

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



"Thus says the Lord: 'A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.'"
- Jeremiah 31:15

May 29, 2022
7th Sunday of Easter
Ascension Sunday

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Service of Lament

GATHERING

Prelude: "Our Song in the Night" (*Bifrost Arts*)

Welcome / Announcements

- **Meal support for Havilands:** mealtrain.com/trains/36lo0l
- **Last chance to sponsor Pastor Tim for PA Interfaith Power & Light's 2022 Bike/Hike:** donate at paipbikéhike.com/2022-participants/tim-emmett-rardin
- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at tinyurl.com/worship-help

Calendar

Tuesday, May 31, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)

- info at allmeansall.org/faith-spirituality

Wednesday, Jun 1, 7-8:30 pm: New Sanctuary Movement General Assembly

- info at tinyurl.com/NSM-Assembly

Thursday, Jun 2, 7 pm: Replenishing Hope – What is the UMC Becoming? (*Reconciling Ministries Network*)

- info at tinyurl.com/replenishing-hope

Sunday, Jun 5

- **9-9:45 am:** Virtual Worship (*Pentecost*)
 - we'll celebrate Communion Jun 12 instead
- **11 am:** Philly Pride March and Festival
 - 5th & Arch
 - contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary

Sunday, Jun 12

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship, with Communion
- **1:30ish-3:30ish pm:** Calvary Potluck Picnic at Clark Park
 - 43rd & Chester (*weather permitting*)
 - BYO lunch & chairs if you can (*extra food/drinks provided*)

Thursday, Jun 16, 5:30-8:30 pm: Baltimore Avenue Dollar Stroll (*University City District*)

- contact Ursula (rrujohnson@comcast.net) to help with Calvary's table

Thursday, Jul 14, 7-8:15 pm: Community Rhythm Circle

- info at allmeansall.org/crc

Visiting With Us?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason you chose to join us! We invite you to fill out a Visitor Form at **allmeansall.org/visitors**; for those worshipping in person, someone will share a form with you during the service. We strive to make our worship space (in person and virtual) as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have any concerns or questions regarding accessibility, 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 (office@allmeansall.org).

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "Circle Chant" (*Linda Hirschorn*)

Circle round for freedom,
circle round for peace.
For all of us imprisoned,
circle for release.

Circle for the planet,
circle for each soul.
For the children of our children,
keep the circle whole.

Call to Worship *(Cari Jackson, based on Revelation 22 – adapted)*

One: The Spirit of God bids us, “Come.” Let everyone who hears within their hearts, come. Hear the whole earth rejoice and the coastlands sing of our God’s steadfast love.

ALL: We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks for God sets us free!

One: Let everyone who is thirsty for the Spirit, come. Let anyone who wishes come and receive the water of life as a gift.

ALL: We come to rejoice in the Holy One, whose steadfast love accompanies us in our grief, who brings joy to our hearts in the night, who lights our lives like the dawn and sets us free. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: “My Soul Gives Glory to My God” *(UMH #198, tune: Elkanah Kelsey Dare / lyrics: Miriam Therese Winter)*

My soul gives glory to my God.
My heart pours out its praise.
God lifted up my lowliness
in many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me:
yes, holy is this name.
All people will declare me blessed,
and blessings they shall claim.

From age to age to all who fear,
such mercy love imparts,
dispensing justice far and near,
dismissing selfish hearts.

Love casts the mighty from their thrones,
promotes the insecure,
leaves hungry spirits satisfied;
the rich seem suddenly poor.

Praise God, whose loving covenant
supports those in distress,

remembering past promises
with present faithfulness.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Walter Brueggemann – adapted)*

The world trembles out of control. The violence builds, some by terrorism, some by state greed dressed up as policy, violence on every side.

You, O God, in the midst of out-of-control violence. We confess you steadfast, loyal, reliable, but we wonder if you yourself are enraged in brutality. We confess you to be governor and ruler, but we wonder if you manage.

We in the midst of out-of-control violence, we in great faith, we in deep vocational call, we in our several anxieties. We – along side you – in the trembling.

This day we pray for freedom to move beyond fear to caring, beyond self to neighbor, beyond protection to growth. That we may be a sign of steadfastness, that anxiety may not win the day. You are the one who said, "Do not be anxious." And now we submit to you. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, **23** "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying: Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them: **24** (God) bless you and keep you; **25** (God) make (God's) face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; **26** (God) lift up (God's) countenance upon you and

give you peace. **27** "So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Acts 1:1-5, 8-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning **2** until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. **4** While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the (Parent). "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **9** When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. **11** They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Reflection & Sharing

Blessing: "Blessing When the World Is Ending" (*Jan Richardson*)

Look, the world
is always ending
somewhere.

Somewhere
the sun has come
crashing down.

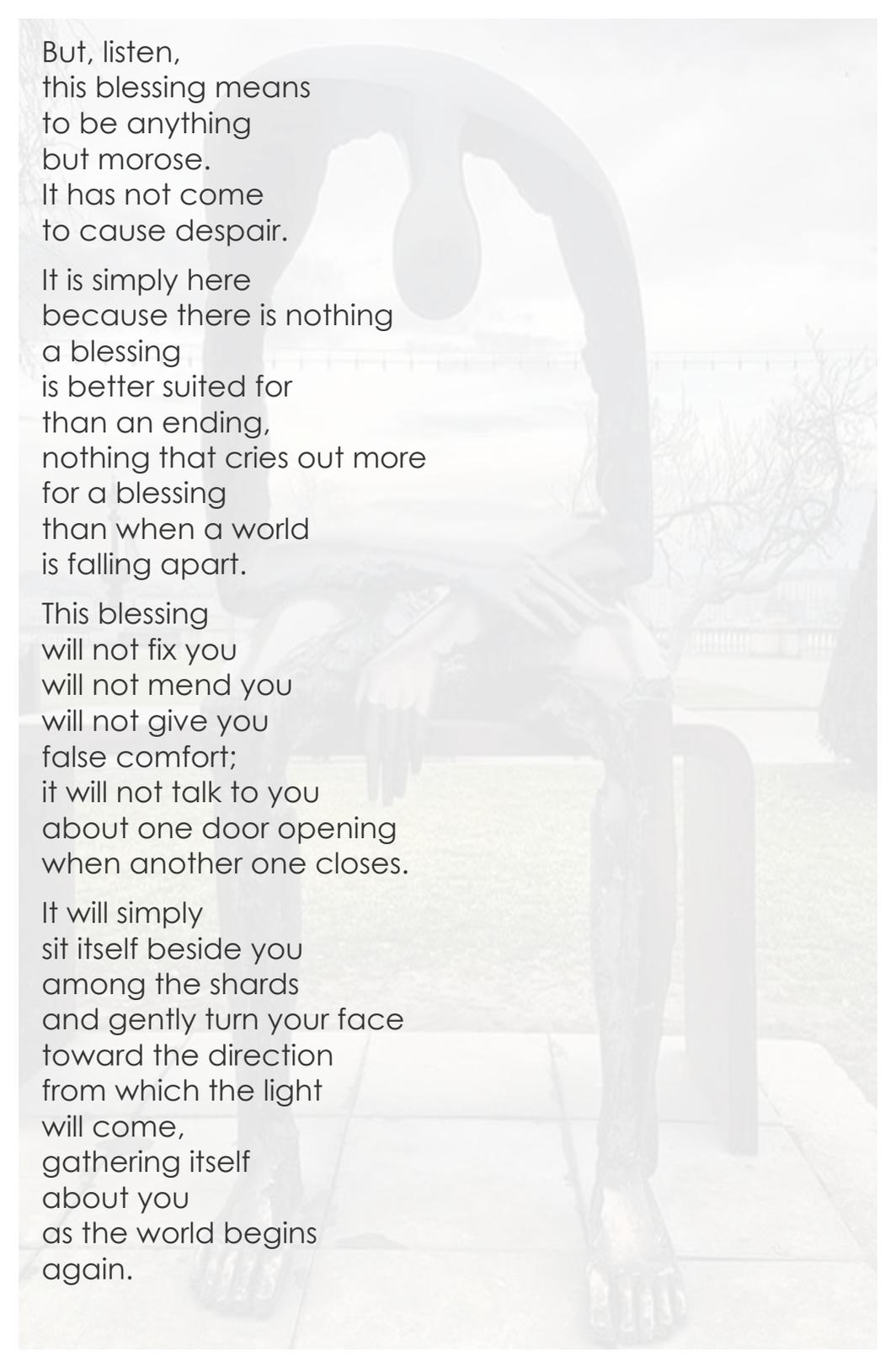
Somewhere
it has gone
completely dark.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the gun
the knife
the fist.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the slammed door
the shattered hope.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the utter quiet
that follows the news
from the phone
the television
the hospital room.

Somewhere
it has ended
with a tenderness
that will break
your heart.



But, listen,
this blessing means
to be anything
but morose.
It has not come
to cause despair.

It is simply here
because there is nothing
a blessing
is better suited for
than an ending,
nothing that cries out more
for a blessing
than when a world
is falling apart.

This blessing
will not fix you
will not mend you
will not give you
false comfort;
it will not talk to you
about one door opening
when another one closes.

It will simply
sit itself beside you
among the shards
and gently turn your face
toward the direction
from which the light
will come,
gathering itself
about you
as the world begins
again.

Song: "We'll Be at Home" (tune: UMH #453, William H. Doane / lyrics, vs. 1: Tim Emmett-Rardin; vs. 2-5: John Pritchard – adapted)

Come, God, renew our hearts;
open our minds.
Cast out the fears we hold,
all that would bind.
Give us our daily bread;
may all be fully fed.
We'll be at home, in your shalom.

Come, God, renew our lives;
give us your grace.
Touch every heart until
all know your face.
Earth's every good we'll share,
for one another care.
We'll be at home, in your shalom.

Come, God, renew all things;
grant a new start.
Unlock the chains we wear;
(soften) our hearts.
Grant each a welcome place,
a friend in every face.
We'll be at home in your shalom.

Come, God, renew our world;
all things refresh.
Touch every wound and heal,
broken ones bless.
Blind eyes with sight be found,
mute tongues with praise abound.
We'll be at home in your shalom.

Come, God, renew the earth;
bring us your peace.
Let war be learned no more,
all conflicts cease.
Let lambs with wolves lie down,

in safety all be found.
We'll be at home in your shalom.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

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;
and lead us into your healing ways.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "Healer of Our Every Ill" (TFWS #2213, Marty Haugen)

Refrain

*Healer of our every ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.*

You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort,
fill our hearts. (Refrain)

In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision,
God of love. (Refrain)

You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion,
fill each heart. (Refrain)

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: “When God Restored Our Common Life” (TFWS #2182, tune: traditional USA / lyrics: Ruth Duck – verse 3 only)

Great liberating God, we pray
for all who are oppressed.
May those who long for what is right
with justice now be blest.
We pray for those who mourn this day,
and all who suffer wrong;
may seeds they water now with tears
spring up into a song.

Calvary United Methodist Church

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