

Calvary

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"Come to me, all you that are weary and
are carrying heavy burdens, and
I will give you rest."*

- Matthew 11:28

April 19, 2020
2nd Sunday of Easter

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

SERVICE OF HEALING

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Our Way In

"Come, All You People (Uyai Mose)" (TFWS #2274)

U – ya - i mo - se, ti – na – ma - te Mwa - ri. (3x)

U – ya - i mo - se zvi - no.

Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker. (3x)
Come now and worship the Lord.

"Joy Comes with the Dawn" (TFWS #2210)

Joy comes with the dawn;

joy comes with the morning sun;

joy springs from the tomb

and scatters the night with her song,

joy comes with the dawn.

Weeping may come;

weeping may come in the night,

when dark shadows cloud our sight. *(refrain)*

Sorrow will turn,

sorrow will turn into song,

and God's laughter make us strong. *(refrain)*

We will rejoice,

we will rejoice, and give praise,

to the One who brings us grace. *(refrain)*

Invitation to Holy Presence / Breath Prayer

Call to Worship *(John Pritchard)*

One: Breathed into life this day, welcome.

ALL: May the power of new life stir in us all.

One: We continue to hold each other from a distance and to remind each other we are held in loving arms, a sacred web.

ALL: We still belong to each other, connected by holy threads.

One: Despite our grief, despite our fear, despite our doubt, despite the hardships we face, we join to celebrate resurrection.

ALL: Life rises even from the tombs that would bury it.

One: Life slows, narrows, unleashed from productivity and forced simply to be, and we discover the holiness of here, now, this moment, stripped bare and yet rich.

ALL: This is resurrection, to live life anew.

One: Children squeal with delight, birds sing with springtime abandon, families and friends find ways still to cherish each other.

ALL: This is resurrection, to savor life anew.

One: People rise to the summons of compassion and justice, checking on vulnerable neighbors, risking themselves to provide for others, supporting those who've been displaced.

ALL: This is resurrection, to rise to love anew.

One: Sacred life still fills these days, and in its presence there is healing and fullness of joy.

ALL: This is resurrection, the Spirit rising in us and overflowing as praise: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise: "Christ Has Risen" (TFWS #2115)

Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.

Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor:
Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people
whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen to companion
former friends who fear the night,
sensing loss and limitation
where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer,
they expect no hopeful sign
till Christ ends their conversation,
breaking bread and sharing wine.

Christ has risen and forever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present
making us what he has been—
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer *(John Pritchard)*

Gather our hearts into one, O God, one in concern for all who are knocked flat by COVID and all who have lost loved ones to it, one in gratitude for all who have continued to give themselves for others, providing food, healthcare, comfort and support during this pandemic, one in hope that they and we will emerge from this viral threat recommitted to what most matters—to each other and you—and refocused on what makes life good—its abundant gifts, its simple joys, the love it holds and calls for.

Gather our hearts into one, and let them rest in your presence, assured that your love holds us and your life flows through us.

Gather our hearts into one, and ride in them with the power of new life, with strength, with courage, with love to go on.
Gather our hearts into one, and make them yours, O life-giving God. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 40:6-8, 11, 21-31

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. **7** The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. **8** The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

11 (God) will feed (God's) flock like a shepherd; (God) will gather the lambs in (God's) arms, and carry them in (God's) bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? **22** It is (God) who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; **23** who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. **24** Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when (God) blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. **25** To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? (God) who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because (God) is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. **27** Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? **28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. (God) does not faint or grow weary; (God's) understanding is unsearchable. **29** (God) gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. **30** Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; **31** but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: John 20:19-29

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21** Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As (God) has sent me, so I send you." **22** When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25** So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." **28** Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" **29** Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

One: May the Spirit add understanding to our hearing.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

HEALING

Reflection

Litany for Healing (*The Iona Community Worship Book, adapted*)

One: We come to you, O God,

ALL: in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.

One: We come to you, O God, who has come to us in Jesus,

ALL: and who walks with us the road of our own and the world's suffering.

One: We come with our faith and with our doubts;

ALL: we come with our hopes and with our fears.

One: We come as Easter people in need again, still, of renewal and healing. And so we come as we are, under the weight of all that we carry, because it is you—source of Love and Life within and around us—who invites us to come,

ALL: and you, whose everlasting arms remain ever open wide for embrace, have promised never to turn us away.

Guided Meditation

Prayer for Healing

Omega and Alpha God, You who are with us through every end and every beginning, we are stilled before your holy and healing presence.

O God of Easter and resurrection and the perpetual promise of new life, You who are with us on both the forsaken and the redeemed cross, You who are with us in both the sealed and the empty tomb, You who are with us in our doubt as much as You are with us in our faith, in our despair as much as in our hope, in our love as much as in our fear, in our joy as much as in our pain, in our lives as much as in our deaths, we are stilled before your holy, healing presence.

Where our minds race, slow us.

Where our bodies ache, transform us.

Where our spirits sputter, animate us.

O God, hear our prayer.

Where our faith falters, remind us.

Where our hope fades, inspire us.

Where our love hesitates, embolden us.

O God, hear our prayer.

Where we are depleted, restore us.

Where we are unraveled, reconnect us.

Where we are empty, refill us.

O God, hear our prayer.

Where we are exhausted, revive us.
Where we are afraid, encourage us.
Where we are alone, accompany us.
Where we are pained, hold and heal us.
Where we are on the verge of breaking, flex us.

O God, in our brokenness, our loneliness, our fear, our fatigue,
give us strength. And give us wings. Give us all what we need
for today.

O God, hear our prayer. O God, hear our prayer, that we may
be your Easter people, your wounded healers. Amen.

Hymn of Response: "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

(TFWS #2128)

Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

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

Prayer Response *(tune: UMH #175 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O living God, we wait for you,
each wound, each rift to heal,
each empty heart and life to fill,
each day with joy to seal.

Closing Hymn: “May You Run and Not Be Weary” *(TFWS #2281)* *(tune & refrain, UMH #525)*

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.*

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

April 19, 2020 – Announcements

CALENDAR

Today

During worship: Service of Healing

Following worship: POWER training canceled/postponed

- contact Eriks Dunens (eriksslush@hotmail.com) to get involved in Calvary's POWER Team or future trainings

2-3 pm: Online Multi-Faith Earth Day Service

- hosted by Washington National Cathedral and Interfaith Power & Light; details at cathedral.org/earthday

2-3:30 pm: 17th Annual (Virtual) Philadelphia Interfaith Walk for Peace and Reconciliation

- details at interfaithpeacewalk.org

Upcoming

Monday, Apr 20, 7:30 pm: Congregational Care Team

Tuesday, Apr 21, 12 pm: Midweek Prayer

Tuesday, Apr 21, 6 pm: Finance Committee

Tuesday, Apr 21, 7-8:30 pm: White People Practicing Racial Justice (New Sanctuary Movement)

- contact Pastor Tim for details or to get involved

Wednesday, Apr 22, 7 pm: Midweek Prayer

Saturday, Apr 25, 11 am: Film Discussion of "The Human Element" (as part of Faith Climate Action Week)

- look for the link to view the film (at your leisure this week) in tonight's Calvary Connections, or you can contact Pastor Tim; please also contact Pastor Tim to sign up for the discussion (and receive the link to join virtually)

Sunday, Apr 26, 11 am: Worship / Service of Healing for the Earth

- celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day and concluding Faith Climate Action Week

Saturday, May 2: 8th Annual Sojourner Truth (Virtual) Walk

- details at wizathon.com/sojourner-truth-walk; contact Jennine Miller (jenninemiller@gmail.com) to join or donate to Calvary's team!

Wednesday, May 6, 7:30 pm: POWER Team

Save the Date

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

- Mariawald Renewal Center (Reading)

FAITH CLIMATE ACTION WEEK

April 22nd marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day—and in honor of that Interfaith Power & Light (Calvary is a member) is sponsoring Faith Climate Action Week, April 17-26. For more info, check out PA-IPL's website at:

paipl.us/event/faith-climate-action-week-2020. And be sure to join us for our community discussion of "The Human Element" on Saturday, April 25th (see details above), and worship next Sunday focused on healing of the earth and climate justice.

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

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](https://twitter.com/ResistHarm)), a movement of resistance to the anti-LGBTQ Traditional Plan now on the books in the United Methodist Church. **April's theme is "Light."**

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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