

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Therefore, since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...
let us run with perseverance the
race that is set before us ...”*

- Hebrews 12:1

November 5, 2023

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints' Sunday

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Native American Heritage Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Sacred Ground" (*Native Spirit*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Advent Bible Study:** Liberation & The Birth of Jesus
 - Sundays, Dec 3 – Dec 17, 9:30-10:30 am
 - allmeansall.org/bible-study
- **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, 1-5 pm: PA Interfaith Power & Light Annual Conference – No Faith in Fossil Fuels

- tinyurl.com/no-faith-fossil

Monday, Nov 6, 7:45-8:45 pm: Adult Ed Book Study

Tuesday, Nov 7: Election Day

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

Wednesday, Nov 8, 7 pm: CCCC Transition Meeting

Saturday, Nov 11, 10 am-5 pm: Fall Retreat

- Cranaleith Spiritual Center (NE Philly)

Sunday, Nov 12

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **1-2ish pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck – Thanksgiving Edition
 - please bring a dish/drinks to share if you can

Sunday, Nov 19

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

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

Naming & Welcoming Our Saints

Singing Our Way In: "Heaven and Earth Are Filled"

(Christopher Grundy)

Heaven and earth are filled with the light of the saints who have gone on before us, shining around us still as we're running this race, grateful our path is lit for us.

Call to Worship *(from Seasons Online – adapted)*

One: In all our weakness and strength, with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

One: Strong in faith and eager with questions, singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

One: Filled with saintly determination, yet mindful of our human limitations,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

One: Made strong in your endless love for us, we know ourselves to be yours and so

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

One: May we truly become your people, witnesses to your life-giving light and love,

**ALL: following the way of all the saints – in flesh and in spirit – who have shown us what it is to be your people.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Opening Song: "Give Thanks for Life" (*tune: UMH #711, Ralph Vaughan Williams / lyrics: Shirley Erena Murray*)

Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give thanks for those who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And for our own, our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain
that lies in darkness does its life retain
in resurrection to grow green again,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer (*Jon Humphries – adapted*)

This day, O God, we remember. We remember those

who have come before. Those known and unknown. Those imperfect vessels who, like us, sought to embody your grace and love. Those who received and carried tradition, and in turn passed it on to us.

May we live like them as faithful disciples, inspired by their example, receiving their wisdom, learning from their mistakes, and seeking to work with you to build the communion of the commonwealth of your love. So hallowed be your name and Spirit – just as it was at times in them, so may it be in us. This we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 34 (*Stephen Mitchell – adapted*)

I will bless you, O God, at all times; my lips will sing out your praise. I will thank you for the love you have shown me, and the clarity that gladdens my heart.

Sing out with me and give thanks to the Holy One; be grateful for all God's gifts. Turn to God; let your soul feel the Presence; O taste and see that God is good; happy are those who trust in the Holy One. You who desire true life and wish to walk on God's path: depart from evil and do good; and seek peace with all your soul.

O God, you are near to the brokenhearted; when their spirits are crushed, you are with them. And though they undergo many hardships, you fill them with blessings in the end.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: **3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. **5** Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. **6** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. **7** Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. **8** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. **9** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. **10** Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Gathering the Light & Blessing of Our Saints

Song: "Heaven and Earth Are Filled" (*Christopher Grundy*)

Heaven and earth are filled with the light of the saints who have gone on before us, shining around us still as we're running this race, grateful our path is lit for us.

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.

Communion / The Great Thanksgiving *(Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)*

One: God is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift our hearts to God and to each other.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Realm of God.

ALL: We are poor beggars, O God. Feed us with you grace.

One: Blessed are the broken-hearted, for you hold them close.

ALL: In this broken bread, hold us and comfort us.

One: Blessed are the gentle, for you give them all of life.

ALL: Nourish us with Christ's tender love, that we, too may be gentle.

One: Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for deeper love.

ALL: Satisfy us with your love; and deepen our hunger and thirst for you.

One: You call us as your saints, O God, and show us the way in Jesus. You have given us saints who shine for us with the way of love, who in your Spirit gather with us even now. Therefore we join our praise together with this great cloud of witnesses, with the company of heaven, and indeed, with all Creation:

ALL SING *(TFWS #2257-b, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal – adapted)*

**Holy, holy, holy (One); God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest! *(3x)*

Blest is the one who comes in the name of (our God).

Hosanna in the highest! *(3x)*

One: Blessed are those who are pure in love, for they shall see God.

ALL: In this meal fill us with the love of Christ for all the world.

One: Blessed are those who bring reconciliation, for they are God's beloved children.

ALL: In this meal we are made one, all of us saints and sinners, at peace with you and with one another.

One: Blessed are those whom the world scorns, for God is present with them. On the night he was arrested ...

Strengthen us now, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-c, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal):
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest!** (3x)

One: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts, O God, and on all of us gathered. Transform these ordinary elements into the sacred gift of your presence with us once again. In this sharing of bread and cup, may our hearts and our lives be transformed by the love it represents – that we may be united with the communion of saints in faithful witness to your love in the world:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-d, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: UM Hymnal):
**Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest!** (3x)

Sung Response: "Eat This Bread" (UMH #628, tune: Robert Batastini & Taizé Community / lyrics: Jacques Berthier)

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "When the Saints Go Marching In" (AAHH #595, African American spiritual / intro and bridge: The Weavers)

**We are trave'ling in the footsteps
of those who've gone before.**

But we'll all be reunited on a new and sunlit shore.

○ when the saints go marching in,
○ when the saints go marching in,
○ Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.

○ when the sun refused to shine ...

○ On that hallelujah day ...

○ when the trumpet sounds the call ...

**Some say this world of trouble is the only one we need.
But I'm waiting for that morning
when the new world is revealed.**

○ when the new world is revealed ...

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Go Now in Peace" (UMH #665, Natalie Sleeth)

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Calvary United Methodist Church

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