



# Calvary Church Sunday Worship

## Easter

### April 5, 2026

\* Please rise as you are able.

**Bold text** is spoken by the congregation.

Nursery care is available; ask a greeter for directions.

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Prelude: Crown Him With Many Crowns by George Elvy, arr. by Charlie Peterson  
Calvary Brass

Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen, Indeed!**

Welcome and Poem Rev. Cynthia Good

Introit: Christ Is Alive! by Melchior Vulpius arr. by Hal Hopson Calvary Choir

\*Call to Worship Bright Einstein Nogoh, worship leader

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

**On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.**

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

**But today, we know the good news is alive and well.**

The good news is dancing!

**The good news is on the loose!**

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

**Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.**

Let us worship our good-news Christ.

\*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Rev. Good

Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember  
that the world did its worst to God.  
The world battered and bruised, betrayed and abandoned,  
crucified and buried our living God.  
And despite it all, Jesus *still* chose to return.  
Jesus rose again and immediately went to work  
spreading God's love to the very people who had hurt him.  
So hear me when I say,  
there is *nothing* you can do that could keep God's love at bay.  
With that good news mind, let us go to God in prayer,  
trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us.  
Friends, let us pray:

**Gracious God, we want to be Easter people.  
We want to shout your good news from the rooftop.  
We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.  
We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid.  
And we don't know where to look.  
And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.  
So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.  
We are best intentions and best laid plans.  
We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."  
We are on our way, but we are not there yet.  
Show us how to embody your good news in this world.  
Show us how to be your Easter people.  
With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.**

\*Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Good

Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias," we belong to God.  
Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God's love at bay.  
So join me in this good news declaration:

**Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed.  
This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

Rev. Good

Peace be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
*Please share a sign of peace with your neighbors.*

\*Hymn: Christ the Lord is Risen Today

302 (large hymnal)

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 \* 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 \* 6. King of glo - ry, soul of bliss, Al - le - lu - ia!

Earth and heaven in cho - rus say, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise to thee by both be given, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ev - er - last - ing life is this, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Thee to know, thy power to prove, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where's thy vic - tory, boast - ing grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Hail the Res - ur - rec - tion, thou, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Thus to sing, and thus to love, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739  
 MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN  
 77.77 D

Prayer for Illumination

Bright Einstein Nogoh

**Holy One, all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story.  
All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting.  
All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you.  
So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here.  
Speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts  
until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more.  
With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia.  
We bow our heads. We listen for you. Amen.**

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

Bright Einstein Nogoh

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers, sisters, and siblings to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The word of God to us. **Thanks be to God.**

Music: Christ Arose! by Robert Lowry, arr. by Aaron Weitekamp

Calvary Brass

Children's Time

Terry Rice

After the song, children are invited to attend Jr. Church (classroom 1) or the nursery (room 3).

Song: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

2026 (small hymnal)

Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le, Hal - le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja!

Trad. Caribbean

Scripture: Acts 10:34-43

Bright Einstein Nogoh

Now it is all perfectly clear to me — God does not play favorites! Whoever you are and wherever you are from, if you take God seriously and do the right thing, God will welcome you with open arms!

Jesus the Messiah preached God's message about a peace deal to the people of Israel, but clearly it did not stop with them — he is Lord of all! No doubt you have heard the news about Jesus of Nazareth, because since it sparked off in Galilee, it has spread like wildfire all over Judea.

The story began after John started calling everyone to turn their lives around through baptism. God singled Jesus out then and there, charging him with the Holy Spirit's power.

From then on, Jesus travelled around working for good and helping people out from under the devil's thumb and back onto their feet. God was with him in all this. We saw it all ourselves; everything he did in the Judean backwaters and in the city of Jerusalem.

They strung him up on a cross and killed him, but three days later God raised him to life and let us see him. Not everybody got to see him, but God had picked us out to be the ones who would know first-hand what had happened. We got to spend time sharing meals and a few drinks with him after he was brought back from the dead. He gave us the job of getting his message out to the people and going public with the fact that he is the one who God has appointed to make the final assessment of everybody on earth, past and present.

You don't have to take our word alone on this; all the prophets back us up. Everyone who puts their trust in Jesus receives pardon for their sins on his say so.

The word of God for us. **Thanks be to God.**

Music: Easter Jubilate by Jan McGuire and John Purifoy

Calvary Choir

Thoughts

Rev. Good

\*Hymn: Easter People, Raise Your Voices

304 (large hymnal)

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heaven in  
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing  
 3. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es;  
 here be - low. For our Lord em - pow - ered us to  
 rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

heav - en - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tri - umph o - ver ev - ery foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 to our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - tory now we go.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! See the power of heav - en - ly throngs.

WORDS: William M. James, 1979 © 1979 The United Methodist Publishing House  
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE  
87.87.87

\*Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Good

**We believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so we believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. We have seen it alive in the world.**

**And even when our hearts ache, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, we remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. We remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. We remember that the good news really is good news, for we have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Music: The Angel Rolled the Stone Away by Larry Shackley

Calvary Choir

Sharing of Prayers and Prayer of the People

Rev. Good

We invite you to use your chosen words for God: Father, Mother, or...

**Our Creator, 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.**

Offering

Rev. Good

If you wish to make a monetary donation to the Parish Fund, you can use the Love Offering envelopes near the offering baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary, or scan the Venmo code at the right and indicate "Parish Fund" in the "What's this for?" box.



The Parish Fund is used for emergency needs of our members and neighbors. If you have a financial need of any kind, please contact Rev. Cynthia. Disbursements from this Fund are kept in confidence.

\*Doxology words by Mary Luti, tune Old 100<sup>th</sup> (95, large hymnal)

**O Morning of our hearts, we sing; our endless alleluias ring!**

**Amid the shadows of our gloom; new hope, new life, an empty tomb! Amen!**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Good

**Risen Christ,  
good-news God,  
and ever-present Spirit,  
today is a day we've been waiting for.**

**We've been waiting for the holy mystery of this morning.  
We've been waiting for the good news of an empty grave.  
We've been waiting for the sound of alleluias.**

**Today is a day we've been waiting for,  
and now that we're here, all we can say is thank you.**

**Thank you for showing the world what could be.  
Thank you for loving us with abandon.  
Thank you for facing death and returning with mercy.  
Thank you for the empty tomb.  
Thank you for morning birdsong.  
And thank you for meeting us here, as you always do. Amen.**

\*Hymn: Thine Be the Glory

308 (large hymnal)

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;  
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb;  
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.  
 lov - ing - ly he greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom.  
 Life is naught with - out thee; aid us in our strife.

An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,  
 Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,  
 Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love;

kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.  
 for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.  
 bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

*Refrain*

Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

WORDS: Edmond L. Budry, 1904; trans. by R. Birch Hoyle, 1923  
 MUSIC: *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1753; arr. from G. F. Handel, 1747  
 Trans. by permission of The World Student Christian Federation

JUDAS MACCABEUS  
 55.65.65.65

## Announcements

Rev. Good

There is no coffee hour today.

If you ordered Easter plants, please take them home! (If you forgot what you ordered, please check the list on the table at the front of the sanctuary.)

Rev. John Mueller, who served at Calvary from 2000-2007, is retiring in June after 36 years of service in the New England Conference. He and his family have been blessed by each of the congregations he has served. Pastor John's family is compiling a memory book in honor of his retirement. The hope is to collect 100 memories that he will read one a day for the first 100 days of retirement. If you have been touched by his ministry and would like to share a brief story or memory, please send it to his son Jacob Le Mueller at [jacobjamesmueller@gmail.com](mailto:jacobjamesmueller@gmail.com).

Women's Overnight Retreat at Rolling Ridge 5/1-2: Contact Kaitlyn at [kait19960@gmail.com](mailto:kait19960@gmail.com) to sign up! Fee is \$168 and includes a double occupancy room and three meals. Financial assistance is available; please reach out to Kaitlyn or Rev. Cynthia.

### Special Events:

Taizé Service Wednesday 7 PM in the sanctuary

Easter Pageant next Sunday during worship

### Weekly Events:

Monday Muddle 10 AM in the Parlor

Bible Study Wednesday 10 AM in the Parlor

Choir rehearsal Wednesday 7:45 PM in the choir room under the sanctuary

No Helping Hands on Thursday

## Benediction

Rev. Good

Hallelujah Chorus from *The Messiah* by George Frideric Handel

Susan Goetcheus, violin; Steve Schmidt, viola; Joseph Goose, trumpet;

Susan Schmidt, piano

All are welcome to sing!



# *Easter Flowers and Gifts to the Living Memorial*

Barbara Bacchi	In memory of Tony Bacchi and Jim & Ethel Booth
Cliff Bishop	In memory of Norman Schuckman, Theresa & Walter Bishop, and Fran Vitello
Sonya Coleman	In memory of Grace Yee
Nancy Gondek	In memory of Loved Ones
The Goetcheus-Kohl Family	In memory of E. James Kohl In honor of Sue & Lee Goetcheus and Irene Kohl
The Good-Pratt Family	In memory of Loved Ones
Sarah Huber & Parke Wilde	In honor of the Schmidts
Shannon Logan	In memory of Aprile Boos, Marion Griffin, Joe Logan, and Hanna & John Wallin
Flo & Luke Lucarelli	In memory of Loved Ones
The MacIndoe-Morrison Family	In memory of Ruth & James Morrison and William MacIndoe
Roger H. McDonald	In memory and honor of Helen, Howard, Ross, & Tiger McDonald
Julie O'Connor	In memory of Damien & Jeannette O'Connor
Tapani Ronni	In memory of Robert Eiland
Jeanne Le Suer	In memory of Robin Bedell
Donald Johnson	In memory of friends and family In honor of Elsa C. Johnson
Chuck & Catherine Willwerth	In memory of Marie Roberts