

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"God has told you, O mortal,
what is good; and what does the
Holy One require of you but to do
justice, and to love kindness, and
to walk humbly with your God?"*

- Micah 6:8

January 29, 2023

4th Sunday after the Epiphany

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude: "I Shall Not Walk Alone" (Ben Harper, with Blind Boys of Alabama)

*You're invited to be in silence during the Prelude,
as we transition together into this sacred time and space.*

Welcome / Announcements

- **Winter clothing drive for newly arriving immigrants:**
 - allmeansall.org/clothing
- **Bible Study: Lectio(nary) Divina**
 - timing TBD / allmeansall.org/bible-study
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up or with questions
- **Adult Ed Book Study: Original Blessing**
 - timing TBD / allmeansall.org/adult-ed
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up or with questions
- **Worship volunteers:** tinyurl.com/worship-help

Calendar

Tuesday, Jan 31

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **7 pm:** Trustees

Sunday, Feb 5

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship, with Communion
- **7:30-8:30 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group
 - biweekly through Feb 19 / weekly, Feb 26 - Apr 2
 - allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Tuesday, Feb 7, 7 pm: Church Council

Sunday, Feb 12

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
 - join us as we celebrate our lay leadership
- **1-2ish pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck – Chili Cook-off
 - bring chili or another dish/drinks to share if you can

Wednesday, Feb 22, 7 pm: Service of Ashes (*Ash Wednesday*)

Sunday, Feb 26, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship (*1st Sunday in Lent*)

- guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Calenthia Dowdy, Director of Faith Initiatives at Philadelphia FIGHT

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.

Calvary Email List

If you're not on the Calvary email list and want to be, or think you are but aren't seeing emails from us, please contact the church office (office@allmeansall.org).

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "My Soul Is at Rest" (*Taizé Community*)

My soul is at rest in God alone,
my salvation comes from God.

Call to Worship (*Brian McLaren & Rob Bell, based on The Beatitudes – adapted*)

One: The poor and the poor in spirit, and those in solidarity with them;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those who mourn and feel grief about the state of the world;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: The non-violent, gentle and humble;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those who hunger and thirst for the common good;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: The merciful and compassionate;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those characterized by sincerity, kindness and generosity;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those who work for peace and reconciliation;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those who keep seeking justice;

ALL: God is on your side.

One: Those who stand for justice and truth as the prophets did, who refuse to be quiet even when slandered, misrepresented, threatened, imprisoned or harmed;

ALL: The God of love is on your side! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "How Can We Name a Love" (UMH #111,
trad. English melody / lyrics: Brian Wren – adapted)

How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound and God is found,
hid in the common place.

If we awoke to life built on a rock of care
that asked no great reward but firm,
assured, was simply there,
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,
Love unconfined, a father kind,
a mother strong and sure.

When people share a task, and strength and skills unite
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,
that all should share, create and care,
and know that life is good.

So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet
a presence, sensed and shown at work,

at home, or in the street.

Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:
In (God) alone is Love full grown
and life and hope begun.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(from Third Space website)*

God the Holy Spirit, you are the restless breath of love that sweeps through the world. You move where you will, breaking down barriers, stirring hearts to change, making all things possible. Inspire each one of us to hunger and thirst for justice!

Come, Spirit of God, sweep through our world bringing great change. May the bounty of your goodness be shared more justly, so all may share in the rich blessings of your creation. And, for us, bring transformation in our praying and living, so that we may act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you all the days of our lives. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the (Holy One) says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

2 Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the (Holy One), and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the (Holy One) has a controversy with (God's) people, and (God) will contend with Israel. **3** "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

4 For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent

before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. **5** O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the (Holy One)."

6 "With what shall I come before the (Holy One), and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before (God) with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? **7** Will the (Holy One) be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

8 (God) has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the (Holy One) require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: **3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the (realm) of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. **5** Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. **6** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. **7** Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. **8** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. **9** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the (realm) of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: “In a Nutshell”

Song: “O God, You Call for Justice” (*tune: UMH #545, Samuel Sebastian Wesley / lyrics: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette – adapted*)

O God, you call for justice – for goodness, never greed!

You seek a world of fairness

where all have what they need –

Where all have food and water

and homes in which to thrive,

Where all have hope and laughter and joy to be alive!

O God, you call for kindness instead of keeping score;

You seek a world that welcomes

the hungry and the poor.

(God), where there is injustice may we work to protect
the struggling ones, the voiceless that others would reject.

You call us to walk humbly, for we are not our own;

We all are poor and needy;

we need the grace you've shown.

May we respond to others reflecting what you give –

Compassion, kindness, justice – so all may gladly live.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

“Thanks be to God” or “God, hear our prayer”

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 ...
Guide my feet ...

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Let the Church Say Amen" (Andraé Crouch)

Let the church say, "Amen" (repeat)
God has spoken, let the church say, "Amen"

Calvary United Methodist Church

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