

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*“Do not neglect to show
hospitality to strangers, for by
doing that some have entertained
angels without knowing it.”*

- Hebrews 13:2

August 28, 2022

12th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude: "You've Got a Friend" (*Carole King*)

Welcome / Announcements

- **Research study – LGBTQ+ Inclusion in the Church**
 - info at tinyurl.com/3B3SRWAY (video) or tinyurl.com/2P93XY5T (PDF)
- **Story Circles**
 - contact Amy (aemmettrardin@gmail.com) to join the next round of matches!
- **Lectionary Bible Study** (*virtual / weekly*)
 - Wednesdays, 12-1 pm
 - info at allmeansall.org/lectionary-bible-study
- **Adult Ed Book Study – Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents** (*virtual / weekly*)
 - Mondays, Oct 3-Nov 21, 7:30-8:30 pm (*no class Oct 31*)
 - info at allmeansall.org/adult-ed
- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at tinyurl.com/worship-help

Calendar

Tuesday, Aug 30

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer
 - info at allmeansall.org/faith-spirituality
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee

Thursday, Sep 1, 7 pm: Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Sunday, Sep 4, 11:15 am-12:45 pm: Hybrid Worship, with Communion

Wednesday, Sep 7, 6-8 pm: New Sanctuary Movement General Assembly

- contact Lauren (laurenbee93@gmail.com) for details or to get involved with Calvary's NSM Team

Thursday, Sep 8, 7-8:15 pm: Community Rhythm Circle

- info at allmeansall.org/community-rhythm-circle

Sunday, Sep 11

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship – Homecoming Sunday
 - you're encouraged to invite friends and family!
- **1-3ish pm:** Potluck Picnic (*weather permitting*)
 - outside 48th Street entrance
 - BYO lunch if you can (*extra food/drinks provided*)

Thursday, Sep 15, 5:30-8:30 pm: Baltimore Avenue Dollar Stroll

- contact Ursula (rrujohnson@comcast.net) if you can help staff Calvary's table

Sunday, Sep 25, following worship (12:30-1:30 pm):

Congregational Meeting

- update/discussion re: UMC disaffiliation process, etc.

Saturday, Oct 1, timing TBD: Fall Retreat at Carson

Simpson Farm (*Hatboro*)

- save the date – full details coming soon!
- info at allmeansall.org/fall-retreat

Visiting With Us?

We're glad you're here, for whatever reason you chose to join us! We invite you to fill out a Visitor Form at allmeansall.org/visitors; for those worshipping in person, someone will share a form with you during the service. We strive to make our worship space (in person and virtual) as welcoming and accommodating of different needs as possible. If you have any concerns or questions regarding accessibility, 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 (office@allmeansall.org).

CENTERING & CONNECTING

Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer

Singing Our Way In: "Bless the Lord" (TFWS #2013, Jacques Berthier)

Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul
who leads me into life.

Call to Worship (The Iona Community)

One: O God of life, of all life and of each life, we lay our lives before you. We give our lives to you, from whom nothing is hidden.

ALL: You are before us, God, you are behind. You are around us, God, you are within.

One: O God of life, you know the secret thoughts of every heart.

ALL: We bring the faith that is in us, and the doubt. We bring the joy that is in us, and the sorrow.

One: O God of life, you are in the light and in the darkness.

ALL: We bring the knowledge that is in us, and the ignorance. We bring the hope that is in us, and the despair.

One: O God of life, O generous Spirit,

**ALL: renew us with your life, today, tomorrow and always.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Opening Song: "Womb of Life" (tune: UMH #196, Rowland H. Prichard / lyrics: TFWS #2046, 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.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted)*

God of grace, you give yourself to us, humbly, with
delight, mostly invisibly. We receive you with gratitude.
We enter into your heart. We welcome you into ours, that
your light may shine in and through us. We open the
doors of our minds, that you may enter and renew.

Welcome. Like beggars we come to you. Like children we open our hands to your grace. Give us the humility of Christ, that we may embody his generosity and hospitality, in the power of your Spirit. Come to us, God; speak to us, and feed our souls. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. **2** Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. **3** Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. **4** Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. **5** Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." **6** So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" **7** Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. **8** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

15 Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess (God's) name. **16** Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. **8** "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; **9** and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. **10** But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. **11** For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. **14** And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Hospitality as Solidarity"

Song: "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" (*tune: TFWS #2212, Robert Lowry / lyrics: Ruth Duck; vs. 4: Tim Emmett-Rardin*)

We cannot own the sunlit sky,
the moon, the wild-flowers growing,
for we are part of all that is
within life's river flowing.

With open hands receive and share

the gifts of God's creation,
that all may have abundant life
in every earthly nation.

When bodies shiver in the night
and weary wait for morning,
when children have no bread but tears,
and war horns sound their warning.
God calls humanity to wake,
to join in common labor,
that all may have abundant life,
and oneness with their neighbor.

God calls humanity to join
as partners in creating
a future free from want or fear,
life's goodness celebrating.
That new world beckons from afar,
invites our shared endeavor,
that all might have abundant life
and peace endure forever.

With softened hearts and curious minds,
and outstretched arms embracing,
the walls come down, strangers no more,
the ties that bind, retracing.
Where wonder leads, love finds a home,
no room for fear and hatred,
that all may have abundant life
all lives forever sacred.

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys & Concerns

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

Sung Response *(tune: UMH #175, John B. Dykes / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O living God, we wait for you,

each wound, each rift to heal,
each empty heart and life to fill,
each day with joy to seal.

ENGAGING

Closing Song: "This Little Light of Mine" (*African American spiritual*)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go ...
All through the night ...
This little light of mine ...

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)