

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“God has brought laughter for me;
everyone who hears will laugh with me.”*
- **Genesis 21:6**

June 18, 2023
3rd Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

GATHERING

Prelude: "Od Yavo Shalom Aleinu" (tune: Mosh Ben-Ari / lyrics: trad. / perf. by Congregation Bet Haverim)

***You're invited to be in silence during the Prelude,
as we transition together into this sacred time and space.***

Welcome & Announcements

(full Announcements available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Thanks to Alisha Berry**, our guest preacher this week!
- **Pastor Tim on vacation, through Jun 23**
 - in case of a pastoral emergency, contact Jennine: 215.990.5668
- **Meal support for Sharon:** mealtrain.com/trains/z38lvo
- **Meal support for Ted & Dennis:**
 - mealtrain.com/trains/v5yga6
- **New Sanctuary Movement wish list for newly arriving immigrants:** tinyurl.com/nsm-wish
- **Bread & Roses Gender Giving Project (Fall 2023):**
 - tinyurl.com/gender-justice

Calendar

Today, 10 am-8 pm: Philadelphia Juneteenth Parade & Festival

- Malcolm X Park / 52nd & Larchwood
- juneteenthphilly.org

Tuesday, Jun 20, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer

- allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer

Sunday, Jun 25

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **1-2ish pm (following worship):** Ice Cream Social
 - celebrating Ursula before she moves to Hawaii
- **3 pm:** Interfaith Pride Service
 - Arch Street Presbyterian Church / 1724 Arch St

Tuesday, Jun 27, 7 pm: Church Council

Sunday, Jun 2, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship, with Communion

Sunday, Jul 9

- **9:30-10:30 am:** 2nd Sunday Potluck
 - join us for breakfast instead of our usual lunch, as we officially (and belatedly) welcome Norris!
- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship

Visiting With Us?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason you chose to join 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.

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 or sign up online. Our **Calvary Connections e-newsletter** goes out every Thursday night.

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "God Is So Good" (TFWS #2056 trad.)

God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, God's so good to me.

God cares for me, God cares for me,
God cares for me, God's so good to me.

God loves me so, God loves me so,
God loves me so, God's so good to me.

God is so good ...

Call to Worship *(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

One: Eternal God, Spirit of Love, we worship you.

ALL: Creating God, Renewing God, we worship you.

One: Transforming God, Bewildering God, we worship you.

ALL: Disorienting, Re-orienting God, we worship you.

Come, upset our ways and reshape us according to your Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Let All Things Now Living" *(TFWS #2008, tune: trad. Welsh melody / lyrics: Katherine K. Davis)*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners fly o'er us; God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

The law God enforces, the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim the Divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
To God in the highest hosanna and praise!

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Johnny Baker – adapted)*

God of justice, peace and righteousness, God of unexpected joy and laughter, come into our midst this

day. Come into our lives, wherever we are on life's journey. Breathe on us your breath, your Spirit, your energy, your enlivening, your imagination. Wake us up, open our eyes, unplug our ears – that we might see, that we might hear, that we might feel, that we might dream our way into a future filled with hope. That we might follow the ways of your extraordinary kin-dom. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Holy One, all the earth.

2 Worship the Holy One with gladness; come into God's presence with singing. **3** Know that the Holy One is God. It is God that made us, and we are God's; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture. **4** Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise. Give thanks to God, bless God's name. **5** For the Holy One is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 18:1-15

God appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. **2** He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. **3** He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. **4** Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. **5** Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." **6** And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready

quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." **7** Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. **8** Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

9 They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." **10** Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" **13** God said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' **14** Is anything too wonderful for the Holy One? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." **15** But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. God said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Why Did Sarah Laugh?"

Song: "Siyahamba / We Are Marching" (TFWS #2235-b, trad. South African – adapted)

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God. (*repeat*)

We are marching, marching, we are marching,

marching, we are marching in the light of God. (*repeat*)

We are laughing in the light of God ...

We are praying in the light of God ...

We are living in the love of God ...

We are marching in the light of God ...

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response (*tune: TFWS #2128, B.F. White / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

Source of life and love o'erflowing,
gather all the cares we bring.

Hold our tears and hold our longing
for a world where all can sing.

Stir in us as hope resilient; breathe in us as life renewed.

Bind our hearts in sure rejoicing
in a world we share with you.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" (*TFWS #2234, tune: Henry T. Smart / lyrics: Ruth Duck – adapted*)

Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come,
in wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.

Our slavery left behind us,
new hopes within us grow.

We seek the land of promise
where milk and honey flow.

Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.

We are not lost, though wandering,
for by your light we come,

and we are still (your) people.
The journey is our home.

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.

We pray (that all our children)
may journey to that land
where justice dwells with mercy,
and love is law's demand.

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"

Calvary United Methodist Church

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)

Norris Person (accompanist): music@allmeansall.org