

# Calvary United Methodist Church

*Sunday, March 7, 2021; 10:15 am*

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

*Dee Freeman*

### Call To Worship

One: O God of all ages and all generations, we come to worship you.

Many: **Women, men, youth, and children bow before you, the only wise God.**

One: Our foreparents led the way for spiritual awareness and growth.

Many: **We try to follow in their footsteps recognizing you as God of all.**

One: As we worship you, all your attributes of glory, mercy, and love show forth.

Many: **We humble ourselves in your holy presence, because you are awesome.**

All: **Holy, holy, holy is the name of the Lord.<sup>1</sup>**

### Invocation of the Spirit

### First Testament Lesson

*Psalm 19*

“The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.” (NRSV)

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<sup>1</sup> T. Anne Daniel, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B, Discipleship Resources*, 2007, p. 58.

## Declaration of Praises

### Our Ebenezer

### Sharing of Prayer Concerns

### Prayer Time

### Lenten Reading

**Leader:** The symbol we lay before the cross today is the soldier's whip, an instrument of punishment and coercion. Of the elements before the cross, the whip is the only one used by Christ as well. With a whip Jesus purified the temple; with a whip we destroyed the temple of His body.

**People:** **Lord, Jesus Christ, we confess our frequent misuse of power. You granted us dominion over creation, but we have too often used this gift for domination. Help us say "no" to immoral coercion of others. Help us say "yes" to the cross.**

**Leader:** The whip was used to punish Jesus for failing to fit preconceived notions of holiness. Still today, we sometimes threaten those on the outside to behave according to the expectations of those on the inside.

**People:** **Lord, Jesus Christ, we confess our blindness to your Holiness. We are so busy protecting the God of our own construction that we try to destroy the God you reveal. Help us say "no" to squeezing you into our mold. Help us say "yes" to the cross.**

**Leader:** We use the whip to remind people – with pain and scars – of their trespasses. Jesus cleansed the temple so that we might meet freely in prayer with a God who forgives.

**People:** **Lord, Jesus Christ, when we are tempted constantly to remind our neighbors of their sin and wound them by rehearsing their past, help us say "no" to keeping a record of wrongs. Help us say "yes" to the cross.**

**Leader:** Let us pray together...

**All:** **Almighty God, you know our sin. You know how we misuse our power. Our lives are filled with guilt. Wash us and make us clean. Help us to lay down our instruments of destruction. Teach us to be a reflection of your love and grace. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Mold us into the image of Jesus, in whose holy name we pray. Amen.<sup>2</sup>**

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.crivoice.org/lentliturgyYearB.html>

10:15 am Worship

**Scripture Lesson**

*Zechariah 8:14-17*

““For this is what the Lord of Heaven’s Armies says: I was determined to punish you when your ancestors angered me, and I did not change my mind, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. But now I am determined to bless Jerusalem and the people of Judah. So don’t be afraid. But this is what you must do: Tell the truth to each other. Render verdicts in your courts that are just and that lead to peace. Don’t scheme against each other. Stop your love of telling lies that you swear are the truth. I hate all these things, says the Lord”” (NLT)

**Sermon**

*Rev. Matthew Williams*

*Shalom To You: Security and Order*

**Closing Hymn**

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Dee Freeman*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with

me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was

meant to be. \*With God our cre - a - tor,

chil - dren all are we. Let us

walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

\*Original words: With God as our Father, brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

WORDS: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

MUSIC: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987

WORLD PEACE  
Irr.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment

now. With ev - ery step I take, let

this be my sol - emn vow: to take each mo - ment and

live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

## Announcements

- Please take the bulletin(s) that you have touched home with you.
- Birth Announcement  
The rosebud on the altar is to announce the birth of a daughter to Jessica Lynn Underwood and Robert Lehman. Abigail Maree was born on March 1, 2021.
- West End Food Pantry Donations  
During Lent this year, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for our local food bank. A collection box is at the Bheam Ave. entrance.
- Calvary Preschool – Gardners Easter Candy Fundraiser  
Today is the last day to order candy to support our Calvary Preschool. Order forms are available in front of the sanctuary.
- Camp Allegheny Shoe Drive  
We can support Camp Allegheny by donating *gently worn*, used or new shoes! Clean out your closets – Kid’s, Women’s, Men’s, any size, any color! From slippers, flip flops and tennis shoes – to high heels, snow boots and cleats. Help put shoes on feet around the world! Drop them off at the Bheam Ave. door. Deadline will be March 28.
- Just My Smile Donations  
Just My Smile is a new nonprofit operating in our County. Their mission is to ensure that every family with a newborn is offered support and resources in the crucial first year of life. They are seeking donations such as diapers, bottles, pacifiers, formula, blankets, onesies, socks, booties, teethers, rattles, ointment, baby shampoo, etc. A more complete list is attached to the donation box at the Bheam Ave. entrance.
- Upper Room and Daily Bread Devotionals  
The March-April devotionals are now available FREE. Pick up a copy for your family devotional time. They are in front of the sanctuary.