

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit
a double share of your spirit.’”*

- 2 Kings 2:9b

June 29, 2025

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

GATHERING

Gathering Song: “Swing Low” (African American spiritual / perf. by Melanie DeMore)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Congregational giving** (*rounded*)
 - Jun 16-22: \$615 / weekly budget: \$1,827
- **“White Basket” offering through June:** Reconciling Ministries Network / Reconciling United Methodists of Eastern PA (RUM-EPA)
 - total to date: \$40 (goal: \$500)
 - to contribute online: allmeansall.org/donate (memo/note: White Basket – Reconciling)
- **Yoga classes will not be offered, Jun 30 – Jul 9** (*resuming Monday, Jul 14*)
 - allmeansall.org/yoga
- **Resistance for such a time as this**
 - allmeansall.org/resistance
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, Jun 29, 12:30-1 pm: Reception for new members

Monday, Jun 30, 8-9 pm: Calvary Book Study

- allmeansall.org/book-studies

Tuesday, Jul 1

- **3 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
 - 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays: 3 pm / 2nd & 4th: 6 pm
- **7 pm:** Church Council (*rescheduled*)

Wednesday, Jul 2, 4 pm: We Make Philly a Welcoming City! (*New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia*)

- Philadelphia City Hall (north side)
- contact Pastor Tim to join others from Calvary, or to get involved with Calvary's NSM Team

Saturday, Jul 5, 1 pm: Meditation (*weekly*)

- Calvary (Board Room) – 48th St entrance
- witnessandintegrate@gmail.com

Sunday, Jul 6, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship (*Communion*)

Monday, Jul 7, 7 pm: Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Tuesday, Jul 8, 3:30 pm: Trustees

Visiting With 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.

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In

Singing Our Way In: “Waiting for You” (*Christopher Grundy*)

We are waiting for you
Knowing that you always abide
We are waking to your presence
And our hearts are open wide
Open wide, open wide

Call to Worship (*anonymous – adapted*)

One: Let there be joy in our coming together. Let there be love in our journey together.

ALL: This is our prayer.

One: Let there be truth heard in the words we share and the songs we sing.

ALL: This is our prayer.

One: Let there be help and healing for our disharmony and despair.

ALL: This is our prayer.

One: Let there be silence for the Divine voice within us and beyond us.

ALL: This is our prayer.

One: Let there be joy in our coming together. Let there be love in our journey together.

ALL: This is our prayer.

One: Let us be nurtured in the presence of God!

ALL: Let us worship well together. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Bless Now, O God, the Journey" (*tune: UMH #425, Welsh hymn melody / lyrics: Sylvia Dunston – adapted*)

Bless now, O God, the journey
that, we, your people make.
The path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters
the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.

Divine Eternal Lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.

Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

Reception of New Members

Introduction and Presentation of Candidates

- Holly Chowning
- Kasper Kimura
- Allison Tomlinson
- Matt Tomlinson
- Orien Weathersby

Profession of Faith

Congregational Response

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Jesus. We will surround these friends with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God and be faithful in their care for themselves and service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Reception into the United Methodist Church

Reception into the Local Congregation

Commendation and Welcome

Congregational Response

We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in love. As members together with you in the universal Body of Christ, we renew with you our covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church and this congregation by our prayers, our presence, our gifts of time, talent and tithe, and our service.

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

GROUNDING

Community Prayer (*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers – adapted*)

Beckoning God, as you moved in the lives of Elijah and Elisha, move in our lives, inviting us to journey to unknown territory, to listen for your voice, to speak and to act on your prophetic word in a world that so often refuses to hear. Empowered by your Spirit, grant us the courage we need to journey, trust, listen, speak, act. Grant us the courage we need to accept your commission, our calling, to carry on your legacy of love. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the HOLY ONE was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. **2** Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the HOLY ONE has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the HOLY ONE lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ...

6 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the HOLY ONE has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the HOLY ONE lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. **7** Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from

them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. **8** Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit."

10 He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." **11** As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. **12** Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

13 He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. **14** He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, He said, "Where is the HOLY ONE, the God of Elijah? Where?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

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

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

Scripture Lesson: Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. **52** And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, **53** but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. **54** When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Rabbi, do you want us to command fire to come down

from heaven and consume them?" **55** But he turned and rebuked them.

56 Then they went on to another village. **57** As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." **58** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Woman has nowhere to lay his head." **59** To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Teacher, first let me go and bury my father." **60** And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." **61** Another said, "I will follow you, Master, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." **62** And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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)*

Reflection: "Passing the Mantle"

Community Sharing

- Who was/is your Elijah (or who were/are your Elijahs)?
From whom have you received a share of their spirit?
- What gifts or wisdom did you receive?
- What gifts or wisdom do you hope to pass on?

Song: "Holy Spirit, Wind of Heaven" *(tune: UMH #89, Ludwig van Beethoven / lyrics: Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)*

Holy Spirit, Wind of Heaven,
Breath of Life, our warmth and light,
Power of Creation, bringing
hopeful dawn from darkest night:
you have birthed us, you have borne us;
you have blessed us all our days.

Now you fill our lungs with singing;
how you fill our hearts with praise!

Holy Spirit, Flame of Passion,
you who brought (the) Church to be,
re-create us as your Body,
holy in our unity.

Fill us with your fierce compassion,
gentle courage, trust and peace.
Lead us all to love each other;
make our sad divisions cease.

Holy Spirit, dove descending,
heart of Christ within us all,
speak your wisdom, move among us,
help us hear your inner call.

Be the only pow'r that moves us;
be our life, O singing dove!
Holy Spirit, come, revive us!
Fill us with your heart of love!

SHARING

Prayers of the People

Sung Response *(tune: UMH #294, Hugh Wilson / lyrics: John Pritchard – adapted)*

O Wind and Fire, O Rock and Vine,
O Voice so still and small,
we bring our lives, our joys and tears
to you who embraces all.

O Wind and Fire, O Rock and Vine,
O Voice so still and small,
we bring our lives, our hopes and fears
to you who embraces all.

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 ...

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Pool of Love" (Alexa Sunshine Rose, Murray Kyle)

May the pool of love we have gathered here
Spread its wings and fly far and near
From the depths of our hearts to the farthest star
May our love bless everyone

Calvary United Methodist Church

at the intersection of 48th & Baltimore / spirituality & justice

Celebrating 130 Years (1895-2025)

Celebrating 40 Years as a Reconciling Congregation (1985-2025)

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

Norris Person (Music Minister): music@allmeansall.org

Shakirah Holloway (Office Manager)

Kristine Morrow, Bethany Weed, Cord Whitaker
(Co-Lay Leaders)

Gerry Felix (Church Council Chair)

Annie Haviland (Finance Committee Chair)

Jennine Miller (Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair)

Carl Ballinger (Trustees Chair)

For full leadership roster: allmeansall.org/leadership