

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“And I saw the holy city,  
the new Jerusalem,  
descending heaven from God, ...”*  
**- Revelation 21:2a**

**May 18, 2025**  
*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month  
Jewish American Heritage Month

## GATHERING

**Gathering Song:** "Heaven" (Brett Dennen, with Natalie Merchant)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

- **Pastor Tim on vacation:** May 22-26
  - in case of pastoral emergency, please contact Marcine Pickron-Davis (Staff-Parish Relations Committee): 484.574.0270
- **Baltimore Avenue Dollar Stroll:** June 5, 5-8 pm
  - contact the office if you can help staff our table
- **Resistance for such a time as this**
  - [allmeansall.org/resistance](http://allmeansall.org/resistance)
- **Previous sermons:** [allmeansall.org/sermons](http://allmeansall.org/sermons)
- **Previous bulletins:** [allmeansall.org/bulletins](http://allmeansall.org/bulletins)

## Calendar

**Today, May 18, 12:45-2 pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck (monthly – rescheduled)

**Monday, May 19, 6:30-7:30 pm:** Beginner Yoga (weekly)

- Calvary (Chapel) – 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
- [allmeansall.org/yoga](http://allmeansall.org/yoga)

**Tuesday, May 20:** Primary Election Day

- **3 pm:** Midweek Prayer (weekly)
  - [allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer](http://allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer)
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays: 3 pm / 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>: 6 pm

**Tuesday, May 20 - Thursday, May 22:** 2025 Annual Conference for United Methodists of Eastern PA

- Wildwood, NJ

**Wednesday, May 21, 10-11 am:** Beginner Yoga (weekly)

- see May 19 for details

**Saturday, May 24, 1 pm:** Meditation *(weekly)*

- Calvary (Board Room) – 48th St entrance
- [witnessandintegrate@gmail.com](mailto:witnessandintegrate@gmail.com)

**Sunday, May 25, 11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship

- guest preacher: Cara Blouin

**Monday, May 26, 8-9 pm:** Book Study *(weekly, through Jun 30 – except Jun 23)*

- [allmeansall.org/book-studies](http://allmeansall.org/book-studies)

**Friday, May 30, 6 pm:** Youngish-Adults Gathering *(monthly – last Fridays)*

- [allmeansall.org/young-ish-adults](http://allmeansall.org/young-ish-adults)

**Sunday, Jun 1**

- **9-9:45 am:** Virtual Worship *(no in-person option)*
- **10:30 am-12 pm:** Philly Pride March
  - starting location details TBA
  - contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary
- **12-6 pm:** Philly Pride Festival
  - Gayborhood
- **2:30-6:30 pm:** Cooperative Youth Outing *(with fellow Reconciling congregations)*
  - volunteering at Grace Café (Arch Street UMC)
  - contact Pastor Tim for details and to sign up

Visiting With 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.

Donations

Donations are always welcome to help support Calvary and our evolving ministries: [allmeansall.org/donate](http://allmeansall.org/donate).

**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** (unknown – adapted)

One: Come, praise the eternal God! All you in the heavens, angels above—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Sun, moon, and stars in the sky—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Dolphins and whales, fish in the sea—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Lightning and thunder, snow and rain—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Mountains and hills, desert and prairie—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Fruit trees and cedars, flowers and weeds—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Leaders and elected officials, rulers and judges—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: All genders and sexes, young and old—

**ALL: praise God!**

One: Let them all praise the name of God!

**ALL: For God’s name stands alone, above all others;  
God’s glory shines over earth and heaven.**

One: Let’s worship God together!

**ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Opening Song:** “Sing Praise to God, You Heavens (Psalm 148)” (tune: Johann Steurlein / lyrics: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr)

Sing praise to God, you heavens!

Sing praise, each shining light!

Sing, planets in your orbits;  
sing, stars all burning bright!  
Sing praise, you winds and tempests,  
you driving rain and snow!  
Sing, clouds that race and billow  
and shadow earth below!

Sing praise, O earth, sing praises!  
Sing praises, hill and plain,  
you mountains thrusting skyward,  
you valleys ripe with grain!  
Sing praise, each fragment flower;  
your fairest hues display.  
Sing praise, you trees of autumn  
in glowing glad array!

Sing praises, all you creatures  
in whom God takes delight:  
You whales that roam the oceans,  
you eagles in your flight!  
Sing praise, you sheep on hillsides;  
you cattle in the stall!  
Though wordless, sing your praises  
to God who made you all!

Sing praises now, God's people;  
your gift of speech employ  
to praise (your God), your Maker,  
with thankfulness and joy!  
Sing with the whole creation;  
a cosmic chorus raise:  
"To God alone be glory  
and everlasting praise!"

## **Stewardship Sharing**

### **Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

## Offering Our Gifts

[allmeansall.org/time-talent](http://allmeansall.org/time-talent) / [allmeansall.org/donate](http://allmeansall.org/donate)

*"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

**– 2 Corinthians 9:7**

## GROUNDING

### **Community Prayer** *(Teri, RevGalBlogPals)*

O God, you who are always doing a new thing. We confess that we sometimes close windows against the fresh air of new ideas, against the noise of other people's worries, against the winds of change. God of every place and time, we confess that we often draw the curtains against people who are different, against world news or community concerns.

Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes, our shuttered churches, the security systems on our hearts. Open up our lives and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Special Music**

### **Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 148 *(The Iona Community)*

Praise God! Shout your praises from the heavens. Shout them from the heights. **2** Sing praises, all you angels, all you heavenly beings. **3** Sing praises, sun and moon, and all you glittering stars. **4** Praise God, you highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. **5** Praise the holy name of the God who called you forth, **6** who established you for ever and ever by a decree that will never change. **7** Shout your praises, all the earth, you sea monsters and all depths. **8** Fire and hail, snow and frost, storm winds, fulfilling God's word. **9** You mountains and all you hills, you orchards and every cedar. **10** You beasts, both wild and tame; creeping reptiles, flying birds. **11** Monarchs of earth and all people, rulers and judges of every land.

**12** Women and men alike, young and old together!

**13** Praise the holy name, the name beyond all names. God's splendor above the earth, above the heavens, giving strength and hope to the people. **14** God be praised by all the faithful people, by people close to God! Alleluia!

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Scripture Lesson:** Revelation 21:1-6 (*A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Wilda C. Gafney*)

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, descending heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her beloved. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! The home of God is among the woman-born. God will dwell with them as their God; they will be God's peoples, and selfsame God will be with them. **4** God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief and weeping will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

**5** And the One who was seated upon the throne said, "Look! I am making all things new." The One also said, "Write, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** Then the One said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give freely to the thirsty from the spring of the water of life."

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Choral Alleluia**

Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, alleluia. (*repeat*)

**Sermon:** "Heaven on Earth"

**Song:** "Bring Forth the Kingdom" (TFWS #2190, Marty Haugen – adapted)

You are salt for the earth, O people:  
Salt for the (Kindom) of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people:  
Life in the (Kindom) of God!

*Bring forth the (Kindom) of mercy,  
bring forth the (Kindom) of peace;  
bring forth the (Kindom) of justice,  
bring forth the City of God!*

You are a light on the hill, O people:  
Light for the City of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Shine for the (Kindom) of God! (*refrain*)

You are a seed of the Word, O people:  
Bring forth the (Kindom) of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
grow in the (Kindom) of God! (*refrain*)

We are a blest and a pilgrim people:  
Bound for the (Kindom) of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
Love is the (Kindom) of God! (*refrain*)

## **SHARING**

### **Prayers of the People**

**Sung Response** (tune: UMH #473, Samuel Sebastian Wesley / lyrics: John Pritchard)

Hear, O God. Hear the prayers we bring to you.  
Come, and renew all of our days.  
Hold every longing; hold every sorrow;  
Hold every joy and praise we bring.

## **ENGAGING**

**Closing Song:** "May You Run and Not Be Weary" (*tune & refrain: UMH #525, Charles Albert Tindley / lyrics: TFWS #2281, Paul Murakami & Handt Hanson*)

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.*

## **Benediction**

**Singing Our Way Out:** "Pool of Love" (*Alexa Sunshine Rose, Murray Kyle*)

May the pool of love we have gathered here  
Spread its wings and fly far and near  
From the depths of our hearts to the farthest star  
May our love bless everyone

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

*at the intersection of 48<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore / spirituality & justice*

801 S. 48<sup>th</sup> Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143  
215.724.1702 / [office@allmeansall.org](mailto:office@allmeansall.org) / [allmeansall.org](http://allmeansall.org)

**Pastor Tim Emmett-Rardin:** [pastortim@allmeansall.org](mailto:pastortim@allmeansall.org)  
(in case of pastoral emergency: 215.370.7411)

**Norris Person** (Music Minister): [music@allmeansall.org](mailto:music@allmeansall.org)

**Shakirah Holloway** (Office Manager)

**Kristine Morrow, Bethany Weed, Cord Whitaker**  
(Co-Lay Leaders)

**Gerry Felix** (Church Council Chair)

**Annie Haviland** (Finance Committee Chair)

**Jennine Miller** (Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair)

**Carl Ballinger** (Trustees Chair)

For full leadership roster: [allmeansall.org/leadership](http://allmeansall.org/leadership)

