

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“Two are better than one because  
they have a good reward for their toil.  
For if they fall, one will lift up  
the other, but woe to one  
who is alone and falls and  
does not have another to help.”*  
**- Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**

**May 25, 2025**  
*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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

## GATHERING

**Gathering Song:** "Better Together" (Jack Johnson, with Playing for Change Songs Around the World)

## Welcome & Announcements

- **Thanks to our guest preacher (via Zoom), Cara Blouin**
- **Pastor Tim on vacation through tomorrow, May 26**
  - in case of pastoral emergency, please contact Marcine Pickron-Davis (Staff-Parish Relations Committee): 484.574.0270
- **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

### Monday, May 26

- **6:30-7:30 pm:** Beginner Yoga (weekly)
  - Calvary (Chapel) – 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance
  - [allmeansall.org/yoga](http://allmeansall.org/yoga)
- **8-9 pm:** Book Study (weekly, through Jun 30 – except Jun 23)
  - [allmeansall.org/book-studies](http://allmeansall.org/book-studies)

### Tuesday, May 27

- **3:30 pm:** Finance Committee
- **6 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

### Wednesday, May 28, 10-11 am: Beginner Yoga (weekly)

- see May 26 for details

**Thursday, May 29, 6-8 pm:** POWER Interfaith Philly Budget Analysis

- Kol Tzedek / 5300 Whitby Ave
- contact Pastor Tim if you're interested, and/or to get involved in Calvary's POWER Interfaith Team

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

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

**Saturday, May 31, 1 pm:** Meditation (*weekly*)

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

**Sunday, Jun 1**

- **9-9:45 am:** Virtual Worship (*no in-person option*)
- **11 am-12 pm:** Philly Pride March
  - starting at 6<sup>th</sup> & Walnut
  - contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary
- **12-7 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

**Thursday, Jun 5**

- **5-8 pm:** Baltimore Avenue Dollar Stroll
  - contact the church office if you can help staff our table for all or any part of the time
- **8-9ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap
  - Carbon Copy / 701 S. 50<sup>th</sup> St
  - NOTE: last SOT until September

**Saturday, Jun 7, 9 am-12 pm:** Calvary Spring Cleaning

- contact the church office if you can help with indoor/outdoor projects for all or any part of the time

## Sunday, Jun 8

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (*Communion / Pentecost*)
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck
  - NOTE: last monthly potluck until September, though we may do a summer picnic
- **3 pm:** Interfaith Pride Service (*Mazzoni Center, et al*)
  - First Baptist Church of Philadelphia / 123 S. 17<sup>th</sup> St

### 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:** “Spirit of the Living God” (*UMH #393, Daniel Iverson – adapted*)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (*repeat*)

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on (us) ...

**Call to Worship** (*Joan Stott, based on Psalm 67 – adapted*)

One: Holy are you, O God of grace and mercy. May all the nations praise you, O God.

**ALL: May all the nations of the earth joyfully sing because God’s justice is supreme!**

One: May the love that lights up the face of God shine with favor upon us and bless us;

**ALL: teaching us God's way of living and loving so that we may witness to that love and grace.**

One: We come together to seek and be your blessing, O God.

**ALL: Praise be to our generous and just God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Opening Song:** "How Can We Name a Love" (UMH #111, trad. English melody / lyrics: Brian Wren – adapted)

How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,  
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?  
Within our daily world, in every human face,  
Love's echoes sound and God is found,  
hid in the common place.

If we awoke to life built on a rock of care  
that asked no great reward but firm,  
assured, was simply there,  
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,  
Love unconfined, a father kind,  
a mother strong and sure.

When people share a task, and strength and skills unite  
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,  
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,  
that all should share, create and care,  
and know that life is good.

So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet  
a presence, sensed and shown at work,  
at home, or in the street.

Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:  
In (God) alone is Love full grown  
and life and hope begun.

### **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** (*Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted*)

O Life-Giving God, you have planted the Tree of Life in our midst. We are your leaves, bearing our various fruits, each in our season. May your Spirit flow through us, that we may be filled with your love and strengthened for service, bearing the fruits of your love to all the world. Amen.

## Silent Prayer

## Special Music

**Scripture Lesson:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12

Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. **10** For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. ... **12** And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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

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

**Scripture Lesson:** John 5:1-9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **2** Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. **3** In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. **5** One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there

and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" **7** The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." **8** Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." **9** At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath.

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 Is Other People"**

**Song: "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"** (UMH #581, tune: B.F. White / lyrics: Albert F. Bayly – adapted)

(Christ), whose love through humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
offered mercy's perfect deed,  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart,  
consecrating to your purpose  
every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.

As, O (God), your deep compassion  
(heals) the sick and (frees) the soul,  
use the love your Spirit kindles  
still to (make your people) whole.

As we worship, grant us vision  
fill your love's revealing light

in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to tireless striving,  
your abundant life to share.

Called from worship to your service,  
forth in your dear name we go,  
to the child, the youth, the aged,  
love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, goodwill and comfort,  
counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
that your servants, (God), in freedom  
may your mercy know, and live.

## **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:** "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" *(TFWS #2153, African American spiritual – adapted)*

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere ... anytime!  
I'm gonna live so God can use me,  
anywhere ... anytime!  
I'm gonna work so ...  
I'm gonna pray so ...  
I'm gonna live so ...

## 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”

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## Calvary United Methodist Church

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

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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)