

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“On the next day, when they had
come down from the mountain,
a great crowd met him.”*

- Luke 9:37

March 2, 2025

*Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Transfiguration Sunday*

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Women's History Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "I Remember, I Believe" (*Sweet Honey in the Rock*)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Lent @ Calvary – Resilience & Resistance**
 - allmeansall.org/lent
- **Resistance for such a time as this**
 - Calvary justice teams (New Sanctuary Movement, POWER Interfaith, PA Interfaith Power & Light, Reconciling Ministries): allmeansall.org/love-justice
 - other opportunities: allmeansall.org/resistance
- **Spring Retreat:** May 16-17, 2025 (*location TBD*)
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

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

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

Tuesday, Mar 4

- **3 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
 - 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays: 3 pm / 2nd & 4th: 6 pm
- **7 pm:** Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Wednesday, Mar 5: Ash Wednesday (*virtual Prayer Chain begins, through Easter Sunday*)

- **10-11 am:** Yoga (*weekly*)
 - see Mar 3 for details
- **7 pm:** Service of Ashes (*hybrid*)
 - Calvary (Chapel) – 48th St entrance if joining in person
 - allmeansall.org/lent

Thursday, Mar 6

- **6:30-7:30 pm:** Book Study – *The Talking Book* (hybrid / weekly, through Mar 13)
 - Calvary (Office) – 48th St entrance if joining in person
- **8-9ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap (monthly – 1st Thursdays)
 - Carbon Copy / 701 S. 50th St
 - allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap

Saturday, Mar 8, 1 pm: Meditation (weekly)

- Calvary (Board Room) – 48th St entrance
- witnessandintegrate@gmail.com

Sunday, Mar 9 (daylight savings time begins)

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (1st Sunday in Lent)
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck (monthly)
 - allmeansall.org/2nd-sunday-potluck
- **8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (weekly, through Apr 13)
 - allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Sunday, Mar 16, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship (2nd Sunday in Lent)

- guest preacher: Cara Blouin

Friday, Mar 28, 6 pm: Young-ish Adults Gathering (monthly – last Fridays)

- location TBA
- allmeansall.org/young-ish-adults

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: “Breath of God, Breath of Peace”

(tune: Sally Ann Morris / lyrics: Adam M.L. Tice)

Breath of God, Breath of peace,
Breath of love, Breath of life,
Breath of justice, Breath of passion,
Breath creating, Breath of healing,
Breath of singing, Breath of praying,
Come upon us, come restore us,
come inspire us, Breath of God.

Call to Worship *(Liz Testa, from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals – adapted)*

One: We gather in the company of women who have gone before, both named and unnamed, testifying with ferocity and faith to the Spirit of wisdom and healing.

ALL: They are the judges, the prophets, the martyrs, the activists, poets, lovers and saints, who are near to us in the shadow of awareness, in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams.

One: We gather in the company of Deborah, who judged the Israelites with authority and strength.

ALL: We gather in the company of Esther, who used her position as queen to ensure the welfare of her people.

One: We gather in the company of the woman with the flow of blood, who audaciously sought her own healing.

ALL: We gather in the company of Mary Magdalene, who wept at the empty tomb until the risen Christ appeared.

One: We gather in the company of Phoebe, who led an early church in the empire of Rome.

ALL: We gather in the company of Julian of Norwich, who wed imagination and theology proclaiming “all shall be well.”

One: We gather in the company of Sojourner Truth, who stood against oppression, righteously declaring “ain't I a woman!”

ALL: We gather in the company of the Argentine Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, who turned their grief to strength, standing together to remember “the disappeared” children of war with a holy indignation.

One: We gather in the company of Alice Walker, who named the lavender hue of womanish strength.

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

One: We gather in the company of all mothers and sisters of the faith, all women of faith, who teach us to resist evil with boldness, to lead with wisdom and strength, and to heal with compassion and love.

ALL: We gather in the company of God, the God of many names—Creator, Yahweh, Sophia, Sovereign, Love—in whose image we are all created. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: “Bring Many Names” (TFWS #2047, tune: Carlton R. Young / lyrics: Brian Wren)

Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving, till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

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 *(John van de Laar – adapted)*

It's not that we don't want to change, God, it's just that
change is really hard; the challenges of the world
threaten to overwhelm us, the struggles of living each
day come close to being too much, and so we are
tempted to grab the quick-fix, the easy solution, and
inevitably, we are disappointed.

So we pray. Reach into our hearts with faith and hope, to
embrace the tough transformations, to make the real
and lasting changes, to seek the life-giving answers; for
the sake of our families and communities, our countries
and our continents, our people and our planet, for the
sake of our very selves.

May we find, together and alone, the strength to climb the mountain and see your glory; and then the courage to come back down, through the brokenness and pain, until we all know the joy and glory of resurrection. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. **29** And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. **30** Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. **31** They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. **32** Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. **33** Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying. **34** While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. **35** Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Beloved; listen to him!" **36** When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

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

Scripture Lesson: Luke 9:37-43a

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. **38** Just then a man

from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. **39** Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him.

40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." **41** Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." **42** While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. **43a** And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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: "Faith Through the Fog"

Song: "Resurrection Light" *(tune: UMH #89, Ludwig van Beethoven / lyrics: Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

Wake us, Jesus from our dreams,
to see you in a holy light:

Law and prophet, loving promise
God has sent to guide us right.

As Elijah, call us Godward,
speak the living truth to us.

As our Moses, lead us in our liberating exodus.

Wake us, Jesus, from our fear of
pain and death, and from our sin.

Grant that we may live illumined
by the world you usher in.

All things shine with light reflected
from the dawn that fills our sight.

All of life is thus transfigured
by your resurrection's light.

Wake us, Jesus from complacent
dreaming on the mountain's height.
Teach us humble service: your
departure is our guiding light.
Preach the gospel, feed the hungry,
heal the broken, give them sight.
Give your life, then find it, shining
bright with Resurrection light.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

Sung Response (*tune: UMH #682, Thomas Tallis / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

O draw us near, companion God.
For every joy, your name we laud.
For every wound and each sigh, too,
we pray your love will see us through.

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

One: Beloved, God is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

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

ALL: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

One: Loving God, you create us, and create us always
anew; you set us free, and set all people free; you walk
with us into new life, life with all and for all. In the
beginning was your Word, and your Word was light; your
love is the light of all people, and shines in each of us.
Though we are sometimes blind to your light, and even
sometimes try to cover it over, still you shine in all people,

and you gather all people in your light. When we seek to divide, you invite us back, back to the table of your light. So 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 taught and accompanied, freeing captives and binding the wounds of the community. He healed brokenness and challenged systems that caused it. The light of his love awakened us to our loveliness. Those who feared that light in themselves and others tried to put out the light: they crucified Jesus. But you raised him to new life, for the light of love shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

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, your light, O God—one in your love, and one in our love for the world. As we again share this sacred meal, may your dazzling radiance shine in and through

us. Transform our hearts and our lives toward a world transfigured. With all Creation we give thanks for your promise, 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