

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026



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

calvarymoravian.net | www.facebook.com/calvarymoravianallentown | @calvarymoravianpa

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 or service leader; they'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 | *October 11th! Today!*

Choir Practice | *Wednesdays at 7 PM*

Family Sunday School | *Returning November 1st!*

Midweek Bible Study | *Thursdays at 10 AM*

Moravian Women | *October 7 at 1pm (in person) & 4th at 7pm (online)*

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

Introit

This brief piece of music gets its name from the late Middle English language, and it roughly means “to enter into.” The introit you will hear this morning is played at the start of our service as a way to center us and welcome us to the start of our time of worship.

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!

© Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler

Praise be to you, creator God;

to you be glory and praise forever!

Just as your creative power moved over the face of the waters to bring light and life to your kingdom on earth,

Pour out your Spirit on us this day, that we may walk as children of light.

By your grace, reveal your presence to us,

that we may be reflections of your love for the world.

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 | Reconciliation

*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)

TUNE: LANCASHIRE (151 M)

*With joyfulness and longing
We look to you, O Lord;
Receive us in your mercy,
And cheer us with your word.
Crown us with love enduring
And promises of grace,
And let your holy blessing
Remain within this place.*

*The years have all been crowded
With tokens of your love;
And many who have sought you
Now worship you above.
But we, O Lord, still need you
Our pilgrim feet to stay,
For evil often triumphs
As faith to fear gives way.*

Almighty God, enthroned above all, you alone are God over the nations of the earth. Even the planets, the stars, and the galaxies are placed by your hand.

Where could we go from your Spirit? Where could we flee from your presence? If we go up to the heavens, you are there; if we go down into the caves of the earth or the depths of the sea, you are there.

God of all creation, we sing praises to your name; we stand jubilant before your glory, power, and beauty.

God of certainty, God of truth, our confidence is in you and in you alone.

Yet we live in a fallen world and we are an imperfect people.

Our world is filled with pain and alienation.

We know of illness when body or mind is failing,
and the loneliness of spirit it brings.

**We know of separation from parent or child,
from friend or neighbor, and the emptiness of
life it brings.**

We know of strangeness in new communities
and in changing communities, and the longing it
brings.

**We know of alienation caused by
unemployment or poverty or discrimination,
and the pain it brings.**

We have become strangers to our relatives, and
foreigners to our own families.

**How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange
land? Let our cry for help come to you.**

I am a God nearby, says the Lord. Do I not fill
heaven and earth? I am the Lord your God. I
have called you out from the peoples and you
shall be holy to me.

**We declare your praise, the One who called us
out of darkness into your wonderful light. We
are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy
nation, a people belonging to you.**

TUNE: MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,*

*The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation;
With healing balm my soul he fills,
And every faithless murmur stills.
To God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away,
But through all grief distressing,
An ever-present help and stay,
Our peace, and joy, and blessing,
As with a mother's tender hand,
He leads his own, his chosen band.
To God all praise and glory!*

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we walk in the way of the indifferent, who depend on their strength alone. We sit among the scornful, who deny the need for your guidance and power. Our hearts are not satisfied with riches vulnerable to moth and rust and thief, yet we zealously store up those very treasures. Set our minds on things unseen and eternal, that our emptiness within may be filled.

We humbly confess that we fail to welcome the stranger among us. We pass by the neighbor who is hungry and thirsty, naked, sick, and in prison. We sing of your healing power and your unconditional love, but we fail to make our sanctuaries true havens for the suffering and the exiled. Give us the will to be ambassadors for our Savior and faithful stewards of the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Amen.

Without Christ we were strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He is our peace.

We are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, with Christ himself as the cornerstone.

Therefore, let us affirm our faith in the Triune God.

(Standing)

We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens and all that is in them; who established a world that was good; who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it; who is certainty and truth.

We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity and knew our life as child, youth, and adult; who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless; who confronted popular opinion and power; who remained obedient in temptation and suffering; whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.

We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate; who does not leave us as orphans; who brings peace and calms the troubled heart; who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles; who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Let us in faith keep our eyes fixed on the promises of God, though we see them and greet them from a distance.

We confess that we are strangers and foreigners on the earth, a people who are seeking our true home.

We desire a better place, that is, a heavenly one. Indeed, God has prepared a city for us.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

TUNE: EASTHAM

*O then what raptured greetings
On Canaan's happy shore;
What knitting severed friendships up,
Where partings are no more!
Then eyes with joy shall sparkle
That brimmed with tears of late,
Orphans no longer fatherless,
Nor widows desolate.*

*Bring near your great salvation,
O Lamb for sinners slain;
Fill up the roll of your elect,
Then take your power, and reign!*

*Appear, Desire of nations,
Your exiles long for home;
Show in the heaven your promised sign;
Great Prince and Savior, come.*

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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.

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 gifts 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 32:1-14

*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!

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ² Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." ⁶ They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves

an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Sermon | Rev. Lance Fox

Prayer

Sending 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.

From every nation, you call your people,
In our salvation you make us one;
Sister and brother, joined in the Spirit;
Loving each other in the one Son.

Make us more giving, make us more open,
Fill us for living each day with love;
Pour out your Spirit, strengthen our witness,
Till earth inherit heaven above.

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.

Text: C. Daniel Crews (1984). © 1993 by C. Daniel Crews
Tune: Gaelic melody. Setting © by Brian Henkelmann

Sending 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.

There we to all eternity
Shall join the angelic lays
And sing in perfect harmony
To God our Savior's praise
He has redeemed us by his blood,
And made us kings and priests to God,
For us, for us, the Lamb was slain!
Praise ye, the Lord! Amen.

Text: St. 1,2 John Swertner (1789); st. 3 Edwin W. Kortz (1986)
Tune: John Christian Bechler (1784-1857)

Benediction Postlude

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.

