

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026



Cover art by The Rev. Sarah West | VisioLectio.com

calvary moravian church
come in faith | go with peace | live God's love

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Welcome!

Welcome to Calvary! We are so glad you are here.

If you've never been to a Moravian worship service before, it is likely some of the parts of this service will be rather new to you! We promise in time you'll learn the ropes. As we go throughout the service, feel free to simply follow our Pastor; she'll cue you in on if we are being invited to stand, sit, or greet one another.

This service is being livestreamed to YouTube.

Upcoming events and gatherings:

Conversation (After) Church | *Beginning in Sept!*

Choir Practice | *Wednesdays at 7pm*

Family Sunday School | *October 4th*

Midweek Bible Study | *Thursdays at 10am*

Moravian Women | *Next dates: Sept 14th (online) & October 7th (in person)*

New here? Please scan this QR code to let us learn about you and follow up after today!



Contact Us

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As we gather...

...we wanted to make sure to let you know something really important! ALL are welcome here at Calvary. As a church that is a part of the Moravian Church Northern Province we believe and affirm that *“no matter who you are or how you identify you are embraced and affirmed by God’s expansive love.”* Additionally, we welcome all who might have questions, all those who might have some doubts, and of course all who remain tenaciously faithful. At Calvary, there is room for you here, and we are so glad you’ve decided to join us today.

If you are worshipping with us in our sanctuary...

...you may have a few questions about our church space and where to find things! Just out

the doors to the right of the sanctuary you can find a single stall, gender neutral bathroom. A few steps beyond that is our church nursery that has a live audio feed of our service. If you or someone who came with you today needs to step out of the sanctuary you are welcome to use this space! It is not staffed, so we just ask if you are bringing children into the space you remain with them until you are ready to rejoin us in the sanctuary. At the end of the service Pastor Mikayla will process to the back of the sanctuary and she would love to greet you so please stop by and say hello!

If you are worshipping with us online...

...know that you can connect with us and others worshipping online via our live chat! Please feel free to say hi and tell us where you are worshipping from. We are still working on making our streaming the most hospitable and welcoming that it can be, so please bear with us! If you have a prayer request you would like lifted up during our Prayers of the People time, please email our church office at churchcalvarymoravian@gmail.com no later than the Saturday before our Sunday worship and Pastor Mikayla will do her best to include your request.

The Worship Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call To Worship

The call to worship is a brief opening to a worship service, usually derived from scripture, and invites all to focus their hearts and minds on God as we begin our service. It can be spoken or sung, look to the worship leader today to see how we will proceed! Today we have a special call to worship played by some of our talented congregational musicians!

Deliver Me

*The world is so hard to understand these days
Divided and misguided in so many ways
There's lots of folks rowin' that same boat
With all their might tryin' to stay afloat*

*I know the Bible says "And this too shall pass"
"The last shall be first and the first shall be last"
But the first have all they'll ever need
While the last are left to sweat and plead ...*

*Deliver me from the hungry years
Deliver me from unanswered prayers
Deliver me when I run out of dreams*

And deliver me when my dreams run out on me

*I know there's no such thing as an innocent man
We make our way in this world the best that we
can*

*It's those times your back's put to the wall
You find out how far you rise or fall*

*Deliver me from the hungry years
Deliver me from unanswered prayers
Deliver me when I run out of dreams
And deliver me when my dreams run out on me*

*Deliver me from the wolves at my door
Deliver me when my world gets torn
Deliver me from the desperate days
Deliver me from long nights on lost highways
Deliver me... (to fade)*

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Singing and Praying Together

"Worship" is often the word we use for the many collective practices that we engage in on a Sunday morning. Sometimes we think of worship only as singing, but there is much more under this umbrella term! These headers of the different sections of our service are here to help guide out as we move through different worship practices this morning.

Liturgy | Celebration

*The **liturgy** in the Moravian tradition is a communal act of prayer, often with a specific theme or focus, where we go back and forth between speaking and singing. At times we will be invited to stand, and at others we will remain seated. You are invited to join in whatever posture suits you! Additionally, any parts written in bold are for the congregation to say together, so please, join in!*

(Standing)

In the beginning was God—creating, giving birth to the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and in darkness. But God spoke into the emptiness, and light appeared: the dawn of our beginnings. God kept creating—flowers, trees, seeds, and fruit: things that blossom and things that grow. God created more—life that crawled and life that swam, life that sprang on hooves, and life that soared on wings!

The sun, the moon, the stars burst forth as light; the skies and the earth were filled with life—plants, creatures, and birds of every kind. And God rejoiced saying: It is good!

From the midst of this earth came yet another creature, created in God's image. There in the

bounty of the garden God crafted humanity—male and female. God breathed into them life-giving breath. God looked upon these creatures with love and said: It is good! Then God rested, seeing and loving what had been done, setting free the creation with all its potential for good and evil.

Gracious God, thank you for the goodness of creation—for the variety, the beauty, and the delicate complexity of life, your creation! Forgive us for the times we have not appreciated or cared for all you have given to us. Open our eyes; restore our hearts; and bring us back into relationship with you, the earth, and all of life.

HOW GREAT THOU ART

*O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Refrain: Then sings my soul! My Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul! My Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

(Sitting)

The diversity of life is nowhere more profound than among human beings. We are many colors, shapes, and ages. Language, music, culture, and custom vary among us. We are a great tapestry from God's love.

Artful Weaver, you ask that we share your love with others, just as Jesus reached out and loved those most different from himself. Too often we fall short of this call, seeing differences as cause for fear rather than for celebration. Instead of caring for the tapestry, we unravel the fabric of your design. We perpetuate divisions by race and color, culture, class, and gender.

We give you thanks and praise that Jesus reveals your boundless love. Teach us this love, that the world may be one. Through your healing love, help us to break down the boundaries dividing the human family.

ST. PETER (14 T)

*Join hands disciples of the faith,
Whatever your race may be.*

*All children of the living God
Are surely kin to me.*

Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, gave hope to the hopeless. Jesus challenges his followers to continue his ministry, asking us to feed, clothe, and give shelter, saying: As you do these things for the least of these, you do them for me.

**We pray that we will hear the cries of need,
and that we will not only hear, but join with
others who respond in loving act.**

IN LOVING PARTNERSHIP

*We are the hands and feet of Christ,
Serving by grace each other's need.
We dare to risk and sacrifice
With truthful word and faithful deed.*

We remember the birthing of the church: when the people who had gathered for prayer and praise were filled with the Holy Spirit.

We remember how the Spirit came upon them like fire, like wind—surrounding them, exciting them, opening their eyes and hearts to the power and presence of God. The Spirit-filled church

could not stop—singing praises to God, reaching out to each other's need, spreading the word of God's power and God's love. We remember this beginning and pray that the church will be infused with new life through the Spirit—calling us, claiming us, summoning us to the excitement and joy of faith.

Come, Holy Spirit, ignite our hearts and impart your gifts again to the church. Blow through us and within us like a renewing, powerful wind.

(Standing)

CASCADE

*O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us,
Revive your church with life and power,
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit your church to meet this hour.*

*O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,
Till humbly we confess our need.
Then in your tenderness remake us;
Revive, restore, for this we plead.*

*O Breath of Love, come, breathe within us,
Renewing thought and will and heart.
Come, love of Christ afresh to win us;*

Revive your church in every part.

As God created the heavens, the earth, and life itself, may God give birth to new life in us. May God's love be known to us today through Jesus Christ. And as tiny pebbles thrown into a pond cause ripples to move outward in ever-widening circles, may our love move from this place outward—expanding to embrace our neighbors, our community, our human family, and our world.

May all that we do and say and live be a witness, be a prayer, and be a celebration!

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Prayers of the People

The prayers of the people are a time in our service where we get to share the joys and concerns in our hearts. If you have something you would like prayer for, please feel free to raise your hand and share it at this time.

Pastoral Prayer

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 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,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.

Giving Back Together

The Offerings

Here at Calvary we collect two offerings each week. The first is a loose change offering we call a “joyful noise.” If you are worshipping with us in the sanctuary you will be invited to place loose change in a bucket for a specific organization (often a local Allentown nonprofit or a Moravian ministry) that we are highlighting this month.

*The second is a **traditional offering** that we collect by passing a plate through the pews, and the financial gifts given at this time go to help cover our operating costs so we can continue to live out the mission and ministry God has for us here in Allentown’s West End and beyond.*

While it is not a requirement to give to either offering, we thank you so much for any support you do feel led to give!

Offertory

For those who may wish to give electronically via our giving portal, you are invited to scan this QR code. There are no fees applied to your gift!



*At this time all will be invited to rise, in body or spirit, as the offerings are brought forward and we sing what is called the **Doxology**, which is an often-sung short moment of praise to God.*

Doxology | Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise him above the heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication Joyful Noise Response

**All: Accept these gives we bring today
For your will to be employed
God hear us as we sing and pray
and make a joyful noise! Amen.**

Engaging Scripture Together

Scripture Reading | Exodus 14:19-31; 15:1-11; 20-21

*These scripture selections will be read aloud by a lay leader in our congregation. The translation printed below comes from the **New Revised Standard Updated Edition** translation. If you are in our sanctuary and would like to follow along, the pew Bible may read slightly differently as those are the older edition of this translation, known as the New Revised Standard Edition. Every act of translation is always a work of interpretation, so sometimes different words or phrases are used. If you have questions about this, please feel welcome to chat with our pastor after the service!*

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³

The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people

feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

2 The LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

3 The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

4 Pharaoh’s chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.^[b]

5 The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

6 Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.

⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;

you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.

⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;

the floods stood up in a heap;

the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

⁹ The enemy said, 'I will pursue; I will overtake; I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.

I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'

¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;

they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went

out after her with tambourines and with dancing.
²¹ And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed
gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”

Sermon | Rev. Mikayla Sauerbrey

Prayer

Lovefeast

The Lovefeast is a Christian tradition dating back to the time of the first century, however it has changed over the years and different traditions still practice it in their own ways. In the Moravian tradition, we practice the Lovefeast as a way to honor and remember the love of God which binds us all together. And we do so by singing some favorite hymns and enjoying Moravian Sugar Cake and something to drink (sometimes coffee, chocolate milk, juice, or simply water).

Hymn | Praise To The Lord The Almighty (v. 1-2, 4)

*Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is your health and salvation*

*All ye who hear now to His temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration*

*Praise to the Lord Who o're all things
So wondrously reigning,
Shelters you under His wings
O, so gently sustaining
Have you not seen all you have needed has been
Met by His gracious ordaining.*

*Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that hath life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly for all we adore Him*

Catherine Winkworth, Joachim Neander | CCLI Song #43073

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Hymn | Jesus Makes my Heart Rejoice

*Jesus makes my heart rejoice,
I'm his sheep and know his voice;
He's a Shepherd, kind and gracious,
and his pastures are delicious;
constant love to me he shows,*

yea, my very name he knows.

*Trusting his mild staff always,
I go in and out in peace;
He will feed me with the treasure
of his grace in richest measure;
when a-thirst to him I cry,
living water he'll supply.*

*Should not I for gladness leap,
Led by Jesus as his sheep?
For when these blessed days are over
to the arms of my dear Savior
I shall be conveyed to rest. Amen,
yea, my lot is blessed.*

Hymn | Joining Our Voices

*Joining our voices, all in God's praises,
The church rejoices in these new days;
Thanks for this hour, with all its challenge,
Thanks for God's power with us always.*

*Father we praise you; Jesus we love you;
Spirit we thank you, for these new days;
Help us to know, Lord, help us to grow, Lord;
Help us to sow, Lord, your love always.*

Hymn | Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

John Mason Neale

CCLI Song #85158

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Hymn | Moravian Table Grace *(Tune: Wareham)*

*Be present at our table, Lord;
Be here and everywhere adored.
From Thine all bounteous hand our food;
May we receive with gratitude. Amen.*

Partaking of the Lovefeast

Lovefeast Ode | Jesus, Lover Of My Soul - Arr. D. Simmons

(Cups will be gathered during the following hymns)

Hymn | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

*Joyful joyful we adore you,
God of glory Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before you,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain*

Call us to rejoice in Thee

Edward Hodges, Henry Van Dyke, Ludwig van Beethoven | CCLI Song #25321

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Hymn | Bless, O Lord, We Pray

*Bless, O, Lord, we pray, Your congregation;
Bless each home and family;
Bless the youth, the rising generation;
Blessed may Your dear children be;
Bless Your servants, grant them help and favor;
You to glorify be their endeavor.
Lord, on You we humbly call;
Let Your blessing rest on all.*

Prayer

Hymn | Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord!
Sing with a cheerful voice;
Exalt our God with one accord,
And in his name rejoice.
Ne'er cease to sing, O ransomed host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Until in realms of endless light
Your praises shall unite.

But not for us alone this news
Was brought by Christ our Lord.
'Twas meant for all the world to hear
And thus with one accord.
With all God's children everywhere
His name and sign with pride we bear
To us, to us this task is giv'n:
To spread God's word amen.

Benediction Postlude

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Thank you for joining us in worship today! If you would like to learn more about us and ways to connect and get involved, our midweek newsletter is a great place to start.

You are welcome to scan this code to read our latest newsletters that always include the bulletin

for the upcoming Sunday, a calendar and schedule for upcoming events, occasional reflections from our pastor, news from our denomination, and so much more.

