

CALVARY

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



July 26, 2020

8th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Our Way In

"The Cherokee Morning Song"- (Words in [Video](#))

Invitation to Holy Presence: Earth Healing Ceremony

Earth Healing Ceremony by: Medicine Grizzly Bear

O Great Creator,
I come before you in a humble manner
and offer you this sacred pipe.
With tears in my eyes and an ancient song from my heart
I pray.

To the four powers of Creation,
To the Grandfather Sun,
To the Grandmother Moon,
To the Mother Earth,
And to my ancestors.

I pray for my relations in Nature,
All those who walk, crawl, fly, and swim,
Seen and unseen,
To the good spirits that exist in every part of Creation.

I ask that you bless our elders and children and families and
friends,
And the brothers, sisters, *and siblings in prison.

I pray for the ones who are sick on drugs and alcohol
And for those homeless and forlorn.
I also pray for peace among the four races of humankind.

May there be good health and healing for this Earth,
May there be Beauty above me,
May there be Beauty below me,
May there be Beauty in me,
May there be Beauty around me.
I ask that this world be filled with Peace, Love and Beauty.

Call to Worship (Psalm 42)

Psalm 42 (Merrill version, excerpted)

One: The psalm response is: My soul thirsts for You, O
Beloved.

All: My soul thirsts for You, O Beloved.

One: As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs
for You, O Beloved. My soul thirsts for the Beloved, for
Living Water.

All: My soul thirsts for You, O Beloved.

One: When may I come and behold Your face? Tears have
been my only nourishment day and night. Friends ask
continually, "Where is the Beloved of your heart?" All this I
remember as I pour out my soul.

All: My soul thirsts for You, O Beloved.

One: How I once knew Your presence within me... Now my
soul is cast down within me...From my mother's womb to
maturity, through all the days of my life...You have led me
in steadfast love, and by night, Your song is within me.

All: My soul thirsts for You, O Beloved.

One: Why are you cast down, O my soul? Why are you disquiet within me? My hope is in the Beloved, my strength and my joy. Open the door to Love, O my soul.

All: My soul thirsts for You, O Beloved.

Opening Hymn: "Many and Great, O God" (*UMH "148"*)

Many and great, O God are thy works,
Maker of earth and sky.
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars;
thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at thy word the waters were formed.
Deep seas obey thy voice.

Grant unto us, communion with thee,
thou star-a-bid-ing One.
Come unto us and dwell with us.
With thee are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life, that has no-o end,
eternal life with thee.

Passing the Peace

ONE: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer

The Seven Sacred Prayers

O Great Spirit, who art before all else and who dwells in every object, in every person and in every place, we cry unto Thee. We summon Thee from the far places into our present awareness.

- Great Spirit of the North, who gives wings to the waters of the air and rolls the thick snowstorm before Thee, Who covers the Earth with a sparkling crystal carpet above whose deep tranquility every sound is beautiful. Temper us with strength to withstand the biting blizzards, yet make us thankful for the beauty which follows and lies deep over the warm Earth in its wake.

- Great Spirit of the East, the land of the rising Sun, Who holds in Your right hand the years of our lives and in Your left the opportunities of each day. Brace us that we may not neglect our gifts nor lose in laziness the hopes of each day and the hopes of each year.

- Great Spirit of the South, whose warm breath of compassion melts the ice that gathers round our hearts, whose fragrance speaks of distant springs and summer days, dissolve our fears, melt our hatreds, kindle our love into flames of true and living realities. Teach us that he who is truly strong is also kind, he who is wise tempers justice with mercy, he who is truly brave matches courage with compassion.

- Great Spirit of the West, the land of the setting Sun, with Your soaring mountains and free, wide rolling prairies, bless us with knowledge of the peace which follows purity of striving and the freedom which follows like a flowing robe in the winds of a well-disciplined life. Teach us that the end is better than the beginning and that the setting sun glorifies not in vain.

- Great Spirit of the heavens, in the day's infinite blue and amid the countless stars of the night season, remind us that you are vast, that you are beautiful and majestic beyond all of our knowing or telling, but also that you are

no further from us than the tilting upwards of our heads
and the raising of our eyes.

○ Great Spirit of Mother Earth beneath our feet, Master of metals, Germinator of seeds and the Storer of the Earth's unreckoned resources, help us to give thanks unceasingly for Your present bounty.

○ Great Spirit of our souls, burning in our heart's yearning and in our innermost aspirations, speak to us now and always so that we may be aware of the greatness and goodness of Your gift of life and be worthy of this priceless privilege of living.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson:

Old Testament: Proverbs 1: 20-23, 33 (Eriks Dunens)

Woman Wisdom cries out in the street. In the squares, She raises Her voice. At the busiest corner, She takes Her stand. At the entrance of the city gates, She speaks: "How long, O thoughtless ones, will you wallow in ignorance? How long, O scoffers, will you delight in your scoffing? How long, O fools, will you shun knowledge, refusing to learn? "Give heed to My reproof, and follow Me. I will pour out My spirit on you. I will tell you My thoughts. I will make My words known to you. You who listen to Me will have inner strength, and will live in peace, without fear."

ONE: The Word of a Wisdom Writer.

ALL: Thanks be to God

Choral Alleluia

Gospel:

One: A Reading from The Gospel attributed to Matthew
Chapter 15 verses 8-9. (From Good as New: A Retelling of
the Scriptures)

All: Glory to you, O God.

8 'These people have me on their lips,
But their hearts are far away;
9 They make their own rules sound like mine:
I see the game they play!'

One: The Gospel of God.

All: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Choral Alleluia

Sermon "Our Neighbors in West Philly: Our Indigenous
Neighbors"

Following Sermon

Prayer of Wisdom, Knowledge, and Understanding
By: Larry Kibby ("ALL" led by Grace Johnson)

One: Great Spirit Grandfather,
I send these words to you,
Hear my prayer.
For these are my words,
To Father Sun,
To Grandmother Moon,
To Mother Earth
To all my relations,
That have been Created as I.
To the Four Winds,
That bring us the
Seasons of Life.

**All: To the East
Where Father Sun rises
Bringing to us a new day
A new meaning of life,
A light in which to see
The path before us.**

One: To the South
Where the warm air comes to us
Bringing heat and warmth,
The seasons of spring
And summer.
To the West
Where Father Sun goes
To bring to us darkness,
So as we may see the universe
And search for the questions
Of our life.

**All: To the North
Where the cold winds come from
Bringing to us the seasons
Of fall and winter.**

One: Oh Great Spirit
Hear my words
For to you I offer
My heart and soul
You made me
What I am
And I am Indian
America's Prisoners of War
I pray for my people of the past
Whose blood covers this our Mother Earth

I pray now as an Indian
Blood of my Ancestors.

**All: Great Spirit Grandfather,
Look down upon
Your people,
For we are humble
Before you.
We seek your guidance,
So that we your people
May walk forever
In a proud manner
Before you.**

One: Great Spirit Grandfather,
You gave your people
The breath of life,
So that we may live
With dignity and pride,
To always know
And understand
That life was meant for us
Your most humble
Traditional people,
And all that
Was Created
And given
The breath of life.

**All: Great Spirit Grandfather,
Let my heart
Soul and mind
Be always strong with
Wisdom, knowledge
And Understanding.**

One: Great Spirit Grandfather
Hear my words
For wisdom
So that I may open
My eyes and
See all that
Is good around me.

**All: Great Spirit Grandfather
Hear my words
For wisdom
So that I may open my ears
And hear all that is good
Around me.
For I am humble
Before you.**

**I seek the strength
To continue on this path
That I travel on before you
In a most Sacred manner.**

One: Great Spirit Grandfather
Hear my words
For they are words
That come from the
Heart, soul and mind,
And are filled with
Wisdom, knowledge and
Understanding.

**All: Great Spirit Grandfather
My words are for you
To know and understand**

**That in a most Sacred manner
I honor and respect
The life you have put before me,
I seek the strength
To forever continue
Upon this Sacred path.**

One: Great Spirit Grandfather
Upon the four winds
Are my words for strength
For they come from the
Heart, soul and mind
Words I send to you
In a Sacred manner.

**All: Great Spirit Grandfather
Let all
The wisdom, knowledge and understanding
Be my strength
To continue on this path
That I travel on before you
As a Traditional Native American Indian,
Now and forever.**

Hymn of Response: "Amazing Grace" vs 1 (Cherokee
Translation in [Video](#))

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

"Thanks be to God" or "God, hear our prayer"

Prayer Response

"Lead Me, God" (UMH #473)

Lead me, God, lead me in your righteousness;
make your way plain before my face.
For it is you, God, you, you only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

Prayer of Confession: Great Spirit Prayer

"The Great Spirit is in all things, is in the air we breathe. The Great Spirit is our Father, but the Earth is our Mother. She nourishes us; that which we put into the ground, She returns to us...."

Give us hearts to understand;

Never to take from creation's beauty more than we give;
never to destroy wantonly for the furtherance of greed;

Never to deny to give our hands for the building of earth's
beauty;
never to take from her what we cannot use.

Give us hearts to understand

That to destroy earth's music is to create confusion;
that to wreck her appearance is to blind us to beauty;

That to callously pollute her fragrance is to make a house of
stench;
that as we care for her she will care for us.

We have forgotten who we are.

We have sought only our own security.

We have exploited simply for our own ends.

We have distorted our knowledge.

We have abused our power.

Great Spirit, whose dry lands thirst,

Help us to find the way to refresh your lands.

Great Spirit, whose waters are choked with debris and
pollution,

help us to find the way to cleanse your waters.

Great Spirit, whose beautiful earth grows ugly with misuse,
help us to find the way to restore beauty to your handiwork.

Great Spirit, whose creatures are being destroyed,
help us to find a way to replenish them.

Great Spirit, whose gifts to us are being lost in selfishness and
corruption,

help us to find the way to restore our humanity.

Oh, Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the wind,
whose breath gives life to the world, hear me;
I need your strength and wisdom. May I walk in Beauty.

ENGAGING

Closing hymn: "Heleluyan" (UMH 78)

Heleluyan, Helelyan, Hele, Hele, luyan, Heleluyan,
Heleluyan, Hele, Hele, Luyan (Repeat 3X)

Benediction and Blessing

Singing Our Way Out: "Let the Church Say Amen"

Let the church say, "Amen" (*repeat*)

God has spoken, let the church say, "Amen"

Go in Peace ... Live in Peace

*The service has ended. Our service to the community of West
Philadelphia and the world continues!*

Calvary United Methodist Church

at the corner of 48th & Baltimore

at the corner of spirituality & justice

801 South 48th Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143

215.724.1702 / office@allmeansall.org

Pastor: Rev. Calvin Collins (pastorcalvin@allmeansall.org)

allmeansall.org



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK