

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"... two of them were going
to a village called Emmaus ..."*

- Luke 24:13a

April 23, 2023

3rd Sunday of Easter

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Arab American Heritage Month / Earth Month

Native American Ministries Sunday

GATHERING

Prelude

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

Welcome & Announcements

(full Announcements available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Welcome back to Rev. John Pritchard (aka Pastor John)**, our guest preacher this week!
- **Pastor Tim on vacation through Apr 26**
 - in case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Jennine (SPRC chair): 215.990.5668
- **Story Circles:** allmeansall.org/story-circles
 - contact Amy (aemmettrardin@gmail.com) to be paired in the next round of matches
- **Spring Retreat, Jun 2-3**
 - Cranaleith Spiritual Center (NE Philly)
 - contact Pastor Tim if you're interested!
- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at tinyurl.com/worship-help

Calendar

Tuesday, Apr 25, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer

- allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer

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

- beginning and ending at Calvary – outside on 48th Street
- join or contribute to support Calvary's team:
tinyurl.com/sojo-truth-walk

Sunday, Apr 30, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Virtual Worship

- Greg's last official Sunday

Tuesday, May 2, 7 pm: Church Council

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 / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "Weave Us Together" (*tune: TFWS #2226, Bob Gillman / lyrics: Bob Gillman – adapted by John Pritchard*)

Weave us together, God; weave us together
with threads that cannot be broken.

Weave us together, God; weave us together, God;
weave us together in love.

There is only one Web, source of life and all things.
There is only one fam'ly; that is why we sing:

Call to Worship (*John Pritchard*)

One: In the life-giving, life-sustaining, life-renewing Spirit,
welcome.

ALL: The power and peace of God's presence be yours.

One: As the earth around us is reborn this season, we join
to praise God.

**ALL: Alleluia to the God of budding, buzzing, greening
life!**

One: As our tired spirits are revived this season, we join to
praise God.

**ALL: Alleluia to the God of opening, loving, laughing
hearts!**

One: As the summons to justice renews and resounds this season, we join to praise God.

ALL: Alleluia to the God of caring, sharing, flourishing life together!

One: May the hope of God's continuing work sustain us.

ALL: May we experience, may we be part of, God's recreative current. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Christ Is Risen" (*UMH #307, tune: Polish carol / lyrics: Brian Wren*)

Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:

all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding,

see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding

bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits

from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning.

See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection,

not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion.

Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven

nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation

where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus:

"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us.

Sing Hosanna everyone!

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(John Pritchard)*

O Sacred Presence, though our planet crumbles under the weight of human greed and indifference, though our city reels from the onslaught of gun violence, though our systems become more cruel, making so many poorer and hungry as too few become wealthier, though the risk of nuclear confrontation increases while the toll of conventional confrontation grows every day, though the bonds that have held us together as a country, for good and ill, are thinning to the breaking point, though antisemitism, racism, homophobia, transphobia and violent othering are becoming more and more acceptable, even state-sponsored, still, from our depths rises up a great Alleluia.

Alleluia to you whose body bears all of these assaults.
Alleluia to you whose heart breaks with each assault.
Alleluia to you whose tears flow with every assault.
Alleluia to you, who stirs us by each assault, to weep, to ache, to love. Alleluia to you, who calls us by every assault, into the fray for justice, into the work of healing, into life-giving new ways. Alleluia to you who has not given up on us nor been overcome by us. Alleluia to you who breathes new life into us this day and continues to empower us. Alleluia to you, O God of resurrection.
Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

I love the Holy One, because you have heard my voice and my supplications. **2** Because you inclined your ear to me, therefore I will call on you as long as I live. **3** The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. **4** Then I called on the name of the Holy One: "O Holy One, I pray, save my life!" ...

12 What shall I return to the Holy One for all your bounty to me? **13** I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Holy One, **14** I will pay my vows to the Holy One in the presence of all your people. **15** Precious in the sight of the Holy One is the death of your faithful ones. **16** O Holy One, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. **17** I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Holy One. **18** I will pay my vows to the Holy One in the presence of all your people, **19** in the courts of the house of the Holy One, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Holy One!

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, **14** and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. **15** While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, **16** but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. **17** And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. **18** Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" **19** He asked them, "What things?"

They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, **20** and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. **21** But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. **22** Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, **23** and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. **24** Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."

25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! **26** Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" **27** Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. **28** As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. **29** But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. **30** When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. **31** Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. **32** They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. **34** They were saying, "The Savior has risen indeed, and he has appeared to

Simon!" **35** Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "A Haunting Place"

Song: "Cuando El Pobre (When the Poor Ones)" (UMH #434, tune & lyrics: J.A. Olivar & Miguel Manzano, trans. by George Lockwood)

When the poor ones who have nothing
share with strangers,
when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,

***then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.***

When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
when we love though hate at times
seems all around us, *(refrain)*

When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
when our lips can speak no words other than true,
when we know that love for simple things is better, *(refrain)*

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,
when each stranger that we meet
is called a neighbor, *(refrain)*

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response (tune: UMH #145 / lyrics: John Pritchard)

Hear us, Creator. Hear us, O Lover.
Hear us, O Spirit moving within.
Hear all our longing; hear all our sorrow.
Hear every joy and praise that we bring.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "I Shall Not Be Moved" (African American spiritual / lyrics: adapted by John Pritchard)

We shall not, we shall not be moved (2x)
Just like a tree that's planted by the water,
we shall not be moved.

Rising in God's Spirit ...
Holding up each other ...
Building hope together ...
We shall not ...

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

at the intersection of 48th & Baltimore / spirituality & justice

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