

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



“Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

- Matthew 22:21b

October 22, 2023

21st Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Week of Prayer for World Peace

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "We Are Here" (*Alicia Keys*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **New Sanctuary Movement:** collecting new and gently used sweatshirts (S/M/L) and tennis shoes/sneakers (women's 5-9 / men's 7-11)
 - bring items on Sundays or contact Pastor Tim to make alternate arrangements
- **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 23, 7:30-8:30 pm: Adult Ed Book Study

Tuesday, Oct 24

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*virtual*)
- **7 pm:** Church Council

Wednesday, Oct 25, 7 pm: CCCC Transition Meeting

Saturday, Oct 28

- **1 pm:** 23rd Annual Peoplehood Parade & Pageant
 - Paul Robeson House (45th & Walnut) to Clark Park
- **3-4:30 pm:** Charge Conference
 - St. Matthew's UMC / 600 Walker Rd (Wayne)

Sunday, Oct 29, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship

Wednesday, Nov 1, 7:30-8:30ish pm: Spirituality on Tap

- Gojjo / 4540 Baltimore Ave

Sunday, Nov 5, 1-5 pm: PA Interfaith Power & Light Annual Conference – No Faith in Fossil Fuels

- tinyurl.com/no-faith-fossil

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: "Circle Chant" (*Linda Hirschorn*)

Circle round for freedom, circle round for peace.

For all of us imprisoned, circle for release.

Circle for the planet, circle for each soul.

For the children of our children, keep the circle whole.

Call to Worship (*Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted*)

One: Eternal God, you create us in your image.

ALL: You are re-creating us even now.

One: We are yours. We belong to you.

ALL: It is you who give us to the world.

One: You give us in love, extravagant, generous love.

ALL: Alleluia! We give ourselves to you, so that you may give us to the world.

One: Come, Spirit of Life, and transform us by your grace.

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "We Sing to You, O God" (TFWS #2001, tune: John Darwall / lyrics: Gracia Grindal)

We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,
let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.

To you, O God, let songs be raised,
in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

We wandered far from home out in a desert land,
you shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band.
You kept us safe within your arms
and sheltered us against the storm.

You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.
We ride the vaults of light and air
and trust in your unfailing care.

O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.
Your word is true, your way is just,
you are the God in whom we trust.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer (Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)

God of love, you hold our hearts in your hands. God of love, you hold our lives in your light. God of love, you hold our present in your care. We are still, we are yours, and we listen for your voice. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 99 (*A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Wilda C. Gafney*)

The EVER-LIVING GOD reigns; let the people tremble! She sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

2 The HOLY ONE OF OLD is great in Zion; she is exalted over all the peoples. **3** Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is she! **4** Mighty Majesty, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness among the descendants of Rebekah. **5** Extol the MOTHER OF CREATION, our God; bow down and worship at her footstool. Holy is she! **6** Moses and Aaron were among her priests (Miriam her prophet), Samuel (and Hannah) also among those who called on her name. They cried to the FAITHFUL ONE, and she answered them. **7** In the pillar of cloud she spoke to them; they kept her decrees, and the statutes that she gave them. **8** JUST ONE our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, and an avenging one of their doings. **9** Extol the FIRE OF SINAI our God, bow down and worship at her holy mountain; for the CREATOR OF ALL, our God, is holy.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. **16** So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. **17** Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? **19** Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. **20** Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" **21** They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to

them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Kindom Currency"

Song: "Baited, the Question Rose" (*tune: UMH #88, George J. Elvey / lyrics: Carl P. Daw Jr.*)

Baited, the question rose from somewhere in the crowd:
"Teacher, you truly know God's way;
is paying tax allowed?"

Jesus perceived their trap: "Why do you test me so?
Bring here the coin the tax requires,
and see what it will show."

"Whose image does it bear, whose names and titles tell?"
"Caesar's, of course," they smugly said
and thought they answered well.

"Give Caesar what is his; God, what is God's alone."
Strong words, convincing and profound,
like truth already known.

May we discern, O God, your daily gifts of grace;
show us your image freshly coined
in every heart and face.

Help us fit tribute yield
through prayers and hymns we raise,
but most of all by deeds of love
to give you thanks and praise.

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.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: “May You Run and Not Be Weary” (tune & refrain: UMH #525, Charles Albert Tindley / lyrics: TFWS #2281, Paul Murakami & Handt Hanson)

May you run and not be weary.
May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue
to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary.
May your life be filled with joy!
And may the road you travel always lead you home.

**By and by, when the morning comes,
when the saints of God are gathered home,
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,
for we’ll understand it better by and by.**

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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