

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"Thus says the Holy One to
these bones: I will cause breath
to enter you, and you shall live."
- Ezekiel 37:5*

March 26, 2023
5th Sunday in Lent

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Women's History Month
Disabilities Awareness Month

GATHERING

Prelude: "Out of the Depths" (*Sinead O'Connor*)

*You're invited to be in silence during the Prelude,
as we transition together into this sacred time and space.*

Greeting / Welcome

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "God Is Here Today (*Dios Está Aquí*)"

(TFWS #2049, trad. Mexican – translated by C. Michael Hawn)

God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Call to Worship (*Beth Merrill Neel – adapted*)

One: The voice of God gathers us this day, along our
Lenten journey;

**ALL: The warmth of God brings us together as one
people.**

One: So we come, with joy and sorrow in our hearts,

ALL: with acts mighty and faltering,

One: with kindness and with selfishness,

ALL: with doubt and with faith:

One: So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God.

ALL: So may we worship well this day.

Opening Song: "Out of the Depths" (TFWS #2136 / tune:

Robert J. Batastini / lyrics: Ruth Duck)

Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.

Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.

Facing our lives, we need your love so much.

Here in this community, heal us by your touch.

Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.
Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek.
Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share.
Here in this community, hold us in your care.

God of the loving heart, we praise your name.
Dance through our lives and loves;
anoint with Spirit flame.
Your light illumines each familiar face.
Here in this community, meet us with your grace.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(John Birch – adapted)*

You call us to be your voices in this world, O God, and we so often stay silent. You call us to be your hands in this world, and we keep them hidden. You call us to be your feet in this world, and we go our own way.

When we meet those who are struggling and say nothing, forgive us. When we meet those who need your touch and do nothing, forgive us. When we are called to take up your cross and carry nothing, forgive us.

Breathe new life into these bones that we might bring new life into the world. Bring freedom to our lives, that we might declare with heart and soul and voice and hands and feet that you are the God of Love. And that we are your people – made in love, for love. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O (Holy One). **2** (Holy

One), hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! **3** If you, O (Holy One), should mark iniquities, (Holy One), who could stand? **4** But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. **5** I wait for the (Holy One), my soul waits, and in (God's) word I hope; **6** my soul waits for the (Holy One) more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. **7** O Israel, hope in the (Holy One)! For with the (Holy One) there is steadfast love, and with (God) is great power to redeem. **8** It is (God) who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Sung Response: "Open My Eyes" (*Jesse Manibusan – adapted*)
Open my ears, (Love), help me to hear your voice.
Open my ears, (Love), help me to hear.

Scripture Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the (Holy One) came upon me, and (God) brought me out by the spirit of the (Holy One) and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.

2 (God) led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. **3** (God) said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O (Holy One), you know." **4** Then (God) said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the (Holy One). **5** Thus says the (Holy One) to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. **6** I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the (Holy One)."

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. **8** I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was

no breath in them. **9** Then (God) said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the (Holy One): Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." **10** I prophesied as (God) commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. **11** Then (God) said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' **12** Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the (Holy One): I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. **13** And you shall know that I am the (Holy One), when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. **14** I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the (Holy One), have spoken and will act," says the (Holy One).

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, (Love), help me to hear your voice.

Open my ears, (Love), help me to hear.

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

Open my heart, (Love), help me to love.

Sermon: "You Shall Live"

Song: "Can These Bones Live?" (*David McGregor*)

Can these bones live?

Can these bones live?

O for God's breath wind

O to know life again

Can these bones live?

Come from your four winds
Come with your fresh wind,
breathe life in our dying,
spirit reviving
Life once again *(refrain)*

“Know I will raise you
Empower, sustain you
Put my breath in you
Put my life in you
Know I am God”

Can these bones live?
Can these bones live?
Spirit, blow freely
lovely and freely
These bones can live! *(3x)*

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

“Thanks be to God” or “God, hear our prayer”

Sung Response *(tune: UMH #294, Hugh Wilson / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O Wind and Fire, O Rock and Vine,
O Voice so still and small,
we bring our lives, our hopes and fears
to you who embraces all.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: “The Trees of the Field” *(TFWS #2279, tune: Stuart Dauermann / lyrics: Steffi Geiser Ruben)*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field,
will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (*clap 2x*)
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (*clap 2x*)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (*clap 2x*)
while you go out with joy.

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"

Announcements (allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Holy Week & Easter:** allmeansall.org/holy-week
- **Bible Study: Lectio(nary) Divina**
 - timing TBD / allmeansall.org/bible-study
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up or with questions
- **Adult Ed Book Study: Original Blessing**
 - timing TBD / allmeansall.org/adult-ed
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up or with questions
- **Worship volunteers:** tinyurl.com/worship-help

Calendar

Today, 7:30-8:30 pm: Spiritual Reflection Group

- weekly through Apr 2
- allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Tuesday, Mar 28

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee (*rescheduled*)
- **7:30 pm:** Lenten Bible Detox (*The Center and Library for the Bible and Social Justice*)
 - weekly through Apr 4
 - clbsj.org/events/lenten-detox

Friday, Mar 31, 6:30 pm: Calvary Young Adults Potluck Dinner & Game Night

- Emily & Sam's house (South Philly)
- contact Emily (mccutchinlove@gmail.com) for details and to RSVP

Sunday, Apr 2, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship, with Communion (*Palm & Passion Sunday*)

- Justice Stations of the Cross

Thursday, Apr 6, 7 pm: Maundy Thursday Vespers, with Communion (*hybrid*)

Sunday, Apr 9: Easter Sunday

- **8 am:** Easter "Sunrise" Service (*in-person only*)
 - Cedar Park / Baltimore Ave, b/t 49th & 50th
- **9-10:30 am:** Potluck Brunch
- **10:30-11 am:** Calvary Kids Easter Egg Hunt
- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship – Celebration of Resurrection

Saturday, Apr 29, 2-5 pm: 10th Annual Sojourner Truth Walk

- to join or support Calvary's team:
wizathon.com/sojourner-truth-walk/teams/8176

Friday, Jun 2 – Saturday, Jun 3 (or Jun 4): Spring Retreat

- Cranaleith Spiritual Center (NE Philly)
- allmeansall.org/retreats
- contact Pastor Tim if you're interested

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: office@allmeansall.org. Our **weekly Calvary Connections e-newsletter** goes out every Thursday evening.

Membership

Interested in joining our congregation? Contact Pastor Tim to learn more.

Space Rental

If you or your group are looking to rent space at Calvary, please contact Meg Trelease and the **Calvary Center for Culture and Community**: office@calvary-center.org / 215.452.9666.

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)