

Calvary Church

A Reconciling Congregation



“Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.”

- James 5:16

September 29, 2024

19th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*National Hispanic Heritage Month
Service of Healing & Wholeness*

GATHERING

Gathering Song: "This Too Shall Pass" (*Olivia Kern*)

Welcome & Announcements

- **Preacher-in Residence:** Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart will join us, Sunday, Oct 13
 - allmeansall.org/preacher
- **Beginner Yoga:** led by our very own Bethany Weed
 - Mondays, 6:30-7:30 pm / Oct 14 – Nov 18
 - allmeansall.org/yoga
- **Fall/Winter Bible Study:** Gospels of Matthew & Luke
 - allmeansall.org/bible-studies
- **Previous sermons:** allmeansall.org/sermons
- **Previous bulletins:** allmeansall.org/bulletins

Calendar

Today, 1-6 pm: PA Interfaith Power & Light Annual Interfaith Climate Convening

- tinyurl.com/climate-convening
- contact Pastor Tim to get involved with Calvary's PA-IPL Team

Tuesday, Oct 1

- **12-1 pm:** Midweek Prayer (*weekly*)
 - allmeansall.org/midweek-prayer
- **7 pm:** Finance Committee (*rescheduled*)

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

- Carbon Copy / 50th & Baltimore
- allmeansall.org/spirituality-on-tap

Sunday, Oct 6, 11 am-12:30 pm: Hybrid Worship
(*Communion*)

- World Communion Sunday

Monday, Oct 7, 7:30-8:30 pm: Book Study (weekly, through Nov 4)

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

- 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. 56th St
- allmeansall.org/sankofa
- contact Pastor Tim to volunteer, or with questions

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

- calvary-center.org/benefit-event

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: "May I Be Empty" (*Batya Levine*)

May I be empty

And open to receive the light

May I be empty

And open to receive

May I be full ...

Call to Worship (*Ministry Matters, inspired by Psalm 124 & James 5*)

One: If it had not been God who was on our side,

ALL: the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.

One: If it had not been God who was on our side,

ALL: the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

One: Are any among us suffering?

ALL: Come and pray.

One: Are any among us cheerful?

ALL: Come sing songs of praise.

One: Are any among us sick?

ALL: Come and ask for healing.

One: Our help is in our God,

ALL: the One who made heaven and earth.

One: God is on our side.

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Song: "Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries
(Psalm 107)" *(tune: UMH #726 / lyrics: Ruth Duck)*

Give thanks to God who hears our cries
and saves in troubled days
with wondrous works to humankind
that call for highest praise.

Let all who know God's saving love
sing grateful songs always.

If you have ever wandered where
no human help was near,
and in your troubles cried to God,
who rescued you from fear,
then thank the God of steadfast love
who dries your every tear.

If you have ever lived inside
the prison of your gloom
and cried to God, who broke your bonds
and raised you from the tomb,
then praise the One who sets you free,
who makes dry places bloom.

If you drew near the gates of death,
too sick to eat or dress,
and cried to God, who heard your voice
and healed all your distress,

then sing with sounds of holy joy
God's wondrous works profess.

If you have felt your courage fail
before a violent sea
and cried to God, who stilled the storm,
and made the wild wind flee,
then in the congregations praise the One
who heard your plea.

So praise the One whose love is great,
whose kindness is well-known.
Consider well the healing hand
and help you have been shown,
and tell the world what God has done.
Praise God and God alone!

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts / Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

GROUNDING

Community Prayer *(Ted Loder – adapted)*

Now, O God, calm us into a quietness that heals and
listens, and molds our longings and passions, our wounds
and wonderings, into a more holy and human shape.
Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Lesson: James 5:13-16

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any
cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. **14** Are any
among you sick? They should call for the elders of the
church and have them pray over them, anointing them
with oil in the name of God. **15** The prayer of faith will
save the sick, and God will raise them up, and anyone

who has committed sins will be forgiven. **16** Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

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

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

Reading: “The Way It Is” *(Rosemary Wahtola Trommer)*

Over and over we break
open, we break and
we break and we open.
For a while, we try to fix
the vessel—as if
to be broken is bad.
As if with glue and tape
and a steady hand we
might bring things to perfect
again. As if they were ever
perfect. As if to be broken is not
also perfect. As if to be open
is not the path toward joy.
The vase that’s been shattered
and cracked will never
hold water. Eventually
it will leak. And at some
point, perhaps, we decide
that we’re done with picking
our flowers anyway, and no
longer need a place to contain them.
We watch them grow just
as wildflowers do—unfenced,
unmanaged, blossoming only
when they’re ready—and mygod,
how beautiful they are amidst
the mounting pile of shards.

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)*

Silent Prayer & Reflection / Anointing with Oil

"Arms of Love" *(Alexa Sunshine Rose, Shimshai, Aimée Ringle)*

"Sending You Light" *(Melanie DeMore)*

Song: "Stand By Me" *(UMH #512, Charles Albert Tindley)*

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me;

when the storms of life are raging, stand by me.

When the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea,

thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me.

In the midst of tribulation, stand by me;

in the midst of tribulation, stand by me.

When the host of hell assail,

and my strength begins to fail,

thou who never lost a battle, stand by me.

In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me;

in the midst of faults and failures, stand by me.

When I've done the best I can,

and my friends misunderstand,

thou who knowest all about me, stand by me.

In the midst of persecution, stand by me;

in the midst of persecution, stand by me.

When my foes in war array, undertake to stop my way,

thou who saved Paul and Silas, stand by me.

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: "May You Run and Not Be Weary" (*tune & refrain: UMH #525, Charles Albert Tindley / lyrics: TFWS #2281, Paul Murakami & Handt Hanson*)

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.*

Benediction

Singing Our Way Out: "Pool of Love" (*Alexa Sunshine Rose, Murray Kyle*)

May the pool of love we have gathered here
Spread its wings and fly far and near
From the depths of our hearts to the farthest star
May our love bless everyone

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