

Calvary United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"Join us in this vigil
and you will know what it is to dream!
Then you will know how marvelous it is
to live threatened with Resurrection!"*

- Julia Esquivel

March 29, 2020
5th Sunday in Lent
Women's "Herstory" Month

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Our Way In

"Guide My Feet" (TFWS #2208)

Guide my feet while I run this race (*repeat*)

Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Hold my hand . . .

Stand by me . . .

I'm your child . . .

Search my heart . . .

Guide my feet . . .

"Breathing In, Breathing Out

(*tune: Betsy Rose / lyrics: Thich Nhat Hanh*)

Breathing in, breathing out (*repeat*)

I am blooming as a flower, I am fresh as the dew

I am solid as a mountain, I am firm as the earth

I am free

Breathing in, breathing out (*repeat*)

I am water reflecting, what is clear, what is true

And I feel there is space, deep inside of me

I am free (3x)

Invitation to Holy Presence / Breath Prayer

Call to Worship (*John Pritchard*)

One: In the love that calls us and gathers us, welcome.

ALL: As people learning to love, peace be with you.

One: We continue on the journey to Jerusalem,

ALL: a journey on which we learn to die . . . and then to live.

One: Today we listen to a voice calling us to life.

ALL: "Come out," it says, from the tombs that hold us.

One: Still, we wonder how to rise from so much that imprisons
and diminishes us.

ALL: Is there a way? we ask, praying to learn.

One: Is there a way to life despite the fear that grips us?

ALL: Is there a path through grief that hounds us?

One: Is there a way beyond murmured beliefs that do not transform our hearts?

ALL: Is there a path that does not lash out to blame, accuse, denounce?

One: Is there a way to rise to life in the midst of death?

ALL: This we yearn for.

One: So we listen for the voice calling, stirring in us.

ALL: May we hear—this is our prayer.

One: And may we continue to journey with Jesus the road that leads to resurrection.

ALL: May the Spirit transform us on the way. This is our prayer.

Hymn of Praise: "What Gift Can We Bring" (*UMH #87*)

What gift can we bring, what present, what token?

What words can convey it, the joy of this day?

When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
what song can we offer in honor and praise?

Give thanks for the past, for those who had vision,
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.

Give thanks for the now, for study, for worship,
for mission that bids us turn prayer into deed.

Give thanks for tomorrow, full of surprises,
for knowing whatever tomorrow may bring,
the Word is our promise always, forever;
we rest in God's keeping and live in God's love.

This gift we now bring, this present, this token,
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
this song we now offer in honor and praise!

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer (*John Pritchard*)

We join our hearts and turn to you, O God, in a chaotic and scary time. We worry for ourselves, for those dear to us, for all those around us. We worry for those most vulnerable, the ill, the aged, the non-rich who do not have the luxury to alter their daily lives nor the resources to withstand significant changes. We worry for those giving care to the sick, putting themselves at risk for the sake of others. We worry about this moment and about its deep tremors though the longer term future.

We are unsettled by worry, and so we turn to you, asking for peace, not only for ourselves, but for all caught in the grip of fear. We ask for wisdom to guide us in ways to hold onto each other though we must keep our distance, and ways to encourage each other in the simple gifts that make life and make life good, even now. We ask for love to continually mold us, that we not grow hardened nor insulated, but deepen in concern for others and in the ways we can still care for them.

We ask you to breathe in us, as strength, as life. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Scripture Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and (God) brought me out by the spirit of the LORD 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 Lord GOD, you know." **4** Then (God) said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. **5** Thus says the Lord GOD 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 LORD."

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, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: 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 prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: 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 LORD, 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 LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

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

Open my ears, (Love). Help me to hear your voice.

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

Scripture Lesson: John 11:17-44

17 When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. **18** Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, **19** and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. **20** When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. **21** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." **23** Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." **24** Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, **26** and

everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" **27** She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." **28** When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." **29** And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

30 Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. **31** The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. **32** When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." **33** When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. **34** He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." **35** Jesus began to weep. **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." **40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." **43** When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" **44** The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

One: May the Spirit add understanding to our hearing.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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

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: "Life Interrupted"

Hymn of Response: "Singing for Our Lives" (*Holly Near*)

We are a gentle, angry people

And we are singing, singing for our lives (*repeat*)

We are a justice-seeking people . . .

We are young and old together . . .

We are gay and straight together . . .

We are a land of many colors . . .

additional lyrics

Empowered by the strength of our ancestors, now we are . . .

With faith and hope and love we press on, and we keep . . .

We are a resurrected people . . .

We are a resurrecting people . . .

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

"Thanks be to God" or "God, hear our prayer"

Prayer Response (*tune: UMH #418 / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

Hold us, heal us, living Spirit;

every hurt, each joy—please hear it.

Pour your life and love into us;

make us yours, we pray.

Closing Hymn: "Singing for Our Lives" (*tune: Holly Near*)

reprise with additional lyrics

Empowered by the strength of our ancestors, now we are . . .

With faith and hope and love we press on, and we keep . . .

We are a resurrected people . . .

We are a resurrecting people . . .

ENGAGING

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Let the Church Say Amen"

Calvary United Methodist Church

at the corner of 48th & Baltimore

at the corner of spirituality & justice

801 South 48th Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143

215.724.1702 / office@allmeansall.org

Pastor Tim Emmett-Rardin (pastor@allmeansall.org)

allmeansall.org

March 29, 2020 – Announcements

CALENDAR

Upcoming

Tuesday, Mar 30, 12 pm: Midweek Prayer (Zoom)

Wednesday, Apr 1, 7 pm: Midweek Prayer (Zoom)

Wednesday, Apr 1, 7:30 pm: POWER Team (Zoom)

Sunday, Apr 5, 11 am: Worship, with Communion and Stations of the Cross (Zoom) - Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, Apr 5, following worship (1 pm): Church Council (Zoom)

Monday, Apr 6, 7:30 pm: Congregational Care Team (Zoom)

Tuesday, Apr 7, 12 pm: Midweek Prayer (Zoom)

Wednesday, Apr 8

- **11:30 am:** Eastern PA Conference Worship (Zoom)

- **7 pm:** Midweek Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday, Apr 9, 7 pm: Maundy Thursday Vespers (Zoom)

Sunday, Apr 12: Easter Sunday

- **7 am:** Sunrise Service (Zoom)

- **11 am:** Worship / Celebration of Resurrection (Zoom)

Tuesday, Apr 14, 6 pm: Trustees (Zoom)

Save the Date

Friday, Jun 5 - Sunday, Jun 7: Spring Retreat (for adults)

- Mariawald Renewal Center (Reading)

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

See full schedule and details to connect virtually on our website: allmeansall.org/holy-week.html.

VISITING WITH US?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason(s) you chose to join us this morning! Since we aren't able to greet you in person during this coronavirus pandemic, please contact Pastor Tim if you have any questions or prayer concerns.

INVITATIONS / OPPORTUNITIES

Story Circles

We're ready for another round of matches for Story Circles (this time, virtually). More info on our website at allmeansall.org/community. Please contact Amy Emmett-Rardin (aemmettrardin@gmail.com) to sign up or with questions.

Resist Harm Movement

You are invited to join Calvary and fellow Reconciling United Methodists from around the country to support **Resist Harm** (resistharm.com / #ResistHarm), a movement of resistance to the anti-LGBTQ Traditional Plan now on the books in the United Methodist Church. **March's theme is "Lament."**

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, contact the church office (office@allmeansall.org).

Other Email Lists?

You may like to receive email updates from other groups with which Calvary is involved. If so, here's more info:

- POWER: powerinterfaith.org
- New Sanctuary Movement: sanctuaryphiladelphia.org
- PA Interfaith Power & Light: info@paipl.org
- Reconciling United Methodists of Eastern PA:
pastor@historicstgeorges.org
- Methodist Federation for Social Action – Eastern PA:
milesj526@verizon.net
- Eastern PA Conference (UMC): epaumc.org

Want to Help with Worship?

For the time being, as long as we're gathering virtually for worship, if you would like to participate by leading the Call to Worship or reading scripture, please contact Pastor Tim.

Volunteer with Nursery and Calvary Kids

We're always looking for more volunteers to work with our

children during worship (and beyond)! All volunteers must be involved in the congregation for at least six months, and complete background clearances in compliance with all state laws. If you're interested, please contact Pastor Tim.

CONTACT INFO

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