

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



“Thomas said, ‘Rabbi, we do not know where you are going. How would we be able to know the way?’”

- John 14:5

May 3, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Asian American, Native Hawaiian &
Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Jewish American Heritage Month

Mental Health Awareness Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: “Finding Our Way” (Aisha Badru)

You are invited during the Gathering Song to still your hearts, your minds, your bodies, as we come together for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

• **Visiting with us?**

- We're glad you're here! We strive to make our worship space—in-person and virtual—as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact Pastor Tim.

• **Spring Retreat:** Jun 20-21 (with option to add Jun 19)

- St. Raphaela Center (Haverford)
- allmeansall.org/retreats
- stay tuned for full details – contact Pastor Tim if interested, or with any questions

• **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons

• **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, May 3

- **12:45-2 pm:** “2nd Sunday” Potluck
- **2-4 pm:** Resistance Quilting Group
 - allmeansall.org/quilting
 - contact Brooke if interested, or with any questions: christensenvoice@gmail.com

Monday, May 4, 6:15-7:15 pm: Yoga (weekly)

- Chapel – 48th St entrance
- allmeansall.org/yoga

Tuesday, May 5

- **3 pm:** Midweek Prayer (weekly)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **6 pm:** POWER Interfaith Affordability Town Hall, with Councilmembers Kenyatta Johnson & Jamie Gauthier
 - Salt & Light Church / 57th & Chester
 - contact Mimi to join others from Calvary:
rmijima@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 6

- **10-11 am:** Yoga (weekly)
 - see May 4 for details
- **12-12:30 pm:** Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Immigrant Justice (weekly / New Sanctuary Movement)
 - Philadelphia ICE Field Office / 114 N 8th St
 - contact Pastor Tim to join our NSM Team
- **7-8ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap (monthly – 1st Wednesdays)
 - Dahlak / 4708 Baltimore Ave
 - allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap

Saturday, May 9, 1 pm: Meditation (weekly / West Philly Insight)

- Board Room (upstairs) – 48th St entrance

Sunday, May 10, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship

- guest accompanist: Olivia Backal-Balik

Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 pm: Trustees (bimonthly – 2nd Tuesdays)

Wednesday, May 13, 6-8 pm: Resistance Quilting Group

- see May 3 for details

Saturday, May 16, 10 am-12 pm: Pollinator Garden Workday (monthly – 3rd Saturdays)

- 48th & Baltimore
- allmeansall.org/garden
- contact Sparrow to sign up or to join our Green Team:
sprrwfrancis@gmail.com

Sunday, May 17

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
 - guest preacher: Cara Blouin
- **1-3 pm:** Resistance Quilting Group
 - see May 3 for details

Tuesday, May 19: Primary Election Day

Sunday, May 24, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship
(Pentecost)

- guest accompanist: Leo Le San

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In

Singing Our Way In: "Courage" (*adapted from Eric Bogle, inspired by South African Anti-Apartheid Movement*)

Courage (courage), my friend (my friend),
you do not walk alone
We will (we will), walk with you (walk with you)
and sing your spirit home

Faith (faith) ...

Hope (hope) ...

Love (love) ...

Justice (justice) ...

Call to Worship (*Third Space – adapted*)

One: O Divine Voice,

ALL: you sing and the universe comes into being.

One: O Divine Breath,

ALL: you breathe and all things spring to life.

One: O Divine Word,

ALL: you call and Creation is sustained.

One: O Divine Flesh,

**ALL: you are born among us, and the Creator is clothed
in Creation.**

One: O Divine Spirit,

ALL: you fill all that has been formed.

One: O Divine Life,

ALL: you are the pulse of all that is.

One: And so, in amazement and awe, in joy and celebration, we marvel at this mystery: In you all things live and move and have being; in all things, you live and move and express your Divine artistry.

ALL: And so may we go wherever you lead us, joining with Creation in the eternal song of worship and wonder and a world made ever new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "In the Midst of New Dimensions" (TFWS #2238, Julian B. Rush – adapted)

In the midst of new dimensions,
in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples
wandering in their separate ways?

*God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey
now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.*

Through the flood of starving people,
warring factions and despair,
who will lift the olive branches?
Who will light the flame of care? (Refrain)

As we stand a world divided
by our own self-seeking schemes,
grant that we, your global village
might envision wider dreams. (Refrain)

(We are many genders, colors,
all persuasions, old and young,
each a gift in your Creation,
each a love song to be sung. (Refrain)

Should the threats of dire predictions
cause us to withdraw in pain,
may your blazing phoenix spirit,
resurrect (us once) again. *(Refrain)*

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(John Van de Laar – adapted)*

We celebrate your life, O God, that, like a light, reveals our true colors and brings our shadows into loving sight. We celebrate your life, O God, that, like a song, teaches us our place in your harmony and forces us to re-train the discordant voices within us. We celebrate your life, O God, that, like a field, allows both wheat and weeds to grow until we learn to tell the difference, and keep only what nourishes. We celebrate your life, O God, gracious and true and transforming, abundant and eternal. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music: "In the Garden"

Scripture Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10 *(A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Wilda C. Gafney)*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – **3** if indeed you have tasted that God is good. **4** Come to Jesus, a living stone, although rejected by humanity yet chosen and precious to God. **5** And you yourselves, like living stones, being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** Thus scripture contains the following: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen, precious, and whoever believes in that stone will not be

put to shame." **7** To you all who believe then, a precious honor; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone," **8** and "A stumbling stone, and a rock of offense." They stumble over the word, "disobeying, disobedient" by design. **9** Yet you all are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own possession, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of God who called you out of shadow into God's marvelous light. **10** Once not a people, but now God's people; once bereft of mercy, but now rich in mercy.

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

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

Scripture Lesson: John 14:1-7 (*A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Wilda C. Gafney*)

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, then also believe in me. **2** In my Abba's house there are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you all, I will come again and will take you all to myself, in order that where I am, there you may be also. **4** Thus I am going. You all know the way." **5** Thomas said to him, "Rabbi, we do not know where you are going. How would we be able to know the way?" **6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Creator except through me. **7** If you know me, you will know my Abba also. From now on you do know and have seen my Abba."

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: "One Way?"

Song: "God Gives Us a Future" (tune: UMH #395, George C. Stebbins / lyrics: Elizabeth Smith)

God gives us a future, daring us to go
into dreams and dangers on a path unknown.
We will face tomorrow in the Spirit's power,
we will let God change us, for new life starts now.

We must leave behind us sins of yesterday,
for God's new beginning is a better way.
Fear and doubt and habit must not hold us back:
God gives hope, and insight, and the strength we lack.

Holy Spirit, teach us how to read the signs,
how to meet the challenge of our troubled times.
Love us into action, stir us into prayer,
till we choose God's life, and find our future there.

SHARING

Offering Our Gifts

allmeansall.org/time-talent / 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



Previous giving (rounded)

- Apr 20-26: \$1,694 / weekly budget: \$1,663
- White Basket, Apr 26: \$27
- Red Basket, Apr 12-26 (PA Interfaith Power & Light): \$85

Prayers of the People

"Thanks be to God" / "God hears our prayer"

Sung Response (tune: UMH #418, African American spiritual / lyrics: John Pritchard)

Hold us, heal us, living Spirit;

every hurt, each joy—please hear it.
Pour your life and love into us;
make us yours, we pray.

Communion / The Great Thanksgiving (*John Pritchard – adapted*)

One: God is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Open your hearts.

ALL: We open them up to God and to one another.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: It is right, O God, and a joyous thing to praise you, who spins the web of all Creation and breathes life into us. You etch your image into each person and give us to one another. You nourish us by each other's love, strengthen us by each other's support, delight us by each other's presence, and sculpt us by each other's witness. You prepare a place for all at your table, room for all in your house. Through life's challenges, you continue to stir life, awakening a dormant Creation and causing it to rise. And so, with all your people on earth, with the great company of heaven and all Creation, we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

ALL SING (*TFWS #2257-b, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: The United Methodist Hymnal – adapted*):

Holy, holy, holy (One); God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

Blest is the one who comes in the name of (our God).

Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

One: Holy are you, O God, and blessed is your risen Christ, Jesus, in whose life and work we see your touch weaving new relationships. He was born among outsiders, and foreigners came to greet him. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, welcomed at his table those

unwanted elsewhere, and called all who would to follow him. Rejected and killed by some, he rose to live among those who continued his welcome and work; those who experienced his presence as they shared a simple meal—breaking bread as his body was broken, pouring wine as his blood was poured out, sharing bread and cup as they shared one Spirit with him.

On the night ... And so we remember. As often as we break the bread and share the cup, we remember the life of Jesus and all that we see of you and your love in that life. We taste the same Spirit, feast on the same promise, and renew our commitment to follow the same path, proclaiming the mystery at the heart of our faith:

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-c, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: *The United Methodist Hymnal*):

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest!** (3x)

One: Stir up your Spirit now as we join together in this holy meal—in person and virtually. Pour out your Spirit on these gifts of bread and cup, and on all of our bread and cups. And by your Spirit, make us living stones—committed to follow your way, your truth, your life, one with each other in love, one in Jesus' passion for justice and wholeness, one in celebration of your grace weaving all Creation into one blessed family.

ALL SING (TFWS #2257-d, tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: *The United Methodist Hymnal*):

**Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest!** (3x)

Sung Response: "Eat This Bread" (UMH #628, tune: Robert Batastini & Taizé Community / lyrics: Jacques Berthier)

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

ENGAGING

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Go Now in Peace" (UMH #665,
Natalie Sleeth)

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Calvary United Methodist Church

*Celebrating 130 years at the intersection of
48th & Baltimore / spirituality & justice*

801 S. 48th Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143
215.724.1702 / office@allmeansall.org / allmeansall.org

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

Days of rest: Monday mornings, Fridays

Beth Jemison, Bethany Weed, Cord Whitaker (Co-Lay Leaders)

Lesley Curtis (Church Council Chair)

Annie Haviland (Finance Committee Chair)

Jennine Miller (Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair)

Holly Chowning (Trustees Chair)

For full leadership roster: allmeansall.org/leadership