

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"I praise you, for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made."*

- Psalm 139:14

June 2, 2024

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month / Pride Sunday

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "Rainbow Connection" (*Paul Williams & Kenneth Ascher / perf. by Jim Henson (as Kermit the Frog)*)

Welcome & Announcements

(also available at allmeansall.org/announcements)

- **Volunteers needed for community projects starting this fall:** Avery D. Harrington Elementary School, Sankofa Community Farm, Grace Cafe (at Arch Street UMC)
 - allmeansall.org/community-projects
 - contact Pastor Tim to sign up
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, 10:30 am-12 pm: Philly Pride March

- meet at Calvary (10 am) or 6th & Walnut (10:30 am)
- Festival to follow until 7 pm

Tuesday, Jun 4, 12-1 pm: Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)

Thursday, Jun 6

- **5-8 pm:** Baltimore Avenue Dollar Stroll
 - contact Pastor Tim to help staff Calvary's table!
- **8-9ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap (*last one until September!*)
 - Carbon Copy / 701 S. 50th St
 - allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap

Friday, Jun 7 - Saturday, Jun 8: Spring Retreat

- Pendle Hill (Wallingford, PA)
- allmeansall.org/spring-retreat

Sunday, Jun 9

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship (*Communion*)
- **12:45-2 pm:** 2nd Sunday Potluck
 - join us as we officially welcome our new office manager, Shakirah Holloway

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

Singing Our Way In: "Imago Dei" (*Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*)

Imago Dei, the image of God is here

Imago Dei, the likeness of God alive

Holy because we are of God, we are all of God

Holy because we are of God, we are all of God (*refrain*)

Siblings because we are of God, we are all of God

Siblings because we are of God,

we are all of God (*refrain*)

Call to Worship (*enfleshed – adapted*)

One: Gathered together, we proclaim the good news of God publicly, intentionally and explicitly:

ALL: We joyfully affirm God's love for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, nonbinary, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people – and all those whose gender identities and sexual orientations words cannot yet fully describe.

One: The presence of God welcomes and celebrates the fullness of who we are.

ALL: We are people who desire. Who long. Who practice and experience love in many ways.

One: We celebrate love that is platonic and love that is erotic.

ALL: Love that is queer and love that is collective.

One: We are people made in God's image, who want to know and be known – for who we've been, who we are and who we are becoming.

ALL: We honor identities in transition. We delight in authentic self-expression. God moves in our being and our becoming.

One: How wonderful are the many works of God's creative hand!

ALL: May all who long for Love's embrace feel their sacred worth, this day and always. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Creator, Companion, Comforter" (*tune: UMH #145, trad. Gaelic melody / lyrics: Craig Mitchell*)

God of Creation, gentle life-giver
present at birth, and all through our days.
Author of sunrise, song in the night sky,
here in this place, we offer our praise.

Jesus, companion, teacher and healer,
friend of the grieving, suffering, the poor.
Stand with your people, whisper among us
promise of mercy, goodness for all.

Spirit of comfort, blow through Creation,
stir up new life, breathe peace through our world.
Healer of hearts, and hope for tomorrow,
weave all our sorrows into new dawn.

Here we give thanks for life in its fullness,
blessings received, your gifts to us all.
Make us a people filled with compassion,
selflessly giving, serving your world.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer (*enfleshed – adapted*)

Passionate One, your love for us was so great that you queered every boundary working against our ability to perceive you. When we imagined you as beyond us, in the heavens, distant from our ordinary life, you took on flesh like ours and queered the boundaries between Divinity and Creation. Through the queerness of Pentecostal wind and fire, you affirmed that you are always with us, within us, between us, around us and beyond us.

Open our hearts, O God, to the sacredness of community that knows no boundaries. In the Incarnate One we pray, amen.

Silent Prayer

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-15

O HOLY ONE, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. **3** You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. **4** Even before a word is on my tongue, O HOLY ONE, you know it completely. **5** You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. **6** Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ...

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. **14** I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. **15** My frame was not hidden

from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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

Blessing: "Blessing for Knowing" (*Jan Richardson*)

Silent Reflection

- What does it mean for/to you to think of yourself as being fully, intimately "known" by God in the way the Psalmist describes?
- What does it mean for/to you to think of yourself as "fearfully and wonderfully made"?

Song: "Womb of Life" (*TFWS #2046, alt. tune: UMH #196 / lyrics: Ruth Duck*)

Womb of life, and source of being,
home of every restless heart,
in your arms the world's awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather 'round you,
at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter,
we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of Life, and Death of Death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us,
send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us;
be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us
whose we are, what we intend.

Labor with us, aid the birthing
of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord, and master,
free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, Holy Partner,
Father, Spirit, Only Son:

We would praise your name forever,
One in three, and three in one.
We would share your life, your passion,
share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising,
one with all, and one with you.

SHARING

Prayers of the People

Sung Response (*tune: UMH #682, Thomas Tallis / lyrics: John Pritchard*)

O draw us near, companion God.
For every joy, your name we laud.
For every wound and each sigh, too,
we pray your love will see us through.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "Singing for Our Lives" (*Holly Near*)

We are a gentle, angry people
And we are singing, singing for our lives (*repeat*)

We are a justice-seeking people ...

We are a land of many colors ...

We are gay and straight together ...

We are trans and cis together ...

We are young and old together ...

We are a gentle, loving people ...

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

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