

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Teacher, which commandment
in the law is the greatest?”*

- Matthew 22:36

October 29, 2023

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Fragile" (*Sting, feat. Stevie Wonder*)

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 30, 7:45-8:45 pm: Adult Ed Book Study

Tuesday, Oct 31, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (*virtual*)

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

- Gojjo / 4540 Baltimore Ave

Sunday, Nov 5: Celebrating All Saints' Day (Nov 1)

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship, with Communion
- **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: "Live in Charity (Ubi Caritas)" (TFWS #2179, tune: Jacques Berthier / lyrics: from 1 Corinthians 13:2-8)

Live in charity and steadfast love,
live in charity, God will dwell with you.

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

Call to Worship (Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)

One: Spirit of Love, we are children of your delight.

ALL: We who are born of your love sing your praise.

One: Spirit of Love, you enfold us in your blessing.

ALL: We who are healed by your love give you thanks.

One: Spirit of Love, you flow through us into the world.

ALL: We who bear your love bless you by loving each other as we love ourselves.

One: Come, Spirit of Love, gather us up again in your love.

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us" (UMH #100, tune: John Goss / lyrics: William Boyd Grove – adapted)

God, whose love is reigning o'er us,
source of all, the ending true;
hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:
Alleluia, Alleluia, worship ancient, worship new.

Word of God from nature bringing
springtime green and autumn gold;
mountain streams like children singing,
ocean waves like thunder bold:
Alleluia, Alleluia, as creation's tale is told.

Holy God of ancient glory,
(showing us what love can do);
Abram's faith and Sarah's story
formed a people bound to you.
Alleluia, Alleluia, to your covenant keep us true.

Covenant, new again in Jesus,
Starchild born to set us free;
sent to heal us, sent to teach us
how love's children we might be.
Alleluia, Alleluia, risen Christ, (help us to see)!

Lift we then our human voices
in the songs that faith would bring;
live we then in human choices
lives that, like our music sing:
Alleluia, Alleluia, joined in love our praises ring!

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(John W. Howell – adapted)*

O God, we come with songs aching to be sung, with
words aching to be spoken, with questions aching to be
answered, with feelings aching to be expressed, with
hearts aching to love, with arms aching for embracing.
We come with wounds aching to be healed, with
emptiness aching to be filled, with joy aching to overflow.

Let your love soak into the spirit and the skin like soothing
salve, and leave a tingle where once there was an ache.

Let your love so fill our hearts, our minds, our souls, our bodies, that our lives cannot help but reflect your love in the world. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 1:1-3 (*Stephen Mitchell – adapted*)

Blessed are (those) who have grown beyond their greed and have put an end to their hatred and no longer nourish illusions. **2** But they delight in the way things are and keep their hearts open, day and night. **3** They are like trees planted near flowing rivers, which bear fruit when they are ready. Their leaves will not fall or wither. Everything they do will succeed.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, **35** and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

36 "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" **37** He said to him, "'You shall love the Holy One your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' **38** This is the greatest and first commandment. **39** And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' **40** On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "The Answer to Every Question"

Song: "Let Our Vocation Be Love" (*tune: Randall Sensmeier / lyrics: David Bjorlin*)

Let our vocation be love,
love for our Source and our Goal,
the God who has named us, called us and claimed us,
love that makes brokenness whole,
love that makes brokenness whole.

Let our vocation be love,
love for both strangers and friends,
the neighbor who greets us, foe who defeats us;
love that receives those God sends,
love that receives those God sends.

Let our vocation be love,
love for the world God has made,
the earth that protects us, feeds and connects us,
love in creation displayed,
love in creation displayed.

Let our vocation be love,
love beyond border or wall,
the love that now wakes us, mends and remakes us,
love that encompasses all,
love that encompasses all.

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: "This Little Light of Mine" (AAHH #549, African American spiritual)

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

Hide it under a bushel, no! ...
Everywhere I go ...
All through the night ...

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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