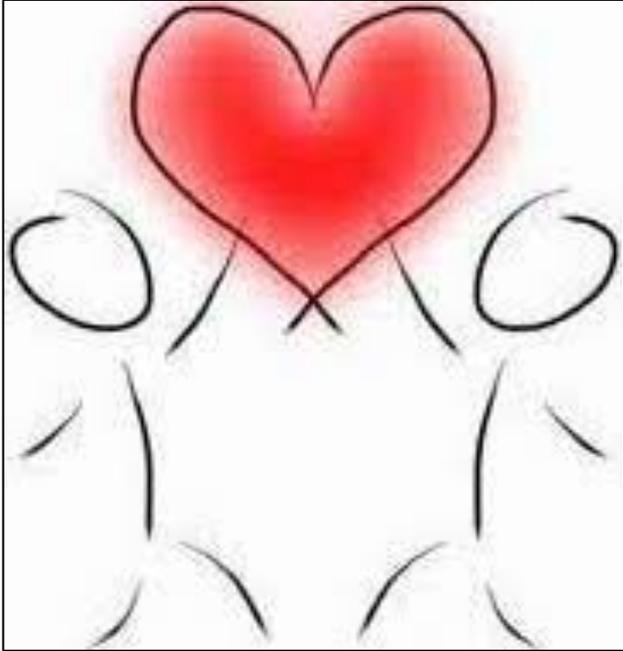


Calvary

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



*"But she answered him,
'Sir, even the dogs under the table
eat the children's crumbs.'"*

- Mark 7:28

September 5, 2021
15th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude: "Draw the Circle Wide" (*performed by Eastminster United Church; tune: Mark Miller / lyrics: Gordon Light*)

Welcome and Announcements

Announcements

- **Calvary's Covid-19 protocols:** allmeansall.org/covid
- **tentative return to in-person worship:** next Sunday, Sep 12 (11:15 am – please note **NEW TIME!**)
- **donate to building campaign:** tinyurl.com/CCCCPhilly

Calendar

Tuesday, Sep 7, 12-12:30 pm: Midweek Prayer

- info at allmeansall.org/virtual

Saturday, Sep 18, 7-8:30 pm: Singing a New Song

- info at allmeansall.org/new-song

Saturday, Oct 16, 3 pm: Songs of Justice and Freedom
(*Reconciling United Methodists of Eastern PA*)

- Swarthmore UMC; more details coming soon

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).

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: "Spirit of the Living God" (*UMH #393*)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (*repeat*)

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on (us) . . .

Invitation to Holy Presence / Breath Prayer

Call to Worship (*Jeff Shrowder, adapted*)

One: God of the unexpected moment, you have gathered us by your Spirit to serve us and renew us, and surround us.

ALL: Break in on our world like hearing to the deaf, sight to the blind, speech to the mute, welcome to the excluded, food to the hungry;

One: come in your unexpected hour.

ALL: Bring form to our chaos, light to our darkness, and life to our hearts.

One: Fill us with your expectant Spirit:

ALL: and so transform our gathering and our lives to your glory, and perfect our worship for your praise. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn: "Many Gifts, One Spirit" (*UMH #114*)

God of change and glory, God of time and space
when we fear the future, give to us your grace.

In the midst of changing ways
give us still the grace to praise.

Refrain

*Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
one Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word
known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!*

God of many colors, God of many signs,
you have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear,
let your love cast out our fear. (*Refrain*)

Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
you are still creating endless love and light.
This we see, as shadows part,
many gifts from one great heart. *(Refrain)*

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer *(Bobbi Patterson)*

God, you have been our shelter from one generation to another; overarching sky, shading tree, deepest waters, pulsing veins. You have spread your vine widely, bringing us a bounteous fruitfulness of care and nurture, fulfillment and peace.

Grow in us that we may root ourselves in your visions of justice and mercy. Open our arms that we might lift another's burdens. Speak through our mouths that we might comfort the afflicted. Urge our feet that we might march in solidarity with the wounded.

Teach us to be the household of God, a people spreading out the everlasting branches of love. In your Spirit we pray, Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music: "Joy of the Journey" *(Calvary Choir)*

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 146

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! **2** I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. **3** Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. **4** When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. **5** Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, **6** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever; **7** who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; **8** the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. **9** The LORD watches over the strangers; (God) upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked (God) brings to ruin. **10** The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Choral Alleluia

Scripture Lesson: Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, **25** but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. **26** Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. **27** He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." **28** But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." **29** Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter." **30** So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. **32** They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. **33** He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. **34** Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that

is, "Be opened." **35** And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

36 Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.

37 They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: "Open Up"

Hymn of Response: "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" (TFWS #2120)

Refrain

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons
you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings.

You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with their idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes. (*Refrain*)

You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city,
you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams,
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions,
your people arise. *(Refrain)*

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

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

Prayer Response *(tune: UMH #294 / lyrics: John Pritchard)*

O Wind and Fire, O Rock and Vine,
O Voice so still and small,
we bring our lives, our hopes and fears
to you who embraces all.

Closing Hymn: "Song of Hope / Canto de Esperanza"

(TFWS #2186)

May the God of hope go with us everyday,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain

*Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;*

*working, for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

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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at the corner of spirituality & justice

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