

Ash Wednesday Service

17 de febreo/february 17, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

JOIN VIA ZOOM OR FB LIVE.

Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/33tvUN4>

don't
give
up

Reflections,
Practices,
and Prayers
for the Lenten
Season

Calvary Baptist Church

La Bienvenida | Welcome

Palabras de Preparación | Preparing Our Hearts

Today is not the day for half-truths or pithy pick-me-ups.
Today is the day we tell the truth.

We are spent. We are weary.
We are ready to give up.

Today, it is not hard to believe that we are dust and to dust we shall return.
What other reminders of our mortality could we possibly need today?
What other symbols could speak more loudly than this year we've lived together,
while we've lived it apart?

But, even today, we hear you whispering in a still, small voice...
"Don't give up, Beloved."

Even today, we hear the Apostle Paul, likely imprisoned by State Power, say to us in Galatians, "Do not grow weary in doing good for at the proper time, you will a reap a harvest if you do not give up."

"Don't give up, Beloved."

Don't give up on joy.
Don't give up on each other.
Don't give up on yourself.
Don't give up justice.
Don't give up on beauty.
Don't give up on politics and social transformation.
Don't give up on resurrection.
Don't give up on this life.

Let these ashes today remind you that while you may return to dust one day...today...today...you are here.
Today, we are here.

Today, we gather to say to each other and ourselves,
Don't give up.

Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day to humble oneself?
 Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
 Will you call this a fast,
 a day acceptable to the Lord?
 Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of injustice,
 to undo the thongs of the yoke,
 to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?
 Is it not to share your bread with the
 hungry, and bring the homeless poor into
 your house; when you see the naked, to
 cover them, and not to hide yourself from
 your own kin? Then your light shall break
 forth like the dawn, and your healing shall
 spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go
 before you, the glory of the Lord shall be
 your rear guard. Then you shall call, and
 the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help,
 and God will say, Here I am. If you remove
 the yoke from among you, the pointing of
 the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer
 your food to the hungry and satisfy the
 needs of the afflicted, then your light shall
 rise in the darkness and your gloom be like
 the noonday. The Lord will guide you
 continually, and satisfy your needs in
 parched places, and make your bones
 strong; and you shall be like a watered
 garden, like a spring of water, whose
 waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall
 be rebuilt; you shall raise up the
 foundations of many generations; you shall
 be called the repairer of the breach,
 the restorer of streets to live in.

¿Es tal el ayuno que yo escogí, que de día
 aflija el hombre su alma, que incline su
 cabeza como junco, y haga cama de cilicio
 y de ceniza? ¿Llamaréis esto ayuno, y día
 agradable a Jehová?
 ¿No es más bien el ayuno que yo escogí,
 desatar las ligaduras de impiedad, soltar las
 cargas de opresión, y dejar ir libres a los
 quebrantados, y que rompáis todo yugo?
 ¿No es que partas tu pan con el
 hambriento, y a los pobres errantes
 albergues en casa; que cuando veas al
 desnudo, lo cubras, y no te escondas de tu
 hermano?
 Entonces nacerá tu luz como el alba, y tu
 salvación se dejará ver pronto; e irá tu
 justicia delante de ti, y la gloria de Jehová
 será tu retaguardia.
 Entonces invocarás, y te oirá Jehová;
 clamarás, y dirá él: Heme aquí. Si quitares
 de en medio de ti el yugo, el dedo
 amenazador, y el hablar vanidad;
 y si dieres tu pan al hambriento, y saciases
 al alma afligida, en las tinieblas nacerá tu
 luz, y tu oscuridad será como el mediodía.
 Jehová te pastoreará siempre, y en las
 sequías saciará tu alma, y dará vigor a tus
 huesos; y serás como huerto de riego, y
 como manantial de aguas, cuyas aguas
 nunca faltan.
 Y los tuyos edificarán las ruinas antiguas;
 los cimientos de generación y generación
 levantarás, y serás llamado reparador de
 portillos, restaurador de calzadas para
 habitar.

don't give up now you've come so far
braving heights and depths, you are
so close

don't give up on pushing on just yet
this could be the difference 'tween life and death
you're so close

don't give up on you don't give up on me
it doesn't stop til we're all free
you're so close

don't give up on a world coming alive
i promise survival's on the other side
you're so close

don't give up on unforeseen beauty
don't give up on possibility
of hope
you're so close

to breaking through the surface
gasping for air
one day you'll look back at the person you were
when you thought it was more than you could bear

what once felt like an icy plunge
enveloped by cold, the dark unknown
i think that you'll be delighted to see
how it all turns out to be

Reflección | Reflection

Pastor Maria

Imposición de las Cenizas | Imposition of Ashes

Bendición | Benediction

Pastor Sally

Sign up for our weekly newsletter, **Latest Happenings**. Visit calvarydc.org and select "Sign up for Updates."

Contact the Deacon of the Week, Ed Wyatt, edwyattdc@gmail.com with your cares or concerns.

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Sarratt	Senior Co-Pastor (ssarratt@calvarydc.org, ext. 121)
Maria Swearingen	Senior Co-Pastor (mswearingen@calvarydc.org, ext. 103)
Elijah Zehyoue	Associate Pastor (ezehyoue@calvarydc.org, ext. 133)
Sabra Barrett	Communications/Administrative Assistant (sbarrett@calvarydc.org, ext. 124)
Al Jeter	Supervisor of Maintenance (ajeter@calvarydc.org, ext. 128)
Jojo Andigsen	Facilities (jandigsen@calvarydc.org)
Zack Eccleston	Church Operations and Communications Coordinator (zeccleston@calvarydc.org)

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

755 Eighth Street NW
Washington DC 20001

202.347.8355
www.calvarydc.org