

# Calvary Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*



*“The whole congregation of the  
Israelites complained against  
Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.”  
- Exodus 16:2*

**September 24, 2023**  
*17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

# **CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**

## **National Hispanic Heritage Month**

### **GATHERING**

**Gathering Song:** "Un Día a La Vez (One Day at a Time)"  
(Salvador)

**You're invited to be in silence during the Gathering Song,  
as we transition together into this sacred time and space.**

### **Welcome & Announcements**

(full Announcements available at [allmeansall.org/announcements](http://allmeansall.org/announcements))

- **Story Circles:** [allmeansall.org/story-circles](http://allmeansall.org/story-circles)
  - contact Amy to join: [aemmettrardin@gmail.com](mailto:aemmettrardin@gmail.com)
- **HVAC Matching Gift Campaign:** [allmeansall.org/hvac](http://allmeansall.org/hvac)
- **Meal support for Sharon:** [mealtrain.com/trains/z38lvo](http://mealtrain.com/trains/z38lvo)
- **Worship volunteers:** sign up at [tinyurl.com/worship-help](http://tinyurl.com/worship-help)
- **Previous sermons:** [allmeansall.org/sermons](http://allmeansall.org/sermons)
- **Previous bulletins:** [allmeansall.org/bulletins](http://allmeansall.org/bulletins)

### **Calendar**

**Tuesday, Sep 26, 12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (virtual)

- [allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer](http://allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer)

**Saturday, Sep 30, 2-6 pm:** Calvary Clean-out

- sign up at [office@allmeansall.org](mailto:office@allmeansall.org)

**Sunday, Oct 1, 11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship, with  
Communion (World Communion Sunday)

**Monday, Oct 2, 7:30-8:30 pm:** Adult Ed Book Study (virtual)

- [allmeansall.org/adult-ed](http://allmeansall.org/adult-ed)

**Wednesday, Oct 4 OR Thursday, Oct 5, 7:30-8:30 pm:**  
Spirituality on Tap

- location TBA; [allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap](http://allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap)

**Saturday, Oct 7, 10:30 am-12:30 pm:** Congregational  
Meeting (virtual)

**Sunday, Oct 8**

- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **1-2ish pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck

## Sunday, Oct 15

- **9:30-10:30 am:** Bible Study (*hybrid*)
- **11:15 am-12:45 pm:** Hybrid Worship
- **4-6 pm:** Confirmation Class

## Saturday, Oct 21, 1 pm:

- starts at Paul Robeson House / 45<sup>th</sup> & Walnut

## Saturday, Nov 11, 10 am-5 pm:

- Cranaleith Spiritual Center

### 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.

### 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 or sign up online. Our **Calvary Connections e-newsletter** goes out every Thursday night.

## **CENTERING & CONNECTING**

### **Breathing Our Way In / Breath Prayer**

#### **Singing Our Way In:** "Manna for All" (*Bruce Harding*)

God of abundance, call us to action  
trusting your promise: manna for all!

#### **Call to Worship** (*Steve Garnaas-Holmes – adapted*)

One: Creating God, you have made us in your image.

**ALL: You have fed us with your blessing.**

One: You have led us through our challenges.

**ALL: You have granted us grace when we least expected it.**

One: You are the fountain of blessing, the source of unending goodness.

**ALL: We, your people, turn to you. We thank you. We worship you. Come, generous Spirit, and transform us by your presence. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Opening Song:** "In the Midst of New Dimensions" (TFWS #2238, Julian B. Rush – adapted)

In the midst of new dimensions,  
in the face of changing ways,  
who will lead the pilgrim peoples  
wandering in their separate ways?

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey  
now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.**

Through the flood of starving people,  
warring factions and despair,  
who will lift the olive branches?  
Who will light the flame of care? (*refrain*)

As we stand a world divided  
by our own self-seeking schemes,  
grant that we, your global village  
might envision wider dreams. (*refrain*)

(We are many genders, colors,)  
all persuasions, old and young,  
each a gift in your creation,  
each a love song to be sung. (*refrain*)

Should the threats of dire predictions  
cause us to withdraw in pain,  
may your blazing phoenix spirit,  
resurrect (us once) again. (*refrain*)

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

One: The peace of God be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

## GROUNDING

### **Community Prayer** *(United Church of Christ – adapted)*

God of sustenance, give us this day our daily bread. You call your people to prayer and praise and new life. This day, call us together just as you called the people of Israel to gather manna in the desert. Call us to enough for all.

God of blessing, give us this day our daily bread. Offer us whatever we need to remain connected to you, to each other and to ourselves. As spiritual beings, we hunger for food that endures – faith, hope and love.

God of grace, give us this day our daily bread. All life is created and nourished by you. May we grow into ever wider circles of understanding and being and loving, reflecting the ways in which we have been – and continue to be – fed by your holy manna. Come, Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread. Amen.

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Special Music**

### **Scripture Lesson:** Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. **3** The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Holy One in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

**4** Then the Holy One said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. **5** On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other

days." **6** So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Holy One who brought you out of the land of Egypt, **7** and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Holy One, because God has heard your complaining against the Holy One. For what are we, that you complain against us?" **8** And Moses said, "When the Holy One gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Holy One has heard the complaining that you utter against them – what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Holy One." **9** Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Holy One, for God has heard your complaining.'" **10** And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Holy One appeared in the cloud. **11** The Holy One spoke to Moses and said, **12** "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Holy One your God.'"

**13** In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. **14** When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. **15** When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Holy One has given you to eat."

## **Choral Alleluia**

**Scripture Lesson:** Matthew 20:1-16

"For the realm of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

**2** After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily



wage, he sent them into his vineyard. **3** When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; **4** and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. **5** When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. **6** And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' **7** They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

**8** When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.'

**9** When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. **10** Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. **11** And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, **12** saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' **13** But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?

**14** Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. **15** Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' **16** So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## **Choral Alleluia**

**Sermon:** "No Use Complaining"

**Song:** "All Who Hunger" (TFWS #2126, tune: William Moore / lyrics: Sylvia G. Dunston)

All who hunger, gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering.  
Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers;  
seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming.  
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered,  
in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Here, in peace, we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table  
live their lives in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

## **SHARING**

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

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

**Sung Response** (tune: UMH #682, Thomas Tallis / lyrics: John Pritchard)

O draw us near, companion God.  
For every joy, your name we laud.  
For every wound and each sigh, too,  
we pray your love will see us through.



## **ENGAGING**

**Closing Song:** "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" (TFWS #2234,  
*tune: Henry T. Smart / lyrics: Ruth Duck – adapted*)

Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come,  
in wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.  
Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow.  
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.  
We are not lost, though wandering,  
for by your light we come,  
and we are still (your) people.  
The journey is our home.

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.  
We pray (that all our children)  
may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy,  
and love is law's demand.

## **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)