

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name;  
you are mine.”*

**- Isaiah 43:1b**

**January 12, 2025**

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany  
Baptism of Jesus*

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## GATHERING

**Gathering Song:** "God Only Knows" (*for King & Country*)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

- **Looking to get (more) involved at Calvary this year?**
  - [allmeansall.org/get-involved](http://allmeansall.org/get-involved)
- **Spring Retreat:** May 16-17, 2025 (*location TBD*)
- **Previous sermons:** [allmeansall.org/sermons](http://allmeansall.org/sermons)
- **Previous bulletins:** [allmeansall.org/bulletins](http://allmeansall.org/bulletins)

## Calendar

### **Today, Jan 12**

- **12:45-2 pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck (*monthly*) and Congregational Meeting (*hybrid*)
  - to connect virtually to Congregational Meeting: [allmeansall.org/virtual](http://allmeansall.org/virtual)
- **8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (*weekly, through Jan 26*)
  - [allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group](http://allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group)

### **Monday, Jan 13, 6:30-7:30 pm:** Yoga (*weekly*)

- Calvary (Chapel) – please use 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
- [allmeansall.org/yoga](http://allmeansall.org/yoga)

### **Tuesday, Jan 14, 7:30 pm:** Trustees (*virtual / monthly – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays*)

### **Wednesday, Jan 15, 10-11 am:** Yoga (*weekly*)

- Calvary (Chapel) – please use 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
- [allmeansall.org/yoga](http://allmeansall.org/yoga)

### **Saturday, Jan 18, 1 pm:** Meditation (*weekly*)

- Calvary (Board Room, upstairs on Baltimore Ave side) – please use 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
- [witnessandintegrate@gmail.com](mailto:witnessandintegrate@gmail.com)

## Sunday, Jan 19

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
  - guest preacher: Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart
  - Calvary Kids (ages 8-11/12) available during worship: [allmeansall.org/children-youth](http://allmeansall.org/children-youth)
- **12:30-1:30 pm:** Congregational Meeting (*hybrid*)
  - to connect virtually: [allmeansall.org/virtual](http://allmeansall.org/virtual)

**Tuesday, Jan 21, 7 pm:** Finance Committee (*virtual / bimonthly – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays*)

**Friday, Jan 24, 6 pm:** Young Adults Potluck Dinner & Game Night

- contact Bethany to RSVP and for details, or to be added to the email list: [bethanycw@gmail.com](mailto:bethanycw@gmail.com)

## Sunday, Jan 26

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
  - guest preacher: Cord Whitaker
- **3-6 pm:** POWER Interfaith Housing Justice Assembly
  - location TBA
  - contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary, or to get involved with Calvary's POWER Team

## Visiting With Us?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason you chose to join us! We strive to make our worship space (in-person and virtual) as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact Pastor Tim.

## **CENTERING & CONNECTING**

### **Breathing Our Way In**

**Singing Our Way In:** "Imago Dei" (*Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*)

*Imago Dei, the image of God is here*

*Imago Dei, the likeness of God alive*

Holy because we are of God, we are all of God  
Holy because we are of God, we are all of God (*refrain*)

Siblings because we are of God, we are all of God  
Siblings because we are of God,  
we are all of God (*refrain*)

**Call to Worship** (*Craig Mitchell – adapted*)

One: To the God of life let us bring ourselves, some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of truth let us bring ourselves, some trusting, some doubting our questions and our certainties.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of light let us bring ourselves, our achievements, our failures, our public selves, our hidden selves.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of hope let us bring ourselves, our dreams and visions, our despair, our yearnings.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of all Creation let us bring ourselves, we broken, we blessed, made in God's image, loved beyond measure.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are. Let us offer our worship, and open ourselves to God's light and life among us.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Opening Song:** "O God, in Whom All Life Begins" (*tune: UMH #152, tune: trad. English melody / lyrics: Carl P. Daw Jr.*)

O God in whom all life begins,  
who births the seed to fruit,  
bestow your blessing on our lives;  
here let your love find root.  
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts  
of patience, joy, and peace;

deliver us from numbing fear,  
and grant our faith increase.

Unite in mutual ministry  
our minds and hands and hearts  
that we may have the grace to seek  
the pow'r your peace imparts.  
So let our varied gifts combine  
to glorify your name  
that in all things by word and deed  
we may your love proclaim.

Through tears and laughter, grief and joy,  
enlarge our trust and care;  
so bind us in community  
that we may risk and dare.  
Be with us when we gather here  
to worship, sing, and pray,  
then send us forth in pow'r and faith  
to live the words we say.

### **Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace**

*"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not  
regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

**- 2 Corinthians 9:7**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

### **GROUNDING**

**Community Prayer** *(Jon Humphries – adapted)*

God who is Creator and Spirit, may we pray this day into  
being. May we pray ourselves into it. May we pray  
ourselves through it. May we pray it into being better.  
May we pray ourselves into being better. May we pray  
ourselves into community with you. May we pray  
ourselves into community with each other, as with  
ourselves. May we pray ourselves into believing and

receiving your love. May we pray ourselves into loving all we encounter.

May we pray at the heart of our being. May we pray at the core of our discipleship. May we pray. That it may be so. Amen.

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Special Music**

### **Scripture Lesson:** Isaiah 43:1-2

But now thus says the HOLY ONE, he who created you, O Jacob, she who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. **2** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

### **Choral Alleluia** *(UMH #186, Jerry Sinclair)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **Scripture Lesson:** Luke 3:21-22

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, **22** and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

One: The word of God for the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

### **Choral Alleluia**

Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, alleluia. *(repeat)*

**Sermon:** "Beloved Belonging"



**Song:** "Beloved Child, Beloved Community" (tune: UMH #145, trad. Gaelic melody / lyrics: John Middleton – adapted)

Hear well this good news, trust the word spoken,  
receive a new name, become my own:  
You are beloved, precious and chosen,  
with you I'm well pleased to make my home.

Born of the Spirit, tempered and tested,  
Washed in the water, forgiveness known.  
Blessed and anointed with grace unmeasured,  
you are beloved, my child, my own.

(Siblings and lovers), neighbors and strangers,  
serve one another in harmony.  
You are beloved children together  
in a beloved community.

Go forth in my name, show forth my kindness,  
renew the good earth through works of love.  
Peace be among you – that is the witness:  
My Spirit with you, sent from above.

## **SHARING**

### **Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns**

**Sung Response** (tune: UMH #175, John B. Dykes / lyrics: John Pritchard)

O Loving Heart, O Blessed Arms,  
hold all we bring to you;  
our hopes, our fears, our joy and tears,  
our pledge your will to do.

## **ENGAGING**

**Closing Song:** "Guide My Feet" (TFWS #2208, African American spiritual)

Guide my feet while I run this race. (2x)  
Guide my feet while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Hold my hand ...

Stand by me ...

I'm your child ...

Search my heart ...

## **Benediction**

**Singing Our Way Out:** "Pool of Love" (*Alexa Sunshine Rose, Murray Kyle*)

May the pool of love we have gathered here

Spread its wings and fly far and near

From the depths of our hearts to the farthest star

May our love bless everyone

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

*at the intersection of 48<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore / spirituality & justice*

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215.724.1702 / [office@allmeansall.org](mailto:office@allmeansall.org) / [allmeansall.org](http://allmeansall.org)

**Pastor Tim Emmett-Rardin:** [pastortim@allmeansall.org](mailto:pastortim@allmeansall.org)

(in case of pastoral emergency: 215.370.7411)

**Norris Person** (accompanist): [music@allmeansall.org](mailto:music@allmeansall.org)