

# Calvary Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 22, 2023

## WELCOME

Welcome to Calvary Presbyterian Church! We are a first-century church in modern Milwaukee. Here at Calvary, in the practice of the Presbyterian Church, we are all ministers, and we minister to one another. We are an open and affirming community, creating hand-made worship as the Holy Spirit leads us, in the tradition of the Acts of the Apostles.

My name is [Your Name], an elder in the church, and I will be the liturgist this morning. Our message will be given by [Worship Leader], [Bio]. Our Communion Presider will be [Presider], and our pianist is [Pianist]. Let us now prepare our hearts for worship.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Together in this place, may we dig deeper—  
Into the purposes of God, into the ways of God,  
Into the places that need healing,  
Into the relationships that need strengthening,  
Together in this place, may we dig deeper—  
Into the roots of our beings,  
Into the place where God dwells,  
Into the place where wholeness resides.  
Together in this place, let us worship God.

## HYMN: #329 GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Sometimes we pray confidently, trusting in God's love. Sometimes we approach God fearfully, conscious of our own failure. Let us leave behind our failures and shortcomings by confessing them to God in prayer. Please join with me in the Prayer of Confession.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We own our humanness, O God. We know that there have been many moments when we have failed to be true to the hope of the reign of God and the unity we know is found in you. We have not always received the gifts which lie within our differing human journeys or in the insights which we could share. We have been tempted by the power and realities of our own stories rather than the wonder of new life with each other. Forgive us, loving God, and call us on to truly walk with you. This we pray in hope and faith.

*(Silent Confession)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON (STAND)

God, in Christ Jesus, holds us in love and will lead us into a new journey together and a future filled with hope. My friends, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

Since Christ has made us the blessed community, the church, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ. Peace be with you!

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, speak to us through your Word today, that we may hear you calling us out of the wilderness places in our lives and into new places you have promised to show us. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

This is God's Word. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 4:18-22

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

This is God's Word. **Thanks be to God.**

## REFLECTION

## ANTHEM

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Our God teaches us that the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Your generous gifts are used to answer the question of "who is our neighbor" with confidence. Most of the people who worship here at Calvary give electronically. We have a plate here at God's table if you wish to give after service. Let us pray for all these gifts.

**We have the means to give, we have the reason to give, and there are many waiting for us to give. Yet often, our hands hold back, and we hoard what we have for ourselves.**

**God of grace, help us live and give in your kingdom of love, where there are no enemies, only brothers and sisters, and kindness is the air we breathe. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN: #698 TAKE, O TAKE AS I AM

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

My friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! Come! The scriptures teach that the people will come from north and south, and from east and west, and sit at table in the Kingdom of God. This is the Lord's Table. You do not need to be a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church. You do not need to be a Presbyterian. Christ, our Lord, invites all those who love him. Come to the feast which he has prepared.

The Spirit of God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In that former time, you brought into creation all that existed in your imagination, Dawn of Life. The sun, moon, and stars illumined the shadows of chaos; melting snow trickled into creeks which joined together to rush to the seas; every living thing multiplied in wonder, increasing your joy. You did this for us, those shaped in your image and heart, but when we heard sin calling, we immediately left your side, following down death's dusty road. Longing for us to return to you, you sent the prophets to us, proclaiming the hopes of your heart. Yet we did not listen, letting evil continue to tear us apart. Then you sent Jesus to us, proclaiming that your kingdom had come.

With those who are of the same mind, with those who long for your presence, we sing our songs of thanksgiving:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna is the highest.**

You are holy, Shelter of our lives, and Jesus Christ is your blessed Child of grace. When he heard your call, he immediately left glory's side, to make a pilgrimage to our lives. When he could have played hide and seek with us, he revealed himself as the Dawn of our salvation. When he could have abandoned us to the yoke of sin and death, he took it from our shoulders, breaking it over his knees, shaping it into the cross where he broke their power forever, as he calls us to follow him into resurrection's new light.

Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the life and death of the risen Christ, until he comes again.

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.

Loving God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
Make them the body and blood of Christ That we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit  
make us one with Christ and keep us faithful until we are united with him in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are  
yours almighty God, now and forever.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the table prepared for you.

HYMN: #515 I COME WITH JOY

ANOINTING WITH OIL

CHARGE AND BLESSING