

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"If I speak in the tongues of humans
and of angels but do not have love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."
- 1 Corinthians 13:1*

February 2, 2025

4th Sunday after the Epiphany

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Black History Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Good Noise" (*John Gorka*)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Upcoming Book Studies:** allmeansall.org/book-studies
 - *The Talking Book: African Americans and the Bible*
 - timing TBD; contact Pastor Tim if you're interested in any or all, or with any questions
- **Spring Retreat:** May 16-17, 2025 (*location TBD*)
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, Feb 2, 12:30-1:30 pm: Congregational Meeting
(*hybrid*)

Monday, Feb 3, 6:30-7:30 pm: Yoga (*weekly*)

- Chapel – 48th St entrance
- allmeansall.org/yoga

Wednesday, Feb 5, 10-11 am: Yoga (*weekly*)

- see Feb 3 for details

Thursday, Feb 6, 8-9ish pm: Spirituality on Tap (*monthly – 1st Thursdays*)

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

Saturday, Feb 8

- **1 pm:** Meditation (*weekly*)
 - Calvary (Board Room, upstairs on Baltimore Ave side) – 48th St entrance
 - witnessandintegrate@gmail.com
- **7 pm:** Shirley Chisolm – Unbossed & Unbowed, A One-Woman Show (*Curio Theatre Company*)
 - Calvary (Chapel) – Baltimore Ave entrance
 - tinyurl.com/shirley-chisolm

Sunday, Feb 9

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck (*monthly*)
 - allmeansall.org/2nd-sunday-potluck

Tuesday, Feb 11, 3:30 pm: Trustees (*monthly – 2nd Tuesdays*)

Thursday, Feb 13, 7 pm: POWER Interfaith West/Southwest Cluster (*monthly – 2nd Thursdays*)

- contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary, or to get involved with our POWER Interfaith Team

Sunday, Feb 16

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **12:30-1:30 pm:** Congregational Meeting (*hybrid*)
 - to connect virtually: allmeansall.org/virtual

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.

Donations

Donations are always welcome to help support Calvary and our evolving ministries: allmeansall.org/donate.

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In

Singing Our Way In: "Over My Head" (TFWS #2148, African American spiritual)

*Over my head, I hear music in the air;
over my head, I hear music in the air;
over my head, I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere.*

Oh, when the world is silent, I hear music in the air; (3x)
there must be a God somewhere. (*refrain*)

And when I'm feeling lonely, I hear music in the air; (3x)
there must be a God somewhere. (*refrain*)

Call to Worship (*Evangelical Church in America – adapted*)

One: Celebration rises, up from the deep places, the
deepest places,

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

One: Celebration rises, with gratitude for the strength, the
love, the vitality, the joy, the vision of lives past and
present.

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

One: Celebration rises, though not blind to the suffering,
the sorrow, the struggle along the way.

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

One: Celebration rises, remembering the way we have
come, the paths taken that have brought us here to this
place and time of celebration. Celebration rises, up
and up, full of remembering and resilience.

**ALL: yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?**

One: Celebration rises, recognizing what has been done
and left undone, knowing there is still and yet much to
do, so much further to go. Celebration rises, naming the
victories, recognizing the challenges yet ahead.

Celebration rises on voices offering unfinished praise.

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

One: Celebration rises, resisting illusions, to be embraced
by the real and abiding presence of God who breaks all
of our chains, and sets us free for freedom, in power and
love and joy.

**ALL: sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us;**

One: Celebration rises, with the power of healing, reconciliation, restoration, reparation. Celebration rises with the promise to endure. Celebration rises, knowing that beneath the shadow of God's hand, the fullness of my humanity does not diminish yours, and the fullness of your humanity does not diminish mine.

ALL: facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won. 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

*"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 (*Howard Thurman – adapted*)

Open unto us, light for our darkness. Open unto us,
courage for our fear. Open unto us, hope for our despair.
Open unto us, peace for our turmoil. Open unto us, joy for
our sorrow. Open unto us, strength for our weakness.
Open unto us, wisdom for our confusion. Open unto us,
forgiveness for our sins. Open unto us, tenderness for our
toughness. Open unto us, love for our hates. Open unto
us, yourself for ourselves. God, God, open unto us! Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 71:1-5

In you, O HOLY ONE, I take refuge; let me never be put to
shame. **2** In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me. **3** Be to me a rock of
refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock
and my fortress. **4** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand
of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
5 For you, O God, are my hope, my trust, O HOLY ONE,
from my youth.

Choral Alleluia (UMH #186, Jerry Sinclair)

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

Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant **5** or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; **6** it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. **8** Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part,

10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come

to an end. **11** When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I

became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. **12** For

now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we

will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will

know fully, even as I have been fully known. **13** And now

faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the

greatest of these is love.

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: "Good Noise"

Song: "Let Our Vocation Be Love" *(tune: Randall Sensmeier / lyrics: David Bjorlin)*

Let our vocation be love,
love for our Source and our Goal,
the God who has named us and claimed us,
love that makes brokenness whole,
love that makes brokenness whole.

Let our vocation be love,
love for both strangers and friends,
the neighbor who greets us, foe who defeats us;
love that receives those God sends,
love that receives those God sends.

Let our vocation be love,
love for the world God has made,
the earth that protects us, feeds and connects us,
love in creation displayed,
love in creation displayed.

Let our vocation be love,
love beyond border or wall,
the love that now makes us, mends and remakes us,
love that encompasses all,
love that encompasses all.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

Sung Response *(tune: UMH #408, trad. English / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O Open Arms, now hold our cares,
the aches we've named, the joys we've shared.

And hold us, too; into us breathe –
your grace, your life, let us receive.

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 them up to God and to each other.

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

ALL: It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.

One: God of love and liberation, we give you thanks, for you create the world as a flowering of your goodness. You set free the oppressed and heal the broken. You walk with us in new directions—healed, made new, and full of your light. Your mercy flows freely, and we open ourselves to its life-giving light. We hunger for your grace, and feast on your generosity. Therefore with all Creation, we join in singing your praise:

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

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 all who come in your name, and blessed is Jesus, your Christ. He healed people's bodies and souls, offering wholeness. He restored relationships and communities. He confronted inequity and injustice, and in retaliation the powers of evil crucified him. But in love you raised him from the dead, healing life itself, faithful to your covenant that we may have life, and have it abundantly.

On the night ... And so we remember. As often as we break the bread and share the cup, we remember. We

taste the same Spirit, we feast on the same promise, and renew our commitment to follow the same path, proclaiming the mystery at the heart 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 of bread and cup, tangible symbols for us of Jesus' body, Jesus' life, given in love, for love. Pour out your Spirit on us gathered, in person and virtually, that we may be for the world your body, O God—given in love, for love. As we share again this sacred meal, renew us as your people, inspire us toward your purpose, and enliven us with your power. By your Spirit, make us one with you, one with each other as with ourselves, and one in your covenantal work of restoring life—until all share in its fullness. With all Creation we await that time, and we praise your name:

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 **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

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