

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Strike the rock, and
water will come out of it,
so that the people may drink.”*

- Exodus 17:6b

October 1, 2023

18th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

National Hispanic Heritage Month / World Communion Sunday

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Jireh" (Elevation Worship & Maverick City Music / perf. in English & Spanish by Diana Marie)

You're invited to be in silence during the Gathering Song, as we transition together into this sacred space.

Welcome & Announcements

(Announcements also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Calvary Choir:** calling all singers and instrumentalists!
 - contact Lorelle to join: lorellehb@gmail.com
- **HVAC Matching Gift Campaign:** allmeansall.org/hvac
- **Meal support for Sharon:** mealtrain.com/trains/z38lvo
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Monday, Oct 2, 7:30-8:30 pm: Adult Ed Book Study (virtual)

Tuesday, Oct 3, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (virtual)

Wednesday, Oct 4, 7:30-8:30ish pm: Spirituality on Tap

- Gojjo Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant / 4540 Baltimore Ave

Saturday, Oct 7, 10:30 am-12:30 pm: Congregational Meeting (virtual)

Sunday, Oct 8

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **1-2ish pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck
 - bring a dish and/or drinks to share if you can

Sunday, Oct 15

- **9:30-10:30 am:** Bible Study (hybrid)
- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **4-6 pm:** Confirmation Class

Saturday, Oct 21, 1 pm: 23rd Annual Peoplehood Parade & Pageant

- Paul Robeson House (50th & Walnut) to Clark Park
- contact Pastor Tim to join Calvary's contingent

Saturday, Nov 11, 10 am-5 pm: Fall Retreat

- Cranaleith Spiritual Center (NE Philly)
register at allmeansall.org/fall-retreat

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 or sign up online. Our **Calvary Connections e-newsletter** goes out every Thursday night.

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

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 (*Richard Bott – adapted*)

One: The whole world is in God's hands.

ALL: Everything that lives and breathes. Everything that simply is. Everything.

One: From the farthest spaces, to the inmost places!

ALL: God is with us, and we are with God. We are of God.

Alleluia!

One: As followers of Jesus, gathered at table, with our siblings around the world, to remember who and whose we are, we shout!

ALL: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

One: Shall we pray? With all that we have, with all that we are, we worship you, God-of-all-Being. Bless this day. Bless this time. Bless this gathering. Bless this world, with your overflowing love. Alleluia!

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Alleluia! Hear God's Story" (*tune: UMH #707, Natalie Sleeth / lyrics: Mary Anne Parrott*)

Alleluia! Hear God's story,
still unfolding with each dawn.
Taste the wine and body broken:
God's creative love lives on.
Who the neighbor? Who the hungry?
Who is thirsty for shalom?
God of journey, in your story;
lead us, with the neighbor, home.

Alleluia! Sing the story;
God's great faithfulness proclaim.
Tell of prophets and apostles;
sing the power of Jesus' name.
Who the neighbor? Who the listener?
Who has ears to hear our song?
God of history, tune our voices,
make our hopeful witness strong.

Alleluia! Dance the story;
every sinew now engage.
Tethered close in truthful worship,
boldly face the coming age.
Who the neighbor? Who the watchful?
Who will welcome life's embrace?
God of gospel, tell the story
through our dancing of your grace.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Rev. Karla – RevGalBlogPals)*

Holy Watering One, Fount of Every Blessing, we come to you this morning, opening our parched places to receive the springs of living water you offer to us. Most of the time, most of us don't even know we are thirsty. We don't know the deep dehydration that scours our bones and parches our hearts. Sometimes, when our thirst pangs emerge, we draw from the enticing wells of the world's offering of power or profit, which leave us even more empty.

Still us, God, so we might listen to you speaking to us, knowing us, seeing us, loving us. Fill us with your living water that will transform our spirits and souls into springs that burst forth with life and love for your people, for ourselves, and for our world. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Holy One commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. **2** The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Holy One?" **3** But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" **4** So Moses cried out to

the Holy One, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

5 The Holy One said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. **6** I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. **7** He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Holy One, saying, "Is the Holy One among us or not?"

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. **2** I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, **3** things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. **4** We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Holy One, and God's might, and the wonders that God has done.

12 In the sight of their ancestors God worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan. **13** God divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap. **14** In the daytime God led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light. **15** God split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. **16** God made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Expecting the Unexpected"

Song: "O God Who Gives Us Life and Breath" (*tune: UMH #152, trad. English melody / lyrics: Carl P. Daw Jr.*)

O God who gives us life and breath,
who shapes us in the womb,
who guards our lives from birth to death,
then leads us from the tomb:
deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you;
help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.

O God who calls your people out,
to venture and to dare,
to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt
and find you even there:
when we despair in wandering
through wastes of empty lies,
refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.

O God of covenant and law,
revealed in cloud and flame,
your mighty deeds evoke our awe;
we dare not speak your name.
Yet we by faith are drawn to you
and will your people prove,
as on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response (*tune: UMH #473, Samuel Sebastian Wesley / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

Hear, O God. Hear the prayers we bring to you.
Come, and renew all of our days.
Hold every longing; hold every sorrow;
and lead us into your healing ways.

Blessing Before the Meal: "Table Blessing" (Jan Richardson)

Communion / The Great Thanksgiving (Richard Bott – adapted)

One: God is with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift our hearts to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: We do give you thanks, and we do praise you, God of all Creation. From before there was a beginning, until after there is an end, you were and are and always will be. All Creation is animate – alive – in you, and with you and beside you. For everything that is, came into being through you. In praise and thanksgiving, with leaves that whisper, brooks that babble, coyotes that yip, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, the squirmers and the squigglers – even the stars above.

With our siblings in faith around the world, those who profess to follow Jesus, and those who live other paths, we celebrate the gift of life! We remember today all who gather to share in this holy meal. Though the bread and cup are called by different names, in different places, we come together to remember that we are part of one Body, all around the world. Therefore we join with your people on earth, with all Creation, and with all the company of heaven, singing our praise:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-b, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal – adapted):

Holy, holy, holy (One); God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

One: You are the One, O God, who satisfies our hunger and quenches our thirst – even in the wilderness places

of our lives. You grace us when and where we least expect it, making way out of no way. Blessed are you, and blessed is your Christ, Jesus, who came that we might all know and share life in abundance. Who came to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed. Who came to call out hypocrites and call in the marginalized. Who made room at the table for all.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus shared a meal with his friends ... And so as we break the bread and share the cup, we re-member. We remember love broken and love poured out. As those held in and bound together by that same love, we taste the same Spirit and feast on the same promise, proclaiming the mystery of our faith:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-c, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal):
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

One: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts, O God, and on all of us gathered. Transform these ordinary elements into the sacred gift of your presence with us once again. May the sharing of this meal awaken us anew to our own belovedness and to our interconnectedness with you and with all Creation. Transform us that we might be bearers of love, healers of brokenness, builders of community. As one Body, we join our voices together:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-d, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal):
Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

Sung Response: "Eat This Bread" (UMH #628, tune: Robert Batastini & Taizé Community / lyrics: Jacques Berthier)

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

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: "Go Now in Peace" (UMH #665, Natalie Sleeth)

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Calvary United Methodist Church

at the intersection of 48th & Baltimore / spirituality & justice

801 S. 48th Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143

215.724.1702 / office@allmeansall.org / allmeansall.org

Pastor Tim Emmett-Rardin: pastortim@allmeansall.org

(in case of pastoral emergency: 215.370.7411)

Norris Person (accompanist): music@allmeansall.org