

# Calvary United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*"As shoes for your feet put on  
whatever will make you ready to  
proclaim the gospel of peace."*

*- Ephesians 6:15*

**August 22, 2021**  
13th Sunday after Pentecost

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## GATHERING

**Prelude:** "This Is Your Sword" (*Bruce Springsteen*)

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### Announcements

- **Calvary's Covid-19 protocols:** [allmeansall.org/covid](http://allmeansall.org/covid)
- **tentative return to in-person worship:** Sunday, Aug 29 (11 am) at Clark Park, then Sunday, Sep 12 (11:15 am – please note NEW TIME!) at Calvary
- **donate to UMCOR disaster relief in Haiti:** [umcmission.org](http://umcmission.org)
- **Stephen Ministry training (one-to-one congregational care):**
  - contact Pastor Tim if interested
- **donate to building campaign:** [tinyurl.com/CCCCPhilly](http://tinyurl.com/CCCCPhilly)

### Calendar

**Today, 5 pm:** Theatre in the X Presents "The West Philly Meeting"

- Malcolm X Park; info at [theatreinthex.com](http://theatreinthex.com)
- also Aug 29

**Tuesday, Aug 24, 12-12:30 pm:** Midweek Prayer  
◦ info at [allmeansall.org/virtual](http://allmeansall.org/virtual)

**Thursday, Aug 26, 9 am-4 pm:** Restorative Cities Initiative Training

- 260 S. 51<sup>st</sup> Street
- contact Pastor Tim if interested

**Sunday, Aug 29, 8-9 pm:** Spiritual Reflection Group  
• info at [allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group](http://allmeansall.org/spiritual-reflection-group)

**Saturday, Sep 18, 7-8:30 pm:** Singing a New Song  
• info at [allmeansall.org/new-song](http://allmeansall.org/new-song)

**Saturday, Oct 23, 4 pm:** Charge Conference

**Friday, Nov 12 – Saturday, Nov 13/Sunday, Nov 14:** Calvary Fall Retreat (*adults only*)

### 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](mailto: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: "We Resist"** *(Mark Miller)*

We resist, we refuse, to let hatred in.

We rise up, we won't back down,

We're in this 'til the end. *(repeat)*

Pray for your enemies, welcome the stranger,

Show love to your neighbor, we're in this 'til the end.

### **Invitation to Holy Presence / Breath Prayer**

#### **Call to Worship** *(Craig Mitchell)*

One: To the God of life, let us bring ourselves; some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of truth, let us bring ourselves; some trusting, some doubting, our questions and our certainties.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of light, let us bring ourselves; our achievements, our failures, our public selves, our hidden selves.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of hope, let us bring ourselves; our dreams and visions, our despair, our yearnings.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are.**

One: To the God of all Creation, let us bring ourselves; we broken, we blessed, made in God's image, loved beyond measure.

**ALL: We bring who we truly are. Let us offer our worship and be open to God's light and life among us. Alleluia!**

**Alleluia!**

**Opening Hymn: "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here"**  
*(tune: Henry Carey / lyrics: Brian Wren)*

Great God, your love has called us here,  
as we, by love, for love were made.  
Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed;  
we come, with all our heart and mind,  
your call to hear, your love to find.

We come with self-inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by powers and systems close confined,  
yet seeking hope for humankind.

Great God, in Christ you call our name,  
and then receive us as your own;  
not through some merit, right or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone;  
we strain to glimpse your mercy seat,  
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends;  
suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends,  
to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share;  
give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do,  
while love is making all things new.

**Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

## CENTERING

### **Community Prayer** *(Tess Ward, adapted)*

God of life, source of all. We come from you and we give to you ourselves this day. Speak to us in accents we can understand, especially when our reception seems dim. Be the clear listening in our ears when others seem lost in translation. Be in our hearts that we might see beyond what is said aloud. Be in our bodies that our touch may express your compassion. Be the action in our hands and feet this day that we might not be all words. Be the sense in our reading that we might not be beguiled. Be the words in our mouths that we might speak with integrity. Be the word in our flesh, trusting you, and may your word not return to you empty.

May we discover what makes for peace, whatever our language, in you on whom our peace depends. In your Spirit we pray, Amen.

### **Silent Prayer**

**Special Music:** "Guide My Feet" *(Calvary Choir)*

**Scripture Lesson:** Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-17

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. **2a** And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors – Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor – lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

**14** "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve (God) in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. **15** Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

**16** Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; **17** for it is the

LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. (God) protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed."

## **Choral Alleluia**

### **Scripture Lesson:** Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of (God's) power. **11** Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **12** For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

**14** Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. **15** As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. **16** With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## **Choral Alleluia**

**Sermon:** "Gotta Be the Shoes"

**Hymn of Response:** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

*(UMH #577, with alternate lyrics)*

God of grace and God of glory,  
on (your) people pour (your) pow'r;  
crown (your) ancient church's story;  
bring (its) bud to glorious flow'r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

Cure (your) children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to (your) control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss (your) kingdom's\* goal,  
lest we miss (your) kingdom's\* goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the search for (your) salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving (you) whom we adore,  
serving (you) whom we adore.

*\* you may prefer to substitute the gender-neutral and relational "kin-dom"*

## **SHARING**

### **Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns**

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

### **Prayer Response** *(tune: UMH #175 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O Loving Heart, O Blessed Arms,  
hold all we bring to you—  
our hopes, our fears, our joy and tears,  
our pledge your will to do.

**Closing Hymn:** "May You Run and Not Be Weary" (TFWS #2281)  
(alternate tune & refrain, UMH #525)

May you run and not be weary.  
May your heart be filled with song.  
And may the love of God continue  
to give you hope and keep you strong.  
And may you run and not be weary.  
May your life be filled with joy!  
And may the road you travel always lead you home.

*By and by, when the morning comes,  
when the saints of God are gathered home,  
we'll tell the story how we've overcome,  
for we'll understand it better by and by.*

## **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"

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

*at the corner of 48<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore / at the corner of spirituality & justice*

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