

Calvary

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people . . . "*
- Amos 7:8

July 11, 2021
7th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude: "The Kingdom of God" (*Taizé*)

Welcome and Announcements

Announcements

- donate to building campaign: tinyurl.com/CCCCPhilly

Calendar

Tuesday, Jul 13

- **12 pm:** Midweek Prayer
 - info at allmeansall.org/virtual
- **6:30 pm:** Trustees

Saturday, Jul 24, 10 am and Sunday, Jul 25, 1 pm: Calvary Building Clean-Out/Clean-Up

- email office@allmeansall.org to sign up

Sunday, Jul 25, 8 pm: Spiritual Reflection Group

- info at allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group
- also Aug 29

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).

Want to Help with Worship?

If you would like to participate in worship by leading the *Call to Worship*, reading scripture, preaching or otherwise, please contact Pastor Tim.

Singing Our Way In: "The Kingdom of God" (*Taizé*)

The kingdom* of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom*.

* you may prefer to substitute the gender-neutral "kin-dom," which also describes a relational, rather than hierarchical, model of God's intended community

Invitation to Holy Presence / Breath Prayer

Call to Worship *(John Pritchard, adapted)*

One: In the Spirit that intertwines and empowers us, welcome.

ALL: Grace to you, and peace.

One: Join, friends, to remember that we stand in the presence of God, always.

ALL: But what is it like to live with God among us?

One: It is to be adopted, embraced as God's beloved.

ALL: We are holy and loved wholly!

One: It is to be summoned, to be asked to see with new eyes, to rise, to speak, to do deeds of love and justice.

ALL: We are called, invited to be bearers of hope.

One: It is to be seen, to be measured, as if by a plumb line, against our high and holy calling.

ALL: We are accountable, tarnished, diminished, when we lose our way.

One: It is to have fresh possibilities, to be called to begin again.

ALL: We are set free and summoned ever anew.

One: It is to taste joy—head-over-heels, lost-in-wonder, dancing joy, the joy of life,

ALL: the joy of unexpected gift, of deep goodness, of rich and loving connection, the joy that erupts from us in praise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn: "Gather Us In"

(TFWS #2236, alternate lyrics in parentheses)

Here in this place new light is streaming

Now is the darkness vanished away

See in this space our fears and our dreamings

Brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken

Gather us in, the blind and the lame

Call to us now and we shall awaken

We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery

We are the old who yearn for your face

We have been sung throughout all of history

Called to be light to the whole human race

*Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song*

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your (children together)
Call us anew to be salt for the earth
*Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true*

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom*, now is the day
*Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones*

* here again, you may prefer to substitute the gender-neutral and relational "kin-dom"

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer (*John Pritchard, adapted*)

We know, O God, the unpredictability and brevity of life, having lost so many to a virus, to a sudden Miami building collapse, to gunshots in our streets. We know what it is to weep and tremble, to ache and mourn, yet we know too what it is to laugh, to sip from the cup of kindness, to be held and strengthened in community; we know the taste of fresh strawberries, the scent of wildflowers, the sound of crashing wave and seagulls' cries; we know the tendrils of love that join us to each other and the web of gifts that weave us into creation's fabric; so we come today to acknowledge deep

sorrow and great joy, life's bittersweet goodness, the fragile, painful, blessed gift of each day.

Hear our thanks, we pray. Strengthen us where we are weak; and where we are strong, grant us to be strength for others. Open our eyes where we are blind, and our lives where we are indifferent, to injustice and oppression. Open us to your unending companionship, that we may make our home in you, we ask in the grace of your Spirit. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music: "Don't Be Afraid – We Shall Overcome"

(Calvary Choir)

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 85:8-13

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for (God) will speak peace to (God's) people, to (God's) faithful, to those who turn to (God) in their hearts. **9** Surely (God's) salvation is at hand for those who fear (God), that (God's) glory may dwell in our land.

10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. **11** Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

12 The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. **13** Righteousness will go before (God) and will make a path for (God's) steps.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Amos 7:7-15

This is what (God) showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in . . . hand.

8 And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; **9** the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

10 Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his

words. **11** For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'

12 And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there;

13 but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, **15** and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "What Do You See?"

Hymn of Response: "Let Streams of Living Justice"

(tune: Gustav Holst / lyrics: William Whitla)

Let streams of living justice
flow down upon the earth;
give freedom's light to captives,
let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading,
the worker's claim their rights,
the mourners long for laughter,
the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon,
strike down the iron power,
abolish ancient vengeance,
proclaim your people's hour.

For healing of the nations,
for peace that will not end,
for love that makes us lovers,
God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together,
knit our lives as they are spun;
on your loom of time enroll us

fill our thread of life is run.
O great Weaver of our fabric,
bind church and world in one;
dye our texture with your radiance,
light our colors with your sun.

Your city's built to music;
we are the stones you seek;
your harmony is language:
we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service,
our hope in other's dreams,
our love in hand of neighbor:
our homeland brightly gleams.
inscribe our hearts with justice;
your way - the path untried;
your truth - the heart of stranger,
your life - the Crucified.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

“Thanks be to God” or “God, hear our prayer”

Prayer Response *(tune: UMH #408 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O Open Arms, now hold our cares,
the aches we've named, the joys we've shared.
And hold us, too; into us breathe—
your grace, your life, let us receive.

Closing Hymn: “I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

(TFWS #2153)

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me . . .
I'm gonna pray so God can use me . . .
I'm gonna sing so God can use me . . .
I'm gonna live so God can use me . . .

ENGAGING

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Let the Church Say Amen"

Let the church say, "Amen" (*repeat*)

God has spoken, let the church say, "Amen"

Calvary United Methodist Church

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gmechazg