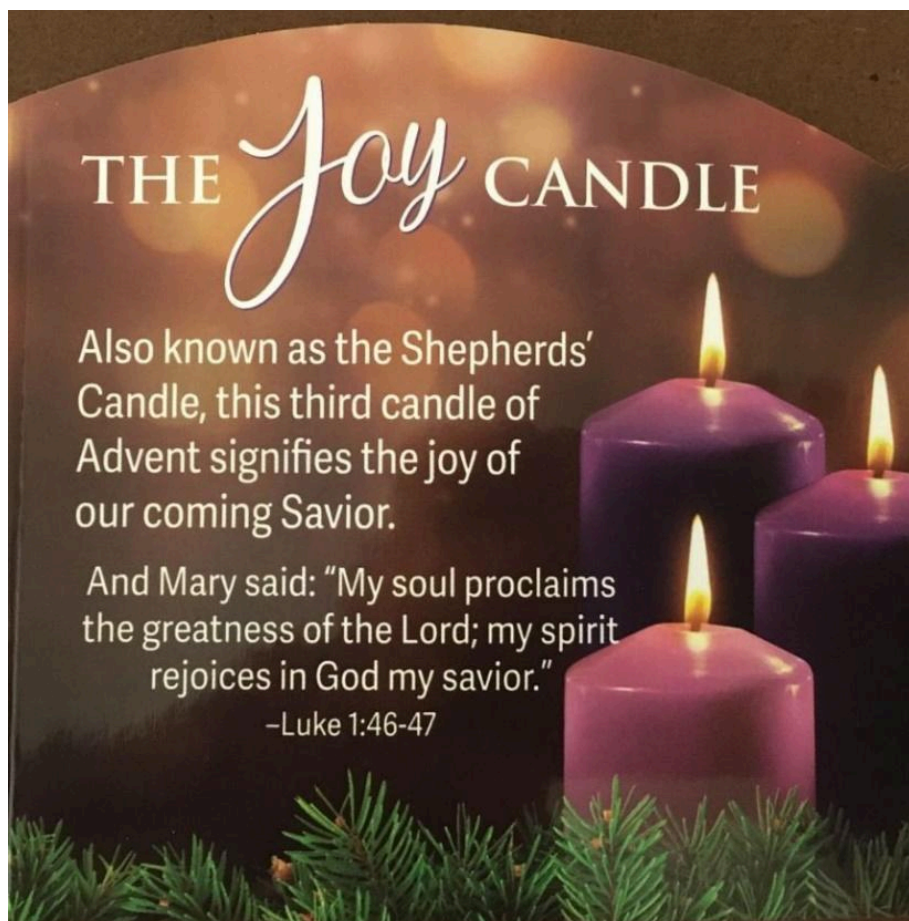


The Holy Way Presbyterian Church



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

***December 15, 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**

Alice Davis

One: Please stand in body or in spirit, for the Call to Worship.
God spoke through the prophet Isaiah, "Comfort, O comfort, my people."

All: A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

One: Every valley will be lifted up, every mountain brought low,
And the glory of the Lord will be revealed.

All: All people shall witness this together, for the mouth of God has spoken.

One: Come, O Come, Emmanuel;

All: We wait for You to enter our world and our lives in a new way.

One: Come, Let us worship God!

Children's Time

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

One: The third candle is the candle of JOY. When Mary learned she was pregnant with Jesus, she rejoiced.

All: May the light of Christ bring us joy.

Lighting The Candle of Hope, the Candle of Peace and the Candle of Joy

One: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy

and singing ... They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God (Isaiah 35:1-2).

All: God, turn our days to joy that we may serve you always. Fill us with a sense of expectancy and wonder as we continue to prepare for the amazing blessings of the holy birth.

***Opening Hymn:** *Love Has Come* (Hymn #110) Alice Davis

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: Hymn 93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates vs 3**

*Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.*

***Offering Prayer**

All: O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, our coming Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Bill Boals

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 Isaiah 11:1-9

Bill Boals

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of its roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Anthem *Joseph's Song* *Phil, Jesus, Terry, Bill, Mac*

Scripture **Matthew 1:18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son. and he named him Jesus.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Message:

Rev Elizabeth Lyman

***Sending Hymn** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!* (Hymn #132)

***Blessing and Benediction**

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

Postlude: Astrid Chan

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

Dear Holy Way Family,

As we reflect on this past year, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for your faithful generosity. Your giving has been a tangible expression of God's love in action, enabling us to make a meaningful impact both within our church family and throughout our community. We are a vibrant and growing church in a world that needs the word, joy, and hope of our Heavenly Father more than ever. From supporting vital ministries and mission work to maintaining the vibrant life of our congregation, your gifts have truly made a difference.

As we close out this year, we invite you to prayerfully consider making an extra effort in your giving. December is a critical time for our church as we seek to meet our annual goals and prepare for the year ahead. Your generosity in this season will help us finish strong and ensure that we can continue to carry out God's work with excellence and purpose.

Whether through tithes, offerings, or special gifts, every contribution matters. Together, we can extend Christ's love even further, touching lives with hope and grace.

Thank you for all you've done and all you will do. Let us press forward with a spirit of joy and generosity, knowing that our efforts bring glory to God and transform lives.

*In Christ,
The Elders of The Holy Way*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Today, December 15,** following service, please join us for refreshments & fellowship in the Ranch House.

***Today, December 15,** the Outreach/Mission Committee will meet after worship in the Conference Room.

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

***Next Sunday, December 22,** we will have a Potluck in the Ranch House after worship! Everyone is welcome..bring your favorite dish! Please bring hot food in Crockpots as there is no way to warm food and bring serving utensils.

***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-

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
 F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.