

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Why are you cast down,
O my soul, and why are you
disquieted within me?”*

- Psalm 42:5a

November 10, 2024

25th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Native American Heritage Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Resilient" (*Rising Appalachia*)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Fall/Winter Bible Study:** Gospels of Matthew & Luke
 - Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 pm (Nov 20 – Dec 18)
 - allmeansall.org/bible-studies
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up, or with questions
- **Save the date for our Spring Retreat**
 - May 16-17, 2025 (location TBD)
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, Nov 10, 12:45-2 pm (following worship): 2nd

Sunday Potluck (*monthly*)

Monday, Nov 11, 6:30-7:30 pm: Beginner Yoga (*weekly, through Nov 18*)

- Calvary (chapel) – please use 48th St entrance
- allmeansall.org/yoga

Tuesday, Nov 12

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **7:30 pm:** Trustees

Thursday, Nov 14, 7-8:30 pm: POWER West/Southwest Cluster (*monthly - 2nd Thursdays*)

- contact Pastor Tim for details and/or to get involved with Calvary's POWER Team

Sunday, Nov 17, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship

Saturday, Dec 7, 10 am-3 pm: Holiday Rummage Sale & Bazaar

- volunteers and donations (sale items and baked goods) needed
- contact Shakirah to sign up or coordinate drop-off (or just bring on Sundays): office@allmeansall.org

Sunday, Dec 22, time TBA: Calvary Christmas Benefit Concert

- featuring Greg Scott and friends!

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.

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In

Singing Our Way In: "As the Deer" (TFWS #2025, Martin J. Nystrom)

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.

Call to Worship (Tim Graves – adapted)

One: Out of a world of cut-throat competition, of winners and losers, and so many left behind, we come together.

ALL: The world's ways are not God's ways. The world's ways are not our ways.

One: Out of a world of hatred, violence, individualism and life-taking power, we gather as *koinonia*, as God's beloved.

ALL: God's ways are inclusive, expansive and life-giving for all.

One: Come and worship the One whose love knows no limits. Swim and splash in the cleansing waters of divine community. Resurrect your spirits and souls in worship of the One who is the very source of life.

ALL: Praise be to the Everlasting One! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Womb of Life" (TFWS #2046, alternate tune: UMH #196 / lyrics: Ruth Duck)

Womb of life, and source of being,
home of every restless heart,
in your arms the world's awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather 'round you,
at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter,
we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of Life, and Death of Death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us,
send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us;
be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us
whose we are, what we intend.
Labor with us, aid the birthing
of the new world yet to be,

free of servant, lord, and master,
free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, Holy Partner,
Father, Spirit, Only Son:

We would praise your name forever,
One in three, and three in one.

We would share your life, your passion,
share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising,
one with all, and one with you.

Holy Baptism / The Baptismal Covenant

Introduction

Presentation of Candidate

- Chioma Victoria Nwaogwegbe

Profession of Faith

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Baptism

Commendation and Welcome

Congregational Response

We give thanks for all that God has already given you, Chioma, and we welcome you in love. We will so order our lives after the example of Jesus, that surrounded by steadfast love, your faith may be increased, your hope confirmed, and your love perfected in the way that leads to life abundant and eternal.

And as members together with you in the universal body of Christ, the family of God, we renew our covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church and of this congregation, by our prayers, our presence, our gifts of time, talent and tithe, and our service, that all may know life abundant and eternal.

Stewardship Moment

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

– 2 Corinthians 9:7

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Paul Kipnes – adapted)*

God of Liberation, there was that moment at the Red Sea, when your people despaired like never before. Looking behind, they saw an enemy coming for them. Looking ahead, the waters seemed ready to swallow them up. To stand still was not an option.

We pray, our God and God of our ancestors, when our nation is divided, when our people are afraid, when our children are confused, when we ourselves are unsure about how to move forward. Grant us, like Nachshon, the courage to face our fears and walk forward into the unknown; like Miriam, the insight to find the hidden waters in the wilderness to quench our thirst; like Solomon, the wisdom to decide wisely as we face difficult questions in the days and months ahead; like the prophet Nathan, the faith to speak truth to power, demanding as he did from King David, truth and justice, compassion and kindness.

And may we lie down in peace and rise up each tomorrow refreshed and renewed, prepared still—and again—to work toward blessing for all. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. **2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? **3** My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?" **4** These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. **5** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise God, my help **6** and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. **7** Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. **8** By day God commands God's steadfast love, and at night God's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. **9** I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?" **10** As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?" **11** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise God, my help and my God.

Choral Alleluia *(UMH #186, Jerry Sinclair)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Poem: "Kindness" *(Naomi Shihab Nye)*

Before you know what kindness really is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.
What you held in your hand,

what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be
between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop,
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness,
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
You must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.
Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day to mail letters and
purchase bread,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
It is I you have been looking for,
and then goes with you everywhere
like a shadow or a friend.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, alleluia. *(repeat)*

Holding Space for Grieving and Restoration

Song: "Spirit of God" (TFWS #2117, Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)

Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
glow as you always do; create us anew.

Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come! (2x)

Spirit of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and love,
healing upon your wings for all living things.

For when we live your peace, captives will find release,
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come! (2x)

Spirit of God, bright Hands, even in far-off lands
you hold all the human race in one warm embrace.

No matter where we go, you hold us together so,
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come! (2x)

Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,
the power to heal, to share your love everywhere.

(Though we may fail and fall, we know that we are all)
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come! (2x)

Spirit of God, in all, we gladly hear your call,
the life in our hands that sings, the power of your wings.

Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eyes,
held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come! (2x)

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

Sung Response (tune: TFWS #2128, B.F. White / lyrics: John Pritchard)

Source of life and love o'erflowing,
gather all the cares we bring.
Hold our tears and hold our longing
for a world where all can sing.
Stir in us as hope resilient;
breathe in us as life renewed.
Bind our hearts in sure rejoicing
in a world we share with you.

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: "Pool of Love" (Alexa Sunshine Rose, Murray Kyle)

May the pool of love we have gathered here
Spread its wings and fly far and near
From the depths of our hearts to the farthest star
May our love bless everyone

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

