

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“And we are born and born again /  
Like waves of the sea”*

**- Paul Simon**

**March 1, 2026**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent*

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Women's History Month

*Lenten Landscapes: From Death Valleys to Green Pastures*

*Service of Healing & New Life*

## **GATHERING**

**Gathering Song:** "Señorita with a Necklace of Tears" (*Paul Simon*)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### • **Visiting with us?**

- We're glad you're here! We strive to make our worship space—in-person and virtual—as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact Pastor Tim.

### • **Congregational giving** (*rounded*)

- Feb 16-22: \$881 / weekly budget: \$1,635
- Red Basket, Feb 15-22 (POWER Interfaith): \$49
- White Basket, Feb 22 (emergency needs): \$27

### • **Red Basket offering through Mar 8:** POWER Interfaith

- [allmeansall.org/racial-economic-justice](http://allmeansall.org/racial-economic-justice)
- [allmeansall.org/donate](http://allmeansall.org/donate)

### • **Lenten Prayer Chain:** [allmeansall.org/lent](http://allmeansall.org/lent)

### • **Previous sermons:** [allmeansall.org/sermons](http://allmeansall.org/sermons)

### • **Previous bulletins:** [allmeansall.org/bulletins](http://allmeansall.org/bulletins)

## Calendar

**Today, Mar 1, 8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (*weekly, through Mar 29*)

- [allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group](http://allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group)

**Monday, Mar 2, 6:15-7:15 pm:** Yoga (*weekly*)

- Chapel – 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
- [allmeansall.org/yoga](http://allmeansall.org/yoga)

**Tuesday, Mar 3, 3 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)

- [allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer](http://allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer)

## Wednesday, Mar 4

- **10-11 am:** Yoga (weekly)
  - see Mar 2 for details
- **12 pm:** Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Immigrant Justice (weekly / New Sanctuary Movement)
  - Philadelphia ICE Office / 114 N 8th St
  - contact Pastor Tim to get involved with our NSM Team
- **7-8ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap (monthly – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays)
  - Dahlak / 4708 Baltimore Ave
  - [allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap](http://allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap)

## Sunday, Mar 8

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent)
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck
  - [allmeansall.org/2nd-sunday-potluck](http://allmeansall.org/2nd-sunday-potluck)

**Tuesday, Mar 10, 5:30 pm:** Trustees (bimonthly – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays)

**Sunday, Mar 15, 11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)

- guest preacher: Cara Blouin

**Tuesday, Mar 17, 3 pm:** Finance Committee (bimonthly – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays)

## Thursday, Mar 19

- **7 pm:** POWER Interfaith West/Southwest Cluster (monthly - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays)
  - contact Mimi for details, or to get involved with our POWER Team: [rmijima@gmail.com](mailto:rmijima@gmail.com)
- **7-8:30 pm:** Grief Support Group (monthly)
  - [allmeansall.org/grief-support-group](http://allmeansall.org/grief-support-group)

**Saturday, Mar 21, 10 am-12 pm:** Calvary Garden Workday (monthly – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays)

- join us for monthly workdays to prepare our planned pollinator garden at 48<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore
- contact Sparrow to sign up, with questions, or to get involved with our Green Team:  
[sprrwfrancis@gmail.com](mailto:sprrwfrancis@gmail.com)

**Sunday, Mar 22, 11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (5<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday in Lent)

- guest preacher: Lesley Curtis

## **CENTERING & CONNECTING**

### **Breathing Our Way In**

**Singing Our Way In:** "Return to Me" (*Rickie Byars*)

Return to me, return to me

With every breath, return

End and begin with me

With every breath, return

Return to love ...

Return to peace ...

**Call to Worship** (*Liz Testa – adapted*)

One: We gather in the company of women—cis and trans alike—who have gone before, mothers and sisters of the faith.

**ALL: Mothering and sistering God, we give you thanks.**

One: We gather in the company of women who have testified and are still testifying with ferocity and faith to the spirit of wisdom and love. They are the judges, prophets, warriors, poets, lovers, martyrs; they are the saints who are near to us in the shadow of awareness, in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams.

**ALL: Ferocious and faithful God, we give you thanks.**

One: We gather in the company of women who have taught and are still teaching us to resist evil with boldness, to lead with courage and strength, and to heal with kindness and compassion.

**ALL: Resisting and healing God, we give you thanks.**

One: We gather in the company of women whose names have been lost and silenced, who kept and cradled the wisdom of the ages.

**ALL: God of the ages, we gather to worship and to**

**continue our Lenten journey in company with you, and  
with mothers and sisters past and present.**

**Opening Song:** "Bless Now, O God, the Journey" (*tune: UMH #545, Samuel Sebastian Wesley / lyrics: Sylvia Dunston*)

Bless now, O God, the journey  
that all your people make,  
the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.

The trail is found in desert  
and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters  
the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
who share this winding way;  
whose hope burns through the terrors,  
whose love sustains the day.

We yearn for holy freedom  
while often we are bound.  
Together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.

Divine Eternal Lover,  
you meet us on the road.  
We wait for lands of promise  
where milk and honey flow.  
But waiting not for places,  
you meet us all around.  
Our covenant is written  
on roads, as faith is found.

### **Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

## **GROUNDING**

### **Community Prayer** *(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

Womb of God, hold us in your love. Womb of God, birth us in your love. Breath of God, live in us as love. Light of God, shine in us with love. Amen.

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Special Music:** "Many Waters" *(Aidan Selmer, inspired by Psalm 93)*

The seas have lifted up (3x)  
Their voice

Their violent waves to you

The house that you have made will not be moved

You lead us through the tide and through the tomb

*God, I hear the noise of many waters*

*God, I feel the crashing weight of mighty waves*

*God, if I could hang upon your altar*

*I know that I'd be safe (2x)*

We will lift it up (3x)

Our voice

Our endless praise to you

The house that you have made will not be moved

You lead us through the tide and through the tomb

Chorus: *God, we hear the noise of many waters ...*

Your promise sings in everything you do

You meet us in our need and lead us through

Your promise sings in everything you do

You take us to the sea and lead us through *(Chorus)*

### **Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 121 *(paraphrase by Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

I look up at these mountains I must cross. Who will help me through? Our help comes from God, who made these mountains, and knows them. God will not let your

foot slip, but will be watchful every step. The One who holds all of us close will not lose interest or get distracted. The Holy One holds you close, and is your shade in the hot sun. Neither the brutal heat nor the biting cold will hurt us in the arms of the Beloved. The Loving One will guard you from all evil, and will keep your life. God will hold in loving hands our traveling and our resting, each moment, now and always.

**Sung Response:** "Open My Eyes" (*Jesse Manibusan – adapted*)

Open my ears, (God), help me to hear your voice.  
Open my ears, (God), help me to hear.

**Scripture Lesson:** John 3:1-12

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. **2** He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." **3** Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." **4** Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" **5** Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. **6** What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' **8** The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." **9** Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" **10** Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? **11** "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our

testimony. **12** If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Sung Response:** "Open My Eyes" (*Jesse Manibusan – adapted*)

Open my ears, (God), help me to hear your voice.  
Open my ears, (God), help me to hear.

Open my heart, (God), help me to love like you.  
Open my heart, (God), help me to love.

**Lectio Divina:** John 3:1-8 – Take 2

**Silent Prayer & Reflection**

**Lectio Divina:** John 3:1-8 – Take 3

**Silent Prayer & Reflection**

**Breath Meditation / Ritual of Healing & New Life**

**Song:** "In Water We Grow" (*tune: UMH #257, Carl F. Schalk / lyrics: Brian Wren – adapted*)

In water we grow, secure in the womb,  
and speechlessly know love's safety and room.  
Baptizing and blessing we publish for good  
the freeing, caressing safekeeping of God.

In water we wash: the dirt of each day,  
its trouble and rush are carried away.  
In Christ re-created by love's cleansing art,  
(self-judgment and hate) dissolve and depart.

In water we dive, and cannot draw breath,  
then surface alive, rebounding from death.  
Our old self goes under, (new life to be found).  
We rise, washed in wonder, by love clad and crowned.

In water we dwell, for by its deep flow  
through bloodstream and cell, we live, think, and grow.  
Praise God, love outflowing, whose well of new birth  
baptizes our knowing, and waters the earth.

## **SHARING**

### **Offering Our Gifts**

[allmeansall.org/time-talent](http://allmeansall.org/time-talent) / [allmeansall.org/donate](http://allmeansall.org/donate)

*"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**



### **Prayers of the People**

"Thanks be to God" / "God hears our prayer"

### **Sung Response** (*tune: UMH #420, Robert Jackson / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

Hear us, O living God.  
Hear all we bring to you—  
each joy, each tear, each hope, each fear,  
each sigh of gratitude.

### **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: Holy Mystery, in the swirling darkness you created light. You create us as children of light. In the unknown, through the varied landscapes of Lent and beyond, you accompany us and lead us to new life. In the deep night of oppression and injustice, from the chains of our

individual and collective sin, you set us free. You call us to be born again in your love. Moment by moment, breath by breath, again and again, you birth us in love—new people, a new creation. Therefore, with all Creation, we sing your praise and join the unending hymn:

**ALL SING** (TFWS #2257-b, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: *The United Methodist 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 all who come in your name, and blessed is Jesus, your Christ, who taught and healed and fed the hungry in mind, body and spirit, so that all might know the fullness of life. Jesus is a vessel for us of abundant, eternal life, and so we come to feast on your love reflected in and through his life, his death, and his resurrection.

On the night ... And so we remember. As often as we break the bread and share the cup, we remember the life of Jesus and all that we see of you and your love in that life. We taste the same Spirit, 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: *The United Methodist 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, and on all of our bread and cups, tangible symbols for us of Jesus' body given in love, for love. Pour out your Spirit on all of us gathered here in person and virtually, that we may be for the world your body, O God, the

Body of Christ—given in love, for love. Pour out your Spirit that we might be born anew in your love, shining with the light of your love, serving others in the strength of your love.

**ALL SING** (TFWS #2257-d, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: *The United Methodist 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.

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

Celebrating 130 years at the intersection of  
48<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore / spirituality & justice

801 S. 48<sup>th</sup> 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)

Days of rest: Monday mornings, Fridays

**Beth Jemison, Bethany Weed, Cord Whitaker** (Co-Lay Leaders)  
**Lesley Curtis** (Church Council Chair)

**Annie Haviland** (Finance Committee Chair)  
**Jennine Miller** (Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair)  
**Holly Chowning** (Trustees Chair)

**For full leadership roster:** [allmeansall.org/leadership](http://allmeansall.org/leadership)

