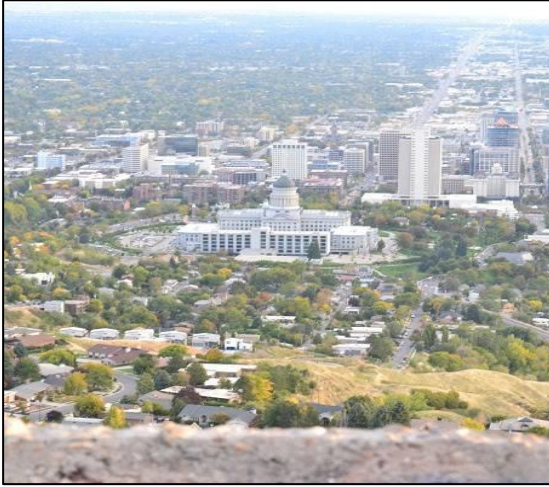


Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“As they were coming down
the mountain ...”*

- Mark 9:9a

February 11, 2024

*Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Transfiguration Sunday*

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Black History Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free" (*Dick Dallas & Billy Taylor / perf. by John Legend, with poetry by Reyes*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Lenten Prayer Chain:** allmeansall.org/lent
- **Worship Timing Poll:** tinyurl.com/worship-timing-poll
- **Community Projects:** Harrington Elementary School, Grace Cafe, Sankofa Community Farm
 - allmeansall.org/community-projects
- **Spring Retreat at Pendle Hill:** June 7-8 (9)
 - allmeansall.org/retreats
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, Feb 11

- **1-2ish pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck
- **8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (*weekly, through Mar 24*)
 - allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Monday, Feb 12, 8-9 pm: Book Study – Poverty, by America (*weekly, through Feb 19*)

Tuesday, Feb 13

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

Wednesday, Feb 14: Ash Wednesday

- **7 pm:** Service of Ashes (*hybrid*)
 - allmeansall.org/lent

Saturday, Feb 17, 3 pm: Homegoing Service for Duke Campbell (*hybrid*)

- to connect virtually: allmeansall.org/duke

Sunday, Feb 18, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship

Monday, Feb 19, 11:30 am-4 pm: Roadmap to Justice – POWER Interfaith Convention (*statewide*)

- East Norriton (buses provided)
- contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary

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

Singing Our Way In: "The Breath of God" (*Rickie Byars*)

The breath of God is breathing me,
and resting in the breath of God,
I know that all is well.

The grace of God is grace in me ...

The peace of God is peace in me ...

The love of God is love in me ...

Call to Worship (*Steve Garnaas-Holmes, based on Psalm 50:1-6*)

One: The Life-giving One, God the Holy One, speaks.

ALL: God calls the earth into being from the rising of the sun to its setting.

One: From the beauty at the heart of all things God shines forth.

ALL: Our God comes and does not keep silence,

One: radiating glory that consumes everything,

ALL: a storm of beauty that leaves nothing untouched.

One: God calls all Creation to awareness,

ALL: for God sees what we do not.

One: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by giving their hearts!"

ALL: The heavens beam with God's presence, for God sees everything as it truly is. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (*UMH #519 / tune: J. Rosamond Johnson / lyrics: James Weldon Johnson*)

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;

let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us;

sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered,

out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Roddy Hamilton – adapted)*

May we give way to glory, O God. May we let the light tangle with our lives that we may see what you see in us and in each other. May we see what you see: a love born in eternity that finds a home in our souls and longs to stay there. May we see what you see: a vision that brings past and future into one meeting place and offers it all as present. May we see what you see: a wisdom born of generations, where time nurtures the longings of those who have gone before us – wondering if this will be the generation that breaks them open.

May we give way to glory, and dare its splendor to rekindle our faith and transfigure our lives. And so to transfigure the world. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the HOLY ONE was about to take Elijah up to

heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. **2** Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the HOLY ONE has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the HOLY ONE lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

3 The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the HOLY ONE will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." **4** Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the HOLY ONE has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the HOLY ONE lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho.

5 The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the HOLY ONE will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." **6** Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the HOLY ONE has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the HOLY ONE lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. **7** Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. **8** Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. **9** When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." **10** He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not."

11 As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. **12** Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see

him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

Scripture Lesson: Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, **3** and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. **4** And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. **5** Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." **6** He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. **7** Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" **8** Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. **9** As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Humanity had risen from the dead.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Back Down the Mountain"

Song: "Mountains and Valleys" *(tune: UMH #578, Joachim Neander / lyrics: Helen Wiltshire)*

Stand upon a mountain peak;
hear the gravid stillness speak;
watch the golden dawn awake;
think of journeys love may take;
pause to breathe the misty air;
see God's glory dwelling there.

Hear the words of blessing fall;
sense a presence, touching all;
feel joy stirring deep within;
see transfigured life begin;
pause to breathe a thankful prayer;
see God's glory dwelling there.

Gaze upon the world below;
hear the cries of human woe;
take the path to valleys deep;
share the grief of all who weep;
pause to offer love and care;
see God's glory dwelling there.

Live with mindfulness and grace;
name each vale as sacred space;
share the warmth of love divine;
see shekhinah's* beauty shine;
love the complex world we share;
know God's glory dwelling there.

* *transliteration from Hebrew: presence of God in the world*

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

"Thanks be to God" or "God, hear our prayer"

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: "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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Norris Person (accompanist): music@allmeansall.org