

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Yet if we love one another,
God lives in us, and God’s love
is made complete in us.”*

- 1 John 4:12b

April 28, 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Arab American Heritage Month / Earth Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Come as You Are" (*Deidre Brown*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **General Conference of the United Methodist Church:**
through May 3 (*Charlotte, NC*)
 - tinyurl.com/GenConf20
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Tuesday, Apr 30, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)

- allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer

Thursday, May 2, 8-9ish pm: Spirituality on Tap (*monthly – 1st Thursdays*)

- Carbon Copy / 701 S. 50th St

Saturday, May 4, 10 am-1 pm: 11th Annual Sojourner Truth Walk (*Camp Sojourner, Girls' Leadership Camp*)

- join/sponsor Calvary's team: allmeansall.org/stw

Sunday, May 5

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (*Communion*)
- **8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group (*also May 19*)
 - allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group

Sunday, May 12, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship

- guest preacher: Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart

Tuesday, May 21 - Thursday, May, 23: Annual Conference (*Eastern PA Conference of the United Methodist Church*)

- Wildwood, NJ

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

Singing Our Way In: "Live in Charity (Ubi Caritas)" (TFWS #2179, tune: Jacques Berthier / lyrics: from 1 Corinthians 13:2-8)

Live in charity and steadfast love,
live in charity, God will dwell with you.

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

Call to Worship (Presbyterian Church USA – adapted)

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives with love.

ALL: We need not look up to find God, we need only to look around:

One: within ourselves,

ALL: beyond ourselves,

One: into the eyes of each other.

ALL: We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to the music of life,

One: the words of children,

ALL: the questions of the curious,

One: the rhythm of a heartbeat.

ALL: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives with love.

One: We worship the God who gathers us all in,

ALL: who welcomes and loves us as we are. Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Gather Us In" (TFWS #2236, Marty Haugen – adapted)

Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the (kindom), now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer (John van de Laar – adapted)

In our daily choices and relationships, in our homes and communities, may we align ourselves with your love, O

God. In our citizenship and country, in our national discourse, in our social and political participation, may we align ourselves with your love, O God. In our world and on the earth, in our care for the planet and our sharing of its resources, may we align ourselves with your love, O God. And may your love fill the globe, so that all of Creation may be free to live aligned with your love. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21 (*A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Wilda C. Gafney – adapted*)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** In this way God's love was revealed among us: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's own Son to be the means of forgiveness for our sins. **11** Beloved, if God loves us thus, we ought also love one another.

12 God no one has ever seen. Yet if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is made complete in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us God's own Spirit. **14** And we have seen and so testify that God has sent the Son of God as the Savior of the world. **15** God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. **16** So we have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

17 Love has been perfected among us in order that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as God is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love,

rather perfect love casts out fear; for fear relates to punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19** We love because God first loved us. **20** If someone says, "I love God," and hates their siblings, they are a liar; for those who do not love a sibling whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. **21** The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their siblings also.

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

Scripture Lesson: John 15:1-6

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

2 God removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit God prunes to make it bear more fruit. **3** You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. **6** Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Indwelling Love"

Song: "Love Is the Touch of Intangible Joy" (*tune: UMH #451, trad. Irish / lyrics: Alison Robertson*)

Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker, and Spirit, and Son;
love is the (kindom) their will has begun;
love is the pathway the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

“Thanks be to God” or “God hears our prayer”

Sung Response (*tune: UMH #408, trad. English / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

O Open Arms, now hold our cares,
the aches we've named, the joys we've shared.
And hold us, too; into us breathe –
your grace, your life, let us receive.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: “Sent Out in Jesus' Name (Enviado Soy de Dios)” (*TFWS #2184, tune: trad. Cuban / lyrics: anonymous – adapted*)

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the (kindom) comes. (*repeat*)

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love, of justice and of peace.
The task is ours to do, to set it really free.
O help us to obey and carry out your will.

Enviado soy de Dios, mi mano lista está
para construir con El
un undo fraternal. *(repeat)*

Los ángeles no son enviados a cambiar
un mundo de dolor por un mundo de paz.
Me ha tocado a mí hacerlo realidad;
ayúdame, Señor, a hacer tu voluntad.

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

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