

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from
your commandments.”
- Psalm 119:10*

March 17, 2024
5th Sunday in Lent

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Women's History Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Brand New Day" (*Ruthie Foster*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **New worship start time, beginning March 31:** 11 am
- **Spring Retreat at Pendle Hill:** June 7-8 (9)
 - allmeansall.org/retreats
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, Mar 17, 8-9 pm: Spiritual Reflection Group (*weekly, through Mar 24*)

- allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Tuesday, Mar 19

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee

Sunday, Mar 24, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship (*Palm & Passion Sunday*)

- justice-themed Stations of the Cross

Thursday, Mar 28, 7 pm: Tenebrae Vespers, with Communion (*hybrid / Maundy Thursday*)

Friday, Mar 29: Good Friday

- **12-2 pm:** Worship – Seven Last Words of Christ
 - Simpson-Fletcher UMC / 6037 Jefferson St
- **12-3 pm:** Calvary chapel open for quiet prayer and meditation
- **4 pm:** Interfaith Witness & Walk to End Gun Violence
 - Simpson-Fletcher UMC / 6037 Jefferson St

Saturday, Mar 30, 7 pm (through 7 am, Easter Sunday):
Virtual Easter Vigil

Sunday, Mar 31: Easter Sunday

- **8 am:** Easter "Sunrise" Service @ Cedar Park
- **9-10:30 am:** Potluck Brunch
- **10:15-10:45 am:** Calvary Kids Easter Egg Hunt (?)
- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship – Celebration of Liberation & New Life

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: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God / In All that Changes, God" (*tune: UMH #420, Robert Jackson / lyrics: Edwin Hatch, vv. 1-2 – adapted*); *Steve Garnaas-Holmes, vv. 3-5*)

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what (you so) love,
and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with (you) I will one will,
to do and to endure.

In all that changes, God,
all that will fail or fall,

your loving presence still abides,
and will not fade at all.

In all that changes, God,
your love is strong and sure.
Therefore we give in thanks for grace,
and trust it will endure.

Through raging storm and sea,
you are the rock that stands.
Free from all else, we give ourselves
into your loving hands.

Call to Worship *(A Sanctified Art – adapted)*

One: We believe God is love—unconditional, constant
love.

ALL: We believe this love exists for all, choosing each and every one of us, day after day, again and again and again.

One: We believe that God's love is like a river. Rivers cannot help but flow toward the sea; God's love cannot help but move toward us. We are swimming in it.

ALL: We believe that God loved first. We believe that God breathed life into dust.

One: We believe that God said, "This is good," and because we believe,

ALL: we strive to nurture hearts, and build lives, that reflect God's love. May we begin again here.

Opening Song: "How Can We Name a Love" *(UMH #111, trad. English melody / lyrics: Brian Wren – adapted)*

How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound and God is found,
hid in the common place.

If we awoke to life built on a rock of care
that asked no great reward but firm,

assured, was simply there,
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,
Love unconfined, a father kind,
a mother strong and sure.

When people share a task, and strength and skills unite
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,
that all should share, create and care,
and know that life is good.

So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet
a presence, sensed and shown at work,
at home, or in the street.

Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:
In (God) alone is Love full grown
and life and hope begun.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Pamela Hawkins – adapted)*

O God, who makes all things new: new stars, new dust,
new life; take our hearts, every hardened edge and
measured beat, and create something new in us. We
need your newness, God, the rough parts of us made
smooth; the stagnant, stirred; the stuck, freed; the unkind,
forgiven. And then, by the power of your Spirit, turn us
again toward love, and toward the new life that comes
with it. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 119:9-16

How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. **10** With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. **11** I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. **12** Blessed are you, O HOLY ONE; teach me your statutes. **13** With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. **14** I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. **15** I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways. **16** I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the HOLY ONE, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. **32** It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their partner, says the HOLY ONE. **33** But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the HOLY ONE: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **34** No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the HOLY ONE," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the HOLY ONE; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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.

Sermon: "Wholeheartedly"

Song: "Come, My Children, My Beloved" (*tune: UMH #611, Charles Villiers Stanford / lyrics: Brenton Prigge – adapted*)

Come, my children, my beloved,

find in me your journey's start;

there is much to be discovered –

let me write upon your heart!

How I long for you to know me,

know me as I truly am;

how I long to see you growing,

to be all I know you can.

Know me, children! I will grow you

as we walk my living Way;

learn from me, and I will show you

how to (treasure each new day).

Come my children, walk beside me,

let us never be apart;

learn my ways and always I'll be

writing love upon your heart.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response (*tune: UMH #175, John B. Dykes / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

O Loving Heart, O Blessed Arms, hold all we bring to you;

our hopes, our fears, our joy and tears,

our pledge your will to do.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "May You Run and Not Be Weary" (*tune & refrain: UMH #525, Charles Albert Tindley / lyrics: TFWS #2281, Paul Murakami & Handt Hanson*)

May you run and not be weary.
May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue
to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary.
May your life be filled with joy!
And may the road you travel always lead you home.

**By and by, when the morning comes,
when the saints of God are gathered home,
we'll tell the story how we've overcome,
for we'll understand it better by and by.**

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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