

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"He gave her his hand and
helped her up. Then calling
the saints and widows, he
showed her to be alive."*

- Acts 9:41

May 8, 2022

4th Sunday of Easter

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude: "Sanna, Sannanina" (*traditional South African, performed by Africa University Choir*)

Translated, from Swahili, as "Holy, Most Holy Lord"

Welcome / Announcements

- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at tinyurl.com/worship-help
- **POWER 'Voting is Imperative' campaign:** phone/text banking opportunities every Tuesday and Thursday (12-2 or 6:30-8:30 pm) through the May 17th Primary Election
 - sign up: tinyurl.com/primaryvote2022
 - contact Eriks (eriksslush@hotmail.com) to confirm participation, and with any questions
- **Story Circles**
 - contact Amy (aemmettrardin@gmail.com) to sign up for the next round of matches!

Calendar

Today, 8-9 pm: Spiritual Reflection Group

- info at allmeansall.org/srg

Tuesday, May 10

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - info at allmeansall.org/faith-spirituality
- **6:30 pm:** Trustees

Sunday, May 15

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
 - guest preacher: Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart, Director for Faith-Based and Interfaith Affairs (*City of Philadelphia*)
- **1:30ish-3:30ish pm:** Calvary Potluck Picnic at Clark Park
 - 43rd & Chester (*weather permitting*)
 - BYO lunch & chairs (*extra food/drinks provided*)

Sunday, May 22, 2 pm: Philadelphia Interfaith Peace Walk

- Germantown/Roxborough
- info at interfaithpeacewalk.org/event-page
- contact Pastor Tim to participate with Calvary

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: "Shepherd Me, O God" (TFWS #2058, Marty Haugen)

Shepherd me, O God,
beyond my wants, beyond my fears,
from death into life.

Call to Worship (Steve Garnaas-Holmes, based on Psalm 23 – adapted)

One: Shepherd us, God;

ALL: help us follow.

One: All we need is given;

ALL: help us trust, receive and be grateful.

One: You lead us to rest and restoration;

ALL: give us faith to drink deeply, to lie down.

One: You lead us on a path with heart;

ALL: help us follow, for your sake.

One: Even through the darkest valley,

ALL: give us courage to trust and follow.

One: You are with us, your presence comforting;

ALL: in all our difficulties, help us trust.

One: You prepare a feast for us despite our fears.

ALL: You invite us to be at peace with our enemies.

One: You shower us with blessing;

ALL: you bathe us in gratitude.

One: Your goodness and mercy stick to us.

ALL: Help us trust that you are with us always, that we are in you always. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "God of Many Names" (UMH #105, tune: William P. Rowan / lyrics: Brian Wren)

God of many names, gathered into One,

in your glory come and meet us,

moving, endlessly becoming;

God of hovering wings, womb and birth of time,

joyfully we sing your praises,

breath of life in every people,

Refrain

Hush, hush, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Shout, shout, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Sing, sing, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Sing God is love, God is love!

God of Jewish faith, exodus and law,

in your glory come and meet us,

joy of Miriam and Moses;

God of Jesus Christ, rabbi of the poor,

joyfully we sing your praises,

crucified, alive for ever, (Refrain)

God of wounded hands, web and loom of love,

in your glory come and meet us,

carpenter of new creation;
God of many names, gathered into One,
joyfully we sing your praises,
moving, endlessly becoming, *(Refrain)*

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Thom M. Shuman – adapted)*

Whenever we find ourselves waist deep in stress, O God, you float us on your living waters that we may know peace. As we race down every road and alley of endless scheduling, you put up a detour sign directing us to your joy. When we find ourselves empty pursuing the shadows of sin and death, you set out a picnic in grace's garden of delight, handing us a slice of bread spread with hope's sweetness.

Though we sometimes flee from the very life we long to discover, you slow our pace so mercy and goodness can catch up with us. May goodness and mercy catch up with all of us.

Shepherd us, O God. Restore and enliven us, we pray.
Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. **2** (God) makes me lie down in green pastures; (God) leads me beside still waters; **3** (God) restores my soul. (God) leads me in right paths for (God's) name's sake. **4** Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me. **5** You

prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. **37** At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. **38** Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."

39 So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.

40 Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. **41** He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.

42 This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. **43** Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "To Be Alive"

Song: "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" (tune: UMH #196, Rowland H. Prichard / lyrics: UMH #581, Albert F. Bayly)

Lord, 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 Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles
still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision,
till 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 by 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, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know, and live.

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: “Guide My Feet” (*TFWS #2208, African American spiritual*)

Guide my feet while I run this race. (2x)
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Hold my hand ...
Stand by me ...
I'm your child ...
Search my heart ...
Guide my feet ...

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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