

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*"... yet because this widow keeps  
bothering me, I will grant her  
justice, so that she may not wear  
me out by continually coming."*

*- Luke 18:5*

**October 16, 2022**

*19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## LGBTQIA+ History Month

### GATHERING

**Prelude:** "Waiting on an Angel" (Ben Harper)

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

### **Welcome / Announcements**

- **Updated COVID protocols:** masks encouraged but now optional; social distancing further encouraged
  - details at [allmeansall.org/covid](http://allmeansall.org/covid)
- **Lectionary Bible Study** (virtual / weekly)
  - info at [allmeansall.org/lectionary-bible-study](http://allmeansall.org/lectionary-bible-study)
- **Voter Phone/Text Banking & Door-to-Door Canvassing** (POWER)
  - Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12-2 pm & 6:30-8:30 pm, and Sundays, 1-3 pm; Saturdays, 10 am-2 pm
  - info at [tinyurl.com/power-vote](http://tinyurl.com/power-vote)
- **Voting Deadlines:** Oct 24 (register); Nov 1 (request mail ballot)
  - info at [vote.pa.gov](http://vote.pa.gov)
- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at [tinyurl.com/worship-help](http://tinyurl.com/worship-help)
- **Interested in becoming a member at Calvary?**
  - contact Pastor Tim to learn more

### Calendar

**Monday, Oct 17, 7:30-8:30 pm:** Adult Ed Book Study –  
*Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*

### **Tuesday, Oct 18**

- **11 am:** POWER Freedom Express Bus Tour Kick-off and Press Conference (*tour runs through Nov 4*)
  - info at [facebook.com/powerinterfaith](http://facebook.com/powerinterfaith)
- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer
  - info at [allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer](http://allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer)
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee

**Sunday, Oct 23, 11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship

**Saturday, Oct 29, 10 am-2 pm:** Door-to-Door Voter Canvassing in West Philly (*POWER*)

- contact Pastor Tim to sign up or with questions

**Sunday, Oct 30, 11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Virtual Worship

**Saturday, Nov 5, 10-11:30 am:** Mission Link Meeting

- contact Ursula ([rrojohanson@comcast.net](mailto:rrojohanson@comcast.net)) or Gerry ([geraldinefelix618@gmail.com](mailto:geraldinefelix618@gmail.com)) for details

**Sunday, Nov 6, 11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship, with Communion (*All Saints' Sunday*)

- join us as we officially welcome new members; light reception to follow!

**Saturday, Nov 12**

- **8:30 am-12 pm:** Charge Conference
  - Wharton-Wesley UMC / 54<sup>th</sup> & Catharine
- **4-6 pm:** 'Always Love You' Concert
  - info at [allmeansall.org/always-love-you](http://allmeansall.org/always-love-you)

**Sunday, Nov 13**

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** In-Person Worship (*no virtual option*)
- **1-2 pm (following worship):** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck
  - Fellowship Hall (*lower level*)
  - please bring a dish to share if you can
- **1-4:15 pm:** PA-IPL 2022 Annual Conference – Environmental Justice & Human Resilience
  - info at [tinyurl.com/pa-ipl](http://tinyurl.com/pa-ipl)

Visiting With Us?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason you chose to join us! We invite you to fill out a Visitor Form at [allmeansall.org/visitors](http://allmeansall.org/visitors); for those worshipping in person, someone will share a form with you during the service. We strive to make our worship space (in person and virtual) as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have any concerns or questions regarding accessibility, 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](mailto:office@allmeansall.org)).

## **CENTERING & CONNECTING**

### **Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer**

#### **Singing Our Way In: "Open My Eyes" (*Jesse Manibusan*)**

Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see your face.

Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see.

Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear your voice.

Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear.

Open my heart, Lord, help me to love like you.

Open my heart, Lord, help me to love.

I live within you, deep in your heart, O Love,

I live within you, rest now in me.

#### **Call to Worship** (*Joanna Harader, based on Jeremiah 31:27-34 – adapted*)

One: Holy One, dwell within us.

**ALL: Glimmer in our vision;**

One: whisper in our ears;

**ALL: write upon our hearts.**

One: We wait, and we worship, with open eyes, open ears, open hearts.

**ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **Opening Song: "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here"** (*tune: UMH #579, Henry Carey / lyrics: Brian Wren*)

Great God, your love has called us here,  
as we, by love, for love were made.

Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed;  
we come, with all our heart and mind,  
your call to hear, your love to find.

We come with self-inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by powers and systems close confined,  
yet seeking hope for humankind.

Great God, in Christ you call our name,  
and then receive us as your own;  
not through some merit, right or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone;  
we strain to glimpse your mercy seat,  
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends;  
suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends,  
to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share;  
give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do,  
while love is making all things new.

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

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

### **GROUNDING**

**Community Prayer** (*John van de Laar – adapted*)

Though we run hot and cold, O God, fickle and changing  
in our faith, your love remains certain and constant – as  
steady as the sun rising and setting each day. Though we  
grow tired and disillusioned, bored and distracted far too

easily, your love stays true to the end. Though we allow our grief and anger to turn us away from grace and hope, your love refuses to let go.

We praise you, O God, for your relentless love, marked by compassion and justice. Help us to exude compassion and pursue justice as faithfully as you do, trusting that such love is the answer to all of our questions. Amen.

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Special Music**

**Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 19 (*Stephen Mitchell translation – adapted*)

The heavens declare God's grandeur and the radiance from which they arise. Each dawn tells of God's beauty; each night shines with God's grace. Their testimony speaks to the whole world and reaches to the ends of the earth. In them is a path for the sun, who steps forth handsome as a bridegroom and rejoices like an athlete as (they) run. (It) starts at one end of the heavens and circles to the other end, and nothing can hide from (its) heat.

God's universe is perfect, awing the mind. God's truth is subtle, baffling the intellect. God's law is total, quickening the breath. God's compassion is fathomless, refreshing the soul. God's justice is absolute, lighting up the eyes. God's love is radiant, rejoicing the heart, more precious than the finest gold, sweeter than honey from the comb.

Help me to be aware of selfishness but without undue shame or self-judgment. Let me know that you are always present, in every atom of my life. Let me keep surrendering my self until I am utterly transparent. Let my words be rooted in honesty and my thoughts be lost in your light. Unnamable God, my essence, my origin, my life-blood, my home.

## Choral Alleluia

### Scripture Lesson: Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. **2** He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. **3** In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' **4** For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"

**6** And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. **7** And will not God grant justice to (God's) chosen ones who cry to (God) day and night? Will (God) delay long in helping them? **8** I tell you, (God) will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## Choral Alleluia

### Sermon: "Keep the Faith"

**Song:** "Sing for God's Glory" (*tune: UMH #139, public domain / lyrics: Kathy Galloway*)

Sing for God's glory that colors the dawn of creation,  
racing across the sky, trailing bright clouds of elation;  
sun of delight succeeds the velvet of night,  
warming the earth's exultation.

Sing for God's power that shatters  
the chains that would bind us,  
searing the darkness of fear and despair  
that could blind us,

touching our shame with love that will not lay blame,  
reaching out gently to find us.

Sing for God's justice disturbing each easy illusion,  
tearing down tyrants and putting our pride to confusion;  
life-blood of right, resisting evil and slight,  
offering freedom's transfusion.

Sing for God's saints who have travelled  
faith's journey before us,  
who in our weariness give us their hope to restore us;  
in them we see the new creation to be,  
spirit of love made flesh for us.

## **SHARING**

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

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

**Sung Response** (*tune: UMH #408, trad. English / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

O Open Arms, now hold our cares,  
the aches we've named, the joys we've shared.  
And hold us, too; into us breathe –  
your grace, your life, let us receive.

## **ENGAGING**

**Closing Song:** “This Little Light of Mine” (*African American spiritual*)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go ...  
All through the night ...  
This little light of mine ...

## **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"

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

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

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