

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“Draw near to God, and  
God will draw near to you.”*

*- James 4:8*

**September 22, 2024**

*18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

# **CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**

*National Hispanic Heritage Month*

## **GATHERING**

**Gathering Song:** "Way Maker" (*Sinach / perf. by Marcus & Carolina Akins*)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

- **Community Rummage Sale postponed**
  - new date TBD
  - contact Shakirah to join the planning team:  
[office@allmeansall.org](mailto:office@allmeansall.org)
- **Fall Book Study:** The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Refounding Democracy (*Jim Wallis*)
  - Mondays, Sep 30 – Oct 28, 7:30-8:30 pm
  - [allmeansall.org/book-studies](http://allmeansall.org/book-studies)
- **Fall/Winter Bible Study:** Gospels of Matthew & Luke
  - [allmeansall.org/bible-studies](http://allmeansall.org/bible-studies)
- **Previous sermons:** [allmeansall.org/sermons](http://allmeansall.org/sermons)
- **Previous bulletins:** [allmeansall.org/bulletins](http://allmeansall.org/bulletins)

## Calendar

### **Tuesday, Sep 24**

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
  - [allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer](http://allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer)
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee (*rescheduled*)
- **7-8:30 pm:** POWER Climate Justice & Jobs Whole Team (*monthly*)
  - contact Pastor Tim for details, or to get involved in Calvary's POWER Team

### **Sunday, Sep 29**

- **11 am-12:30 pm:** Hybrid Worship
  - Service of Healing & Wholeness

- **1-6 pm:** PA Interfaith Power & Light Annual Interfaith Climate Convening
  - [tinyurl.com/climate-convening](https://tinyurl.com/climate-convening)
  - contact Pastor Tim if interested, or to get involved with Calvary's PA-IPL Team

**Monday, Sep 30, 7:30-8:30 pm:** Book Study (*weekly, through Oct 28*)

**Thursday, Oct 3, 8-9ish pm:** Spirituality on Tap (*monthly*)

- Carbon Copy / 50<sup>th</sup> & Baltimore
- [allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap](https://allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap)

**Saturday, Oct 19, 10 am-5 pm:** Calvary Fall Retreat

- [allmeansall.org/fall-retreat](https://allmeansall.org/fall-retreat)
- registration deadline: Oct 1

**Saturday, Oct 26, 9:30 am-12 pm:** Calvary @ Sankofa Community Farm

- Bartram's Garden / 3000 S. 56<sup>th</sup> St
- [allmeansall.org/sankofa](https://allmeansall.org/sankofa)
- contact Pastor Tim to volunteer or with questions

**Sunday, Nov 3, 5-8 pm:** Calvary Center Benefit Event

- honoring Rich Kirk

### 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.

## **CENTERING & CONNECTING**

### **Breathing Our Way In**

**Singing Our Way In:** "Open My Eyes" (*Jesse Manibusan – adapted*)

Open my eyes, (God), help me to see your face.  
Open my eyes, (God), help me to see.

Open my ears, (God), help me to hear your voice.  
Open my ears, (God), help me to hear.

Open my heart, (God), help me to love like you.  
Open my heart, (God), help me to love.

I live within you, deep in your heart, O Love.  
I live within you, rest now in me.

**Call to Worship** *(The Iona Community)*

One: O God, for your love for us, warm and brooding,  
which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes to  
the wonder and beauty of Creation,

**ALL: we give you thanks.**

One: For your love for us, wild and freeing, which has  
awakened us to the energy of Creation: to the sap that  
flows, the blood that pulses, the heart that sings,

**ALL: we give you thanks.**

One: For your love for us, compassionate and patient,  
which has carried us through our pain, wept beside us in  
our sin, and waited with us in our confusion,

**ALL: we give you thanks.**

One: For your love for us, strong and challenging, which  
has called us to risk for you, asked for the best in us, and  
shown us how to serve.

**ALL: we give you thanks. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Opening Song:** "How Can We Name a Love" *(UMH #111,  
trad. English melody / lyrics: Brian Wren – adapted)*

How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,  
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?  
Within our daily world, in every human face,  
Love's echoes sound and God is found,  
hid in the common place.

If we awoke to life built on a rock of care  
that asked no great reward but firm,  
assured, was simply there,  
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,

Love unconfined, a father kind,  
a mother strong and sure.

When people share a task, and strength and skills unite  
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,  
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,  
that all should share, create and care,  
and know that life is good.

So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet  
a presence, sensed and shown at work,  
at home, or in the street.

Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:  
In (God) alone is Love full grown  
and life and hope begun.

### **Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

### **GROUNDING**

**Community Prayer** (*Walter Brueggemann – adapted*)

You speak words of promise, O God, and we answer. A  
thousand times we answer, in a thousand tongues—we  
answer in hymns of praise, we answer in songs of  
thanksgiving, we answer in lyrics of gladness, we answer  
in candor about hurt, we answer in abrasive anger, we  
answer in deep abandonment.

We answer and draw close to you. And in answering we  
are changed: given freedom, come to truth, bound in  
obedience, called to love. We answer and are yours, all  
yours, not our own, yours, and glad that we belong to  
you and to each other. Amen.

**Silent Prayer**

**Special Music**

**Scripture Lesson:** James 3:13-4:3, 7-8

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. **14** But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. **15** This is not wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. **16** For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. **17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. **18** And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**4:1** Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? **2** You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ... **7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and the devil will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

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

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

**Scripture Lesson:** Mark 9:33-37

Then (the disciples) came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" **34** But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. **35** He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and

servant of all." **36** Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them, **37** "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the One who sent me."

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)*

### **Sermon: "Drawing Nearer"**

**Song: "Blessed Be Children"** *(tune: UMH #145, Gaelic melody / lyrics: Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan)*

Blessed be children, fruit of the world's love

Blessed be faces turned to the sky

Grow in us wonder as in a child's face

Gift us with love for hows and for whys

Open to mystery, mind of a new world

Open to questions having no end

Grow in us wonder as in a child's mind

Gift us with loving, free as the wind

Open to find love, tender as waking

Open to friendship, eager to play

Grow in us wonder as in a child's heart

Gift us with loving, tender as rain

Open to singing, sound of our passion

Open to crying, sound of our need

Grow in us wonder as in a child's voice

Gift us with love in full melodies

Blessed be grown-ups, fruit of the world's love

Welcome as children in tender arms

Grow in us wonder as in a child's life

Gift us with life in wondering love

## **SHARING**

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

#### **Sung Response** *(tune: UMH #145 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

Hear us, Creator. Hear us, O Lover.  
Hear us, O Spirit moving within.  
Hear all our longing; hear all our sorrow.  
Hear every joy and praise that we bring.

## **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 ...

Search my heart ...

## **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"

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## **Calvary United Methodist Church**

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

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**Norris Person** (accompanist): [music@allmeansall.org](mailto:music@allmeansall.org)