

# CALVARY

United Methodist Church



*Pentecost*

*Sunday, May 24, 2026*

Worshipping God Together

# WELCOME TO CALVARY

---



## OUR WELCOME STATEMENT

Calvary United Methodist Church believes that all means all. We open our hearts, our minds and our doors to all our neighbors. We gladly invite into our shared life all persons who seek a community of support where they can grow in God's grace. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, relationship status or background—**you are God's beloved, and you are welcome here.**

## NEW TO CALVARY?

If you're new to Calvary, you're invited to visit the Welcome Areas to learn more about the church—pick up the monthly newsletter, and fill out a Get Connected card found in the pews. Large-print Bibles and hymnals are available upon request. Our monthly newsletter includes ministry updates, upcoming events, small group opportunities and a monthly calendar insert outlining all activities and gatherings.

## FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Children are always welcome. A Family Area is available at the back left of the sanctuary, with rocking chairs and toys for your little ones.

## RESTROOMS

From the front exits of the sanctuary, restrooms are available to the right, including an accessible restroom with a baby changing table; additional men's and women's restrooms are located at the back of the chapel to the right, and downstairs to the left, with elevator access from the right side of the sanctuary.

# PRAYER CONCERNS

---



## IMMEDIATE PRAYER CONCERNS

Paul Brucker  
Samantha - niece of Mary Ewalt  
Al Meyers  
Christine Siewers  
Corrine Houser  
George Janocsko  
Niko  
Judy Melvin  
Charles Moore  
Aleata Weis  
Rick Stern  
Barbara Wood - friend of Marirose

## CONTINUING CONCERNS

Bobby Buckner and his family  
Jeanne Dithomas  
Terri Jagielski  
Martha Helmreich  
Sheila Molyneaux  
Renee - friend of Mark Snyder  
Marcia Webb - friend of Mark Snyder  
Venus W.  
Joyce Zimmerman - sister of Yvonne Hudson

## SHARING PRAYER REQUESTS & JOYS

Share prayer requests or joys by filling out a pew card, calling the church office, or submitting the form online at [calvarypgh.com/contact](http://calvarypgh.com/contact).

# THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

---



## SUNDAY, MAY 24

- **A Service of Celebration–Sunday Morning Worship** | 11:00 AM | Calvary UMC
- **A Time for Fellowship** | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

## TUESDAY, MAY 26

- **Exercise Class for All Ages** | 9:00-10:00 AM | Chapel
- **Choir Rehearsal** | 6:00-7:00 PM | Choir Loft
- **NA (Narcotics Anonymous)** | 7:00-8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

- **Iron City Squares** | 7:00-9:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

## THURSDAY, MAY 28

- **Exercise Class for All Ages** | 9:00-10:00 AM | Chapel
- **Women's Bible Study** | 10:00-11:30 AM | Parlor
- **Open Sanctuary** | 6:00-8:00 PM | Sanctuary
- **Hand Bell Rehearsal** | 6:00-7:00 PM | Music Office

## SUNDAY, MAY 31

- **Sunday Morning Fellowship** | 10:00-11:00 AM | Chapel
- **Choir Rehearsal** | 10:00-10:45 AM | Choir Loft
- **A Service of Celebration–Sunday Morning Worship** | 11:00 AM | Calvary UMC
- **Change Matters Special Offering** | During Worship | Sanctuary
- **Brian Burns 25th Anniversary Celebration** | During Worship/Fellowship | Calvary UMC
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

# SUNDAY CELEBRATION



## PRELUDE

## INTROIT

## CALL TO WORSHIP + \*

Leader: Listen! Do you hear a sound like the howling of a fierce wind?

People: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Leader: Look! Can you see flames of fire?

People: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Leader: Wait! Can you feel the power?

People: **The Holy Spirit is here!**

## OPENING HYMN + \* . . . . . "We Are the Church" – #558 UMH

## OPENING PRAYER + \*

Holy Spirit, power of God, come and fill us with your strength. May your Spirit touch each of us. Gather us with our different gifts into one community. Give us eyes to see your work. May the winds of the Spirit blow away our fears, and fill us with power. Open our hearts, that we may welcome everyone. Amen.

## WORDS OF WELCOME +

## COMMUNITY GREETINGS +

## GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE + \* . . . . . "Shine, Jesus Shine"

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PSALTER LESSON \* . . . . . Psalm 104:24-34 NRSV

24 O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

25 There is the sea, great and wide; creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

26 There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

27 These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

28 when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

30 When you send forth your spirit,[a] they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

32 who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

**HYMN OF PRAYER \* . . . . .** "Spirit of the Living God" – #393 UMH  
*You are invited to come and kneel at the altar rail for personal prayer.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

**THE LORD'S PRAYER \* . . . . .** #895 UMH

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**ANTHEM. . . . .** The Renewal Choir

**EPISTLE LESSON \* . . . . .** Acts 2:1-21 NRSV

- 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
- 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
- 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
- 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
- 5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.
- 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.
- 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"
- 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?
- 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
- 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
- 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."
- 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"
- 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."
- 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
- 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.
- 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:
- 17 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
- 18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
- 19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
- 20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL LESSON † \* . . . . . John 7:37-39 NRSV**

37 On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,

38 and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.' "

39 Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

**SERMON . . . . . "A Dangerous Birthday" – Rev. Beth L. Nelson**

**WORDS OF COMMUNITY LIFE**

**CALL TO GIVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

**OFFERTORY**

**DOXOLOGY † \* . . . . . "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" – #94 UMH**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**OFFERING PRAYER †**

**CLOSING HYMN † \* . . . . . "God of Grace and God of Glory" – #577 UMH**

**THE APOSTLES' CREED † \* . . . . . #881 UMH**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION †**

**POSTLUDE †**

*† Please stand as you are able | \* Words on screen | Bold text is unison.*

**POSTLUDE TRADITION:** At Calvary, we stand and listen to the postlude, many turning toward the choir loft to watch our organist play. This tradition began after our once silent organ was restored, renewing our gratitude for its beautiful sound and our strong music ministry. We invite you to join us in this meaningful moment.

**JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP:** You're invited to the Fellowship Hall after worship for a time of good company, along with a light meal and beverages. The Fellowship Hall is located down the stairs, or you may use the elevator at the back of the chapel.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---



## SUMMER SCHEDULE UPDATE

Please note that the *Sleeping Bag Ministry*, *Sunday School* and *Adult Sunday School* have concluded for the summer. We are grateful to all who participated and supported these meaningful programs throughout the year. Both ministries will resume in September. We look forward to gathering again and continuing in fellowship and service at that time. Have a safe and blessed summer!

## SUMMER FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE

During the summer months of June through July, fellowship following worship will be taking a break. Instead, we invite everyone to join us for fellowship before worship at 10:00 AM. This will be a wonderful opportunity to gather and connect ahead of the service. We look forward to sharing this time together and hope you will join us!

## HONORING BRIAN BURNS: 25 YEARS OF SERVICE AND MUSIC

**Sunday, May 31 | During Worship & Luncheon Following Worship | Calvary UMC**  
**Main Contact:** Karen Ferguson ([kferguson@calvarypgh.com](mailto:kferguson@calvarypgh.com))

If you did not RSVP for the luncheon, please know there will be plenty of food and we warmly encourage you to stay and participate. All are welcome, and there is more than enough to share as we celebrate this special milestone together.

Join us as we celebrate Brian Burns' 25 years of faithful service at Calvary UMC. A catered luncheon by Fabled Table will follow worship as we give thanks for his leadership in music, historic preservation and congregational life, along with his enduring commitment to hospitality, inclusion and community engagement on Pittsburgh's Northside. During his tenure, Brian has restored Calvary's historic sanctuary and chapel organs, revitalized the church bell and carillon and helped guide major building improvements that preserve Calvary as a landmark for future generations. He founded and directed the Messiah Sing Along, which has grown into a beloved regional tradition with national recognition, and he has supported more than 1,000 weddings, countless funerals and countless moments of worship, celebration and outreach. Through music, stewardship and compassionate presence, Brian's leadership has helped shape Calvary into a deeply welcoming and inclusive community rooted in beauty, service and connection to the wider Pittsburgh region.

## PITTSBURGH PRIDE

**Saturday, June 6 (Pride Events/Booth) & Sunday, June 7 (Parade) | TBA | Downtown**  
**Main Contact:** Tim Napieralski ([queerministry@calvarypgh.com](mailto:queerministry@calvarypgh.com))

Calvary United Methodist Church is partnering with First Church and inviting other congregations from the United Methodist Church to join us in this year's Pride Parade. We will be marching together in the parade and will also have swag to share at our booth throughout Pride weekend. Participants of all ages are encouraged to join us as we celebrate God's love and affirmation for all people. Please see Tim if you would like to help at the booth or march in the parade under Calvary's banner.

## QUEERS & FRIENDS WHO LOVE TO COOK AND EAT

**Friday, July 10 | Time TBA | Location TBA**  
**Main Contact:** Tim Napieralski ([queerministry@calvarypgh.com](mailto:queerministry@calvarypgh.com))

The first "Queers and Friends Who Love to Cook and Eat" event will now take place on July 10, instead of the previously announced date of June 12. All are welcome – queers, friends, allies, and anyone looking for good food, great company, and a welcoming space. Stay tuned for more details!

*You* ARE GOD'S BELOVED.  
*You* ARE WELCOME HERE.



## **CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Address:** 971 Beech Ave, North Side, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

**Phone:** 412-231-2007

**Email:** [calvarypgh@gmail.com](mailto:calvarypgh@gmail.com)

**Website:** [calvarypgh.com](http://calvarypgh.com)

## **SOCIAL MEDIA – BE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY. FOLLOW US!**

**Facebook:** [Calvary United Methodist Church, Pittsburgh](#)

**YouTube:** [Calvary UMC Pittsburgh PA](#)

**Instagram:** [calvaryumc\\_pittsburgh](#)

## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday:** 9:00 AM–Noon

**Tuesday:** 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

**Thursday:** 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

## **PASTOR**

**Rev. Beth L. Nelson** (412-398-7894 / [revbeth@calvarypgh.com](mailto:revbeth@calvarypgh.com))

## **CHURCH STAFF**

**Music Ministry:** Brian Burns

**Family Ministry & Education:** Megan Bova

**Communications:** Karen Ferguson

**Lay Leader:** Ken Elliott

**Treasurer:** Georgia Brucker

**Facilities Manager:** Brianna Wolfe

**Wedding Coordinator:** Aleata Weis

**Queer Ministry Coordinator:** Tim Napieralski

**Social Media Coordinator:** Judith Melvin

**Worship Tech Coordinator:** Aiden Weis

**Food Ministry Coordinator:** Michael Schnitgen

**SUPPORT  
OUR MINISTRIES**

Scan or visit  
[calvarypgh.com/give](http://calvarypgh.com/give)  
to give. Thank you!

