

THE PEOPLE OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH GATHER

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

JULY 16, 2017

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 A.M.

We are an ecumenical, multi-racial, multi-ethnic Christian body
that reaches out to the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

To that end we strive to be welcoming, responsive, trusting and prayerful in everything we do.



GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

To reflect upon the words, see hymn 277.

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

HOLY MANNA/arr. Cindy Berry
Cheryl Branham, Piano

WELCOME

Reverend Swearingen

⊕ HYMN

All Are Welcome / Todos Bienvenidos Son
TWO OAKS

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Descubramos en aquel lugar palabras del Señor
Que nos inspiran a buscar justicia, paz y amor
Con la cruz como testigo y señal de salvación
Proclamemos nuestra fe en Cristo
Bienvenidos, bienvenidos, todos bienvenidos son.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face
Let us bring an end to fear and danger
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place. (Continues next page)**

- ⊕ Congregation standing. La congregación se pone de pie.
Congregational responses in **bold**. Audio enhancement devices available for use during worship. Please ask an usher for assistance. Respuestas congregacionales en **negrita**. Para Biblias en español o traducción del servicio en español, por favor hablar con un ujier.

Construyamos hoy un gran hogar que inculca hermandad
Canciones lindas, fe sin par, y amor por la verdad
Un lugar de risa y llanto, de alabanza y oración
Que esta casa anuncie de lo alto
Bienvenidos, bienvenidos, todos bienvenidos son.

☉ CALL TO WORSHIP

Claudia Moore, Deacon of the Week

Source of Life and Love, who will find rest in Your sanctuary?
Who will find refuge under Your wide and wondrous wing?
Today, our bones and our voices cry out, "Sanctuario! Dónde está mi santuario?"

Creator God, You have made a rainbow of people, full of diversity, beauty, and love.
People who cry out for sanctuaries where they can hold hands, share life, and be fully human.

Creator God, You have made a rainbow of people, full of possibility, power, and imagination.
People who cry out for sanctuaries where they can laugh, rest, and live without talk of walls, bans, and deportations.

Help us build a house of welcome, a sanctuary of peace, where this rainbow can shine in all its fullness and splendor.

Bendito Dios, aquí está Tu santuario. Loving God, here within us and among us is Your sanctuary. Amen.

☉ MORNING PRAYER

Claudia Moore

☉ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Claudia Moore

La paz del Señor sea contigo. **Y contigo también.**
The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

☉ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Make Us One/ Haznos Uno
MAKE US ONE

Make us one, Lord, make us one. Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you.

Haznos uno, uno en ti. Haznos uno, Señor, en ti.
Y que el mundo vea en nuestro amor que somos uno en ti.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Josh Russell

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Simple Gifts, from Old American Songs
arr. Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
Zain Shariff, Baritone

LISTENING FOR THE WORD OF GOD

HEBREW LESSON

Génesis/ Genesis 25:19-34
Jessica Lynd

¹⁹Estos son los descendientes de Isaac hijo de Abraham: Abraham engendró a Isaac, ²⁰y era Isaac de cuarenta años cuando tomó por mujer a Rebeca, hija de Betuel arameo de Padan-aram, hermana de Labán arameo. ²¹Y oró Isaac a Jehová por su mujer, que era estéril; y lo aceptó Jehová, y concibió Rebeca su mujer. ²²Y los hijos luchaban dentro de ella; y dijo: Si es así, ¿para qué vivo yo? Y fue a consultar a Jehová; ²³y le respondió Jehová: Dos naciones hay en tu seno, y dos pueblos serán divididos desde tus entrañas; el un pueblo será más fuerte que el otro pueblo, y el

mayor servirá al menor. ²⁴ Cuando se cumplieron sus días para dar a luz, he aquí había gemelos en su vientre. ²⁵ Y salió el primero rubio, y era todo velludo como una pelliza; y llamaron su nombre Esaú. ²⁶ Después salió su hermano, trabada su mano al calcañar de Esaú; y fue llamado su nombre Jacob. Y era Isaac de edad de sesenta años cuando ella los dio a luz. ²⁷ Y crecieron los niños, y Esaú fue diestro en la caza, hombre del campo; pero Jacob era varón quieto, que habitaba en tiendas. ²⁸ Y amó Isaac a Esaú, porque comía de su caza; mas Rebeca amaba a Jacob. ²⁹ Y guiso Jacob un potaje; y volviendo Esaú del campo, cansado, ³⁰ dijo a Jacob: Te ruego que me des a comer de ese guiso rojo, pues estoy muy cansado. Por tanto fue llamado su nombre Edom. ³¹ Y Jacob respondió: Véndeme en este día tu primogenitura. ³² Entonces dijo Esaú: He aquí yo me voy a morir; ¿para qué, pues, me servirá la primogenitura? ³³ Y dijo Jacob: Júramelo en este día. Y él le juró, y vendió a Jacob su primogenitura. ³⁴ Entonces Jacob dio a Esaú pan y del guisado de las lentejas; y él comió y bebió, y se levantó y se fue. Así menospreció Esaú la primogenitura.

¹⁹These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²²The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." ²⁴When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. ²⁶Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. ²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. ²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." ³²Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

PSALTER

Psalm 65:9-13
Zain Shariff, Cantor

Refrain. **Gracias, Señor. Gracias, Señor.**

Por tu bondad, tu poder, por tu amor. Gracias, Señor.

We give you thanks. We give you praise.

For you are kind, you are love, you are God. We give you thanks.

You visit the earth, and water it. You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water.

You provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly.

You settle its ridges, soften it with showers, and bless its growth.

You crown the year with your bounty,

Your wagon tracks overflowing with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow. The hills gird themselves with joy.

The meadows clothe themselves with flocks. The valleys deck themselves with grain.

They shout and sing together for joy! Refrain.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans/ Romanos 8:1-11
Eva Powell

¹So now there isn't any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³God has done what was

impossible for the Law, since it was weak because of selfishness. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. ⁴He did this so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us. Now the way we live is based on the Spirit, not based on selfishness. ⁵People whose lives are based on selfishness think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the Spirit think about things that are related to the Spirit. ⁶The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace. ⁷So the attitude that comes from selfishness is hostile to God. It doesn't submit to God's Law, because it can't. ⁸People who are self-centered aren't able to please God. ⁹But you aren't self-centered. Instead you are in the Spirit, if in fact God's Spirit lives in you. If anyone doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, they don't belong to him. ¹⁰If Christ is in you, the Spirit is your life because of God's righteousness, but the body is dead because of sin. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your human bodies also, through his Spirit that lives in you.

¹Ahora, pues, ninguna condenación hay para los que están en Cristo Jesús, los que no andan conforme a la carne, sino conforme al Espíritu. ²Porque la ley del Espíritu de vida en Cristo Jesús me ha librado de la ley del pecado y de la muerte. ³Porque lo que era imposible para la ley, por cuanto era débil por la carne, Dios, enviando a su Hijo en semejanza de carne de pecado y a causa del pecado, condenó al pecado en la carne; ⁴para que la justicia de la ley se cumpliera en nosotros, que no andamos conforme a la carne, sino conforme al Espíritu. ⁵Porque los que son de la carne piensan en las cosas de la carne; pero los que son del Espíritu, en las cosas del Espíritu. ⁶Porque el ocuparse de la carne es muerte, pero el ocuparse del Espíritu es vida y paz. ⁷Por cuanto los designios de la carne son enemistad contra Dios; porque no se sujetan a la ley de Dios, ni tampoco pueden; ⁸y los que viven según la carne no pueden agradar a Dios. ⁹Mas vosotros no vivís según la carne, sino según el Espíritu, si es que el Espíritu de Dios mora en vosotros. Y si alguno no tiene el Espíritu de Cristo, no es de él. ¹⁰Pero si Cristo está en vosotros, el cuerpo en verdad está muerto a causa del pecado, mas el espíritu vive a causa de la justicia. ¹¹Y si el Espíritu de aquel que levantó de los muertos a Jesús mora en vosotros, el que levantó de los muertos a Cristo Jesús vivificará también vuestros cuerpos mortales por su Espíritu que mora en vosotros.

☉ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Zain Shariff, Cantor

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

As for seed sown on good soil, this is the one who hears and understands.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (*Matthew 13, adapted*)

☉ GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew / Mateo 13:1-9, 18-23

Becky Vaughn

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen! ... ¹⁸Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is

the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, in another thirty.”

¹Aquel día salió Jesús de la casa y se sentó junto al mar. ²Y se le juntó mucha gente; y entrando él en la barca, se sentó, y toda la gente estaba en la playa. ³Y les habló muchas cosas por parábolas, diciendo: He aquí, el sembrador salió a sembrar. ⁴Y mientras sembraba, parte de la semilla cayó junto al camino; y vinieron las aves y la comieron. ⁵Parte cayó en pedregales, donde no había mucha tierra; y brotó pronto, porque no tenía profundidad de tierra; ⁶pero salido el sol, se quemó; y porque no tenía raíz, se secó. ⁷Y parte cayó entre espinos; y los espinos crecieron, y la ahogaron. ⁸Pero parte cayó en buena tierra, y dio fruto, cuál a ciento, cuál a sesenta, y cuál a treinta por uno. ⁹El que tiene oídos para oír, oiga ... ¹⁸Oíd, pues, vosotros la parábola del sembrador: ¹⁹Cuando alguno oye la palabra del reino y no la entiende, viene el malo, y arrebató lo que fue sembrado en su corazón. Este es el que fue sembrado junto al camino. ²⁰Y el que fue sembrado en pedregales, éste es el que oye la palabra, y al momento la recibe con gozo; ²¹pero no tiene raíz en sí, sino que es de corta duración, pues al venir la aflicción o la persecución por causa de la palabra, luego tropieza. ²²El que fue sembrado entre espinos, éste es el que oye la palabra, pero el afán de este siglo y el engaño de las riquezas ahogan la palabra, y se hace infructuosa. ²³Mas el que fue sembrado en buena tierra, éste es el que oye y entiende la palabra, y da fruto; y produce a ciento, a sesenta, y a treinta por uno.

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

☉ **HYMN 478**

*We sing v.1 English, v.2 Spanish,
v.3 English, v.1 Spanish.*

Sois la Semilla/ You Are the Seed

ID Y ENSEÑAD

PRAYERS FOR CALVARY AND LORD'S PRAYER

Reverend Swearingen

After the Pastoral Prayer, we invite everyone to pray the Lord's Prayer in your native language.

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad, como en el cielo, así también en la tierra. El pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy. Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como también nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores. Y no nos metas en tentación, mas líbranos del mal; porque tuyo es el reino, y el poder, y la gloria, por todos los siglos. Amén.

SERMON

*Expanding Sanctuary:
Scattering Seeds*
Reverend Sally Sarratt

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Cheryl Branham, Piano

GIVING AND SERVING

INVITATION TO GIVE AND TO SERVE

Reverend Swearingen

MUSICAL OFFERING

At the River, from Old American Songs
arr. Aaron Copland
Zain Shariff, Baritone

⊕ HYMN 50

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

⊕ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Reverend Swearingen

BECOMING DISCIPLES

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Reverend Sarratt

⊕ HYMN 392

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
UNION SEMINARY

⊕ AFFIRMING GOD'S CALL

We give thanks that you have been guided by God to this moment. As a community of faith, we welcome you into the membership of this church. We pledge to love each other and to work together to grow into the fullness of Christ.

⊕ BENEDICTION

Reverend Swearingen

⊕ POSTLUDE

Poor Wayfaring Stranger
Traditional Spiritual/ arr. Emma Lou Diemer
Cheryl Branham, Piano

Following worship, join us in Woodward Hall, left as you exit the Sanctuary, for refreshments and a time of fellowship during Coffee Hour. Visitors, we look forward to meeting you!

Families with babies and young children: for your convenience, there are changing tables in the Parents' Room, balcony level on the right side, and downstairs in the nursery.

All Are Welcome/Todos Bienvenidos Son. Words: Marty Haugen, tr Ronald F. Krisman and George Lockwood, ©1994, tr 2012, GIA Publications Inc. *Make Us One/Haznos Uno.* Words and Music: Carol Cymbala, ©1991 Word Music Inc. and Carol Joy Music, Integrated Copyright Group; tr from 1994 CD, *El Coro de Brooklyn Tabernacle, Sólo a El. Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*, Chalice 50. Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira, ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House. Words reprinted under CCLI #430459 and OneLicense.net #A-719662. All rights reserved.

Scripture for July 23, first Sunday of Unplugged worship, is Matthew 2.

Be sure to join us each week, 11:00 a.m. in Palacios Chapel, for our summer series entitled *Wayfaring Friends: Stories of Diaspora, Identity and Home.*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

NEW THIS WEEK: Family and friends of Terryn Maybeck, wife of Stephen Maybeck and daughter-in-law of Susan Maybeck, who died Saturday, July 1. Baby Sara Elizabeth Pereira Estrada, born 12:13 p.m., July 14 at Holy Cross Hospital, to parents Marcela Estrada and Francisco Pereira Decorado.

Family and loved ones of Rev. Dr. Ernest Vance Austin, the father of Butch and father-in-law of Wai Austin, who died Wednesday, July 5; Maria Bensussen, Ryan Harvey's grandmother; Sara Bermúdez, Lorena Pereira's mother; Sue Bollinger, Michelle Harris-Love's mother; Luis Campos, Daniel Alcazar-Roman's uncle; Dylan Canfield, Laura Canfield's nephew; Marjorie DeLozier, Becky Vaughn's mother; Denny Duffell, John Appiah-Duffell's father; Mamunah Embree, Pastor Elijah's cousin; Berniece and Bill Harward; Rena Jirack; Lucy Johnson, Jackie Wright's grandmother; Fernando Leonzo, father of Jose Leonzo, friend of Calvary; Jessica Long, Beverly Fahey's daughter-in-law; Esther Miller, Holly Miller's grandmother; Carmen Myers, Theresa Beaton's cousin; Amelia Powell, Andrea Powell's mother; Paul Rice; Harold Ritchie; Melo dos Santos, Raimundo Barreto's mother-in-law; Ruby Shepherd; family and loved ones of William (Will) Short who died Saturday, July 1; Baron Alexander Steiner, son of Erik Steiner, on staff with St. Elizabeth's and Downtown Social Club; Victor Tupitza; Harold Walker, Jackie Wright's stepfather; Earl and Jenna Wright, Isaac Wright's parents. Pray for peace in El Salvador, refugees, asylum seekers, and immigration reform. Victims of gun violence, racial reconciliation and justice everywhere; people targeted with hate crimes. Peace in our world, especially those impacted by war, violence and government turmoil.

SPECIAL GIFTS have been made to the Endowment Fund in memory of Al Nielsen and to the Memorial Fund in memory of Demetrio (Demy) Angdisen, by Barbara Hoffer; to the General Fund in honor of Becky Vaughn by Isabel Docampo; to the Coffee Hour Fund in honor of his mother's 96th Birthday by Paul Rosstead; and to the Shalom Scholarship Fund in honor of Laura Beth Blythe-Goodman and Michael Sexton's wedding by Daniel Alcazar-Roman and Lu Shan, Jami Riley, Edgar Palacios, and Barbara Hoffer.

TODAY

TEXT TALKS: SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:45 a.m. All Youth and Adults are invited to gather in Butler Hall (note the change of venue!) for Text Talks. Each Sunday features a TED Talk plus Bible study and conversation. Whether your first language is Spanish or English, Text Talks are for you. We meet each Sunday morning in Butler Hall, **through July 30**. Contact Pastor Maria for info.

EXPANDING SANCTUARY. Today we conclude our six-week series, *Expanding Sanctuary*. Each Sunday, we've engaged theologically with various aspects of the sanctuary movement: knowing one's rights, accompaniment, responding rapidly, and hospitality. Calvary is a sanctuary church, and in worship we interact with the biblical text to learn what it might have to say to us as we press more deeply into this work. **Next Sunday, July 23**, we begin our annual Unplugged summer worship series in Palacios Chapel. Join us for *Wayfaring Friends: Stories of Diaspora, Identity and Home*, Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

TO OUR GUESTS. Welcome to Calvary! Be sure to sign our guestbook or fill out a visitor's card. After worship join us for Coffee Hour in Woodward Hall, left as you exit the Sanctuary, for fellowship and snacks, and stop by the welcome table. If you parked in the garage adjacent to Calvary, using the blue Calvary elevator, be sure to have your ticket stamped (see an usher or stop by the Rotunda entrance downstairs) and give it to the attendant as you exit the parking garage today. Again, welcome!

MEMORIAL SERVICE. Join the family of Rev. Dr. Vance Austin and the Calvary and Calvary Burmese community at 12:00 p.m. in the Palacios Chapel for a memorial service and reception.

CALVARY BOARD meets today, 12:30 p.m. in Butler Hall.

ALL ARE INVITED: MATT DALEY IN CONCERT, today at 3:00 p.m., Colesville United Methodist Church, 52 Randolph Road in Silver Spring. Matt has been accepted at Yale for the fall, pursuing a second master's degree, this time in organ performance! Calvary was Matt's first post as organist, providing music on organ, piano and violin during his undergrad and graduate studies for piano performance degrees at UMD. Bravo, Matt—we are proud of you!

CALVARY MEMBERS CONFERENCING AROUND THE GLOBE! Our Calvary family members have been doing good work around the world. Last week Ashley Becker attended the Baptist World Alliance Annual Gathering in Bangkok, Thailand; Eugenia Reyes will represent Calvary at the Baptist Peace Fellowship meeting in Mexico; and our crew of Daniel Alcazar, Rachel Alcazar, Ruthie Alcazar, Lu Shan, Eugenia Reyes, Mayra Duran, Mayrita Duran, Cristian Duran, Corina Lopez, and Ely Lopez are all at the Wild Goose Festival. Thanks, everyone, for representing Calvary at these conferences!

COMING UP

THEOLOGY ON DRAFT meets **each Tuesday**, 6:30 p.m. in Butler Hall. Contact Pastor Elijah.

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING. Join the Calvary Board the Quarterly Business Meeting Sunday, July 23, 12:30 p.m., in Woodward Hall. The Shalom Scholarship Support Committee will provide lunch, to raise funds for the cause. Bring your appetite and \$10 donation for lunch!

WASHINGTON INTERFAITH NETWORK will meet to raise issues including WMATA and public transit, affordable housing, and immigrant rights. Come out and be heard; DC Mayor Bowser will be in attendance. WIN gathers on **July 26, at 7:00 p.m.** at First Rock Baptist Church, 4630 Alabama Ave SE. Contact Joshua Russell for more info.

GAME NIGHT Come out on August 8, 6:30 p.m. in Butler Hall for Board Game Night at Calvary!

CALVARY UNPLUGGED-WAYFARING FRIENDS: STORIES OF DIASPORA, IDENTITY, AND HOME. Here's a not-so-radical claim about the Bible, even though it may sound like it is. The entire thing, start-to-finish, is pretty undeniably a story about immigration, diaspora, journey, and home. Unfortunately, a few hundred years of theology and exegesis have somehow missed that boat, extracting, distilling, and sometimes even, outright denying that whole story of Scripture has profound diasporic roots. As Miguel de La Torre puts it in his Belief commentary on Genesis, "all the patriarchs [and matriarchs]...were sojourners. The narratives of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph are the stories of aliens trying to survive among unfamiliar people in a land that belonged to others...Is it any wonder that the second most common phrase throughout the biblical text exhorts the reader to take care of the alien among you, along with the widows and orphans?" In honor of this central, imperative thread in Scripture, each week this summer, we will share their own particular experiences of journey, diaspora, identity, and home as we also listen in on Scripture's stories of an immigrant people claiming a God of Home.

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Sarratt	Senior Co-Pastor (ssarratt@calvarydc.org, ext. 121)
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CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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