

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Wisdom is radiant and unfading, ...
and is found by those who seek her.”*

- Wisdom 6:12

November 12, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Native American Heritage Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Keep Your Lamp Trimmed and Burning"
(Blind Willie Johnson)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

• Advent @ Calvary

- **Bible Study:** Liberation & The Birth of Jesus
 - Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am (Dec 3-17)
 - allmeansall.org/bible-study

○ **Online Advent Retreat – Spiritual Reflection Group**

- Sundays, 8-9 pm (Dec 3-17, Jan 7)
- allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

• 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

• Previous sermons: allmeansall.org/sermons

• Previous bulletins: allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, 1-2ish pm: 2nd Sunday Potluck – Thanksgiving Edition

Monday, Nov 13, 7:45-8:45 pm: Adult Ed Book Study

Tuesday, Nov 14

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

Wednesday, Nov 15, 6:30 pm: CCCC Transition Team

Thursday, Nov 16, 6:30 pm: Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Sunday, Nov 19

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **4-6 pm:** Confirmation Class

Tuesday, Nov 21, 7 pm: Finance Committee

Sunday, Nov 26, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship

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: "Come, All You People (Uyai Mose)"
(TFWS #2274, Alexander Gondo – adapted)

U – ya - i mo - se, ti – na – ma - te Mwa - ri. (3x)
U – ya - i mo - se zvi - no.

Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker. (3x)
Come now and worship (our God).

Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit. (3x)
Come now and worship our God.

Call to Worship (Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)

One: Light of our nights, you rise among us.

ALL: We waken to your glory, and we praise you.

One: Light of our lives, you illumine our way.

ALL: We follow your radiance, and we thank you.

One: Light of our souls, you shine within us.

ALL: Alleluia!

One: We open our hearts to your presence, to your wisdom, to your light,

ALL: that we may radiate your presence, your wisdom, your light, and walk in your way of love. Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Now Thank We All Our God" (UMH #102, tune: Johann Crüger / lyrics: Martin Rinkhart – adapted)

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed space to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace,
and guide us when perplexed;
(be with us through) all ills,
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God,
(Creator), now be given;
(whose love and life spring forth,
on earth as is in heaven);
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

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 Radiant Wisdom, we look and listen and long for you. We wait for you. Fill us with the oil of hope and attentiveness so that we may have light enough to see you when you are near; so that we may enter into the joy of your life-giving presence; so that we may feast at your earthly-as-heavenly banquet; so that we may bear your radiant light and love in the world. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Wisdom 6:12-20

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. **13** She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. **14** One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. **15** To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, **16** because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought. **17** The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her, **18** and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality, **19** and immortality brings one near to God; **20** so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. **2** Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. **3** When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; **4** but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. **5** As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. **6** But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' **7** Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. **8** The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' **9** But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' **10** And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. **11** Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' **12** But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' **13** Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Wisdom's Light"

Song: "Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom" (*tune: UMH #626, French carol / lyrics: Ruth Duck – adapted*)

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced, when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are (light and truth).
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, (life) and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
(peace) and righteousness embrace.
Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response *(tune: UMH #145 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

Hear us, Creator. Hear us, O Lover.
Hear us, O Spirit moving within.
Hear all our longing; hear all our sorrow.
Hear every joy and praise that we bring.

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: “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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