

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Pilate asked him, ‘So you are
a king?’ Jesus answered,
‘You say that I am a king.’”*

- John 18:37a

November 24, 2024

27th Sunday after Pentecost

Reign of Christ Sunday

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Native American Heritage Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "How I Long for Peace" (*Peggy Seeger / perf. by Rhiannon Giddens, Resistance Revival Chorus, Crys Matthews*)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Last call for Story Circles:** allmeansall.org/story-circles
 - contact Amy to sign up, or with questions: aemmettrardin@gmail.com
- **Advent & Christmas at Calvary:** allmeansall.org/advent
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Tuesday, Nov 26, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (*virtual / weekly*)

- allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer

Sunday, Dec 1

- **9:15-10:15 am:** Bible Study – Matthew & Luke (*hybrid / weekly, through Dec 22*)
 - Calvary (office) if joining in person
 - allmeansall.org/bible-studies
- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (*Communion / 1st Sunday of Advent*)
 - guest preacher: Cara Blouin
 - hanging of the greens and decorating Christmas tree
- **8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (*virtual / weekly, through Dec 22*)
 - allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Monday, Dec 2, 6:30-7:30 pm: Beginner Yoga (*weekly, through Dec 23*)

- Calvary (chapel)
- allmeansall.org/yoga

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 8, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship (2nd Sunday of Advent)

Thursday, Dec 12, 8-9ish pm: Spirituality on Tap
(rescheduled this month only / monthly – 1st Thursdays)

- Carbon Copy / 701 S. 50th St
- allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap

Sunday, Dec 15

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (3rd Sunday of Advent)
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck – Christmas Party
 - featuring white elephant gift exchange
 - allmeansall.org/potlucks
- **6:30 pm:** Calvary Christmas Benefit Concert (presented by Big Push)
 - allmeansall.org/concert

Saturday, Dec 21, 7-8 pm: Blue Christmas Service (hybrid)

- allmeansall.org/blue

Sunday, Dec 22, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship (4th Sunday of Advent)

Tuesday, Dec 24, 7 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols (hybrid)

- allmeansall.org/christmas

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: "The Kingdom of God" (*Taizé Community – adapted*)

The (kindom) of God is justice and peace,
and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Come, (God), and open in us
the gates of your (kindom).

Call to Worship (*Beth Merrill Neel*)

One: Children of God: welcome!

ALL: Welcome to this place of love and grace.

One: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

ALL: God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community.

One: God invites all of us to share in the good news:

ALL: We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

One: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Alleluia! Hear God's Story" (*tune: UMH #150, William Moore / lyrics: Mary Anne Parrott*)

Alleluia! Hear God's story,
still unfolding with each dawn.

Taste the wine and body broken:

God's creative love lives on.

Who the neighbor? Who the hungry?

Who is thirsty for shalom?

God of journey, in your story;

lead us, with the neighbor, home.

Alleluia! Sing the story;

God's great faithfulness proclaim.

Tell of prophets and apostles;

sing the power of Jesus' name.

Who the neighbor? Who the listener?

Who has ears to hear our song?
God of history, tune our voices,
make our hopeful witness strong.

Alleluia! Dance the story;
every sinew now engage.
Tethered close in truthful worship,
boldly face the coming age.
Who the neighbor? Who the watchful?
Who will welcome life's embrace?
God of gospel, tell the story
through our dancing of your grace.

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 *(John van de Laar – adapted)*

O God, Sovereign of all, we need your wisdom and compassion to flood the corridors of power in our world. May your kingdom come. We need creativity and courage to guide and uplift the least in our world. May your kingdom come. We need your mercy and peace to still the conflict and hatred in our world. May your kingdom come. We need your healing and life to bring wholeness to the broken and diseased in our world. May your kingdom come, and may your will indeed be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 126

When the HOLY ONE restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. **2** Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The HOLY ONE has done great things for them." **3** The HOLY ONE has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. **4** Restore our fortunes, O HOLY ONE, like the watercourses in the Negeb. **5** May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. **6** Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

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

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

Scripture Lesson: John 18:33-38

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Judeans?" **34** Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" **35** Pilate replied, "I am not Jewish, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" **36** Jesus answered, "My realm does not belong to this world. If my realm belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Judeans. But as it is, my realm is not from here." **37** Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." **38** Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

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)*

Sermon: "The Anti-King"

Song: "O Sovereign Love" (*tune: UMH #57, Carl G. Gläser, arr. by Lowell Mason / lyrics: Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted*)

O Sovereign Love, my root, my sun,
my purpose and my peace,
I spurn the world's vain, anxious rule,
and trust your law of grace.

Beloved, you who guard and guide
and give for every need,
reign in my heart, O Sovereign Christ;
direct each thought and deed.

The empire of your justice, God,
with mercy's clear command,
shall be my home; my loyalty
is to no lesser land.

In humble and obedient thanks
I pledge my life to you,
to join your work of justice, God,
to make the world anew.

Reign in my heart, O (God), my Rule.
In faith I am compelled
to serve you, who by love alone,
have (nurtured) all the world.

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: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"
(TFWS #2153, African American spiritual – adapted)

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere ... anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me,
anywhere ... anytime!

I'm gonna work so ...

I'm gonna pray so ...

I'm gonna sing so ...

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

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(in case of pastoral emergency: 215.370.7411)

Norris Person (accompanist): music@allmeansall.org