

VIRTUAL SUNDAY

6 de february / February 6, 2022 | 10:30 a.m.

CALVARY DC

Join us on Zoom
bit.ly/ZoomCalvaryDC
Or watch live at
facebook.com/calvarydc

BLACK HISTORY MONTH | Rev. Mahogany Thomas



Worship at Calvary

Current COVID Plan

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

COVID UPDATE: February 2022 will be entirely **VIRTUAL** as we continue monitoring the omicron variant. We hope to return to our In-Person/Virtual rotation below in March.

In-Person Worship at Calvary will take place on the **First and Third Sundays** of the month. **Virtual Worship** will take place on the **Second and Fourth Sundays** of the month. *Fifth Sundays will be Virtual with a special afternoon Outdoor Gathering.*

In-Person Sundays, we will also livestream at facebook.com/CalvaryDC.

Virtual Sundays, you can join us on Zoom at bit.ly/ZoomCalvaryDC
or watch us at facebook.com/CalvaryDC.

The best way to stay connected and receive any updates or changes to this schedule is to visit www.calvarydc.org and sign up for our weekly newsletter.



Please read detailed COVID Entry and Exit protocols for In-Person Sundays which can be found at the end of the bulletin. While inside the building, we ask that you remain masked at all times. Restrooms are located below the sanctuary or near the registration table where you first entered.

Alabando | Worshipping

La Bienvenida | Welcome

Pastor Maria

Cántico de Alabanza | Song of Praise

“Siyahamba”

sung by Chris Urquiaga

Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos, Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos, Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'
Siyahamba Siyahamba oh oh...Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'
Siyahamba Siyahamba oh oh...Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'

We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God
We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God
We are walking, we are walking oh oh...we are walking in the light of God
We are walking, we are walking oh oh...we are walking in the light of God

Caminamos en la luz de Dios, caminamos en la luz de Dios
Caminamos en la luz de Dios, caminamos en la luz de Dios
Caminamos, caminamos oh oh...caminamos en la luz de Dios
Caminamos, caminamos oh oh...caminamos en la luz de Dios

Palabras de Alabanza | Call to Worship

Rick Goodman, Deacon
Bren Elliott, Liturgist

Call to Worship for Black History Month

**Ase (or àṣẹ or ashe; pronounced ah-shay) is a West African philosophical concept through which the Yoruba of Nigeria conceive the power to make things happen and produce change.*

In a beginning before humans were formed and nature knew God's great presence, the Spirit moved over the universe.

Ashe!* The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. Psalm 24:1-2

In quiet peace God created humans, women and men, colorful, balanced and creatively diverse and the beauty of God's love filled the earth.

Ashe! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22: 37-39

In honor of Black History Month we remember names because of the ancestors who made a way out of no way with God before them, beside them, and lovingly guiding succeeding generations:

Ashe! Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, Gabriele Prosser, Nate Turner and Denmark Vesey, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and Jerena Lee, WEB DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Ida B. Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Ella Baker.

These and more represent the great cloud of witnesses. Their spirits linger with us creating new generations of warriors, preachers, prophets, teachers, activists, organizers, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters of the African Diaspora.

Ashe! After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed with palm branches in their hands. Rev. 7:9

Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord!

Ashe and Amen!

Call to Worship for Black History Month was written by Rev. Dr. Velda Love, Minister for Racial Justice UCC. Copyright 2020, Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

La Paz de Cristo | Passing the Peace

*Rick Goodman, Deacon
Bren Elliott, Liturgist*

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

Respondemos Juntos | Responding Together

Make Us One | Haznos Uno

**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.**

Escuchando | Listening

Dando en Linea | Giving Online

Please visit <http://www.calvarydc.org/give>. Each Sunday, we have the opportunity to engage in a spiritual practice tracing back to the early church. As followers of Jesus began re-imagining their allegiance to God and not Caesar, they also chose to share their money, time, and resources in ways that disrupted systems of power and violence around them. As a community of faith shaped by this intention as we strive to be radically inclusive, progressive, and multicultural, we pray that our commitments might free you to give to this place both joyfully and intentionally.



Música | Scripture Refrain

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child
sung by Desmond Thompson

**Sometimes, I feel like a motherless child,
Sometimes, I feel like a motherless child,
Sometimes, I feel like a motherless child,
A long way from home, a long way from home...**

**Sometimes, I feel like I'm almost done,
Sometimes, I feel like I'm almost done,
Sometime, I feel like I'm almost done,
A long way from home, a long way from home...**

Una Lectura | Scripture Lesson

Lucas | Luke 18:1-8
Bren Elliott, Liturgist
Translated by Wilda C. Gafney in
A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church

Jesus told the disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and not be discouraged. 2 He said, "There was a judge in a certain city who neither feared God nor respected people. 3 There was a widow in that city and she came to him continually and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' 4 And he was not willing for some time; but later he said to himself, 'Though I do not fear God or respect anyone else, 5 yet because this widow persists in troubling me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not ultimately come to violence against me.'" 6 And the Messiah said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God grant justice to the elect of God who cry out to God day and night? Will God forbear in helping them? 8 I tell you all, God will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Woman comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

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También les refirió Jesús una parábola sobre la necesidad de orar siempre, y no desmayar, diciendo: Había en una ciudad un juez, que ni temía a Dios, ni respetaba a hombre. Había también en aquella ciudad una viuda, la cual venía a él, diciendo: Hazme justicia de mi adversario. Y él no quiso por algún tiempo; pero después de esto dijo dentro de sí: Aunque ni temo a Dios, ni tengo respeto a hombre, sin embargo, porque esta viuda me es molesta, le haré justicia, no sea que viniendo de continuo, me agote la paciencia. Y dijo el Señor: Oíd lo que dijo el juez injusto. ¿Y acaso Dios no hará justicia a sus escogidos, que claman a él día y noche? ¿Se tardará en responderles? Os digo que pronto les hará justicia. Pero cuando venga el Hijo [de La Mujer,] ¿hallará fe en la tierra?

Creciendo | Growing

Música Especial | Special Music

There is a Balm in Gilead
Desmond Thompson and Chris Urquiaga

Sermón | Sermon

Rev. Mahogany Thomas
Sermon Title: “Persistant Freedom”

“The white fathers told us: I think, therefore I am. The black goddess within each of us - the poet - whispers in our dreams: I feel, therefore I can be free.”
— Audre Lorde, *Poetry is Not a Luxury*

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Rev. Mahogany S. Thomas is a native of Columbia, Missouri and an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. She currently serves as the Executive Minister of Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC) in Washington, D.C.

Before Peoples Congregational UCC, Rev. Mahogany served as the Minister of Youth and Families at First Church UCC in Middletown, Connecticut, in the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Mahogany’s ministry experiences also include serving as a Pastoral Intern at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn (UCC), Trinity UCC Chicago, and one of the most creative and diverse churches in the country, Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco.

Rev. Mahogany is a graduate of Yale University, where she received her Master of Divinity in May of 2020. Her scholarship at Yale Divinity School included Homiletics, Womanist Theology, and Practical Theology at the intersections of the Black Church. She was the recipient of both the Andover Newton Seminary Diploma Program and Black Church Studies Certificate. Rev. Mahogany received her Bachelor of Arts from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri and graduated summa cum laude. Her undergraduate studies focused on Religious Studies with an emphasis on sex and gender in the Christian tradition. While at Westminster College, Rev. Mahogany held various positions in the banking industry, culminating as an Assistant Branch Manager at Central Bank of Boone County.

Rev. Mahogany is also the recipient of several prestigious awards from Yale University. She was awarded the Charles Merick Award for Effective Public Address especially in preaching and the Henry Hallam Tweedy Award for the student with exceptional promise for pastoral leadership. Likewise, she was the recipient of the newly established Martin B. Copenhagen Preaching Prize from Andover Newton Seminary.

Rev. Mahogany’s ministry experiences have taken her across the world—she wrote her first sermon at age seven on an airplane and continues to enjoy preaching the Gospel wherever it takes her. One of her favorite preaching experiences was in the Garden of Gethsemane while visiting Jerusalem in 2015. She recently wrote a piece entitled, “[We Need Faith Narratives that Heal—Now](#)” for the Spring 2021 issue of Yale Divinity School’s Reflections Magazine.

In both her teaching and radical proclamation, Rev. Mahogany is passionate about serving God and God’s church. She defines ministry as far beyond the pulpit, as she believes in radiating the love of Jesus through both her joy and witness.

Himno | Departing Hymn

O Freedom
sung by Desmond Thompson

O freedom, O freedom, O freedom over me,
And before I'd be slave, I'd be buried in my grave,
And go home to my Lord and be free!

La Bendición | Benediction

Rev. Mahogany Thomas

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

Contact the Deacon of the Week Rick Goodman, with your
cares and concerns.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN ALL-VIRTUAL FEBRUARY. As we continue monitoring the omicron variant, we've decided to plan for an all-virtual February. We hope to return to our In-Person/Virtual rotation in March as we begin the season of Lent. We continue to be so thankful for your flexibility and presence.

THE REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP is moving ahead with plans to help resettle an Afghan family. We are working through a local affiliate of Lutheran Social Services in Maryland. One of the procedures requires anyone from Calvary (including our expanded friendly community) will need to have a background check if you want to have encounters with the family. This applies if you want to help with a one-time grocery store shopping trip, applying for a library card or just an intentional conversation (even by phone) to supplement ESL classes. **There is also a required (online) training session, Tuesday, Jan 25 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM.** It will be recorded, but best to be present for Q & A. **If you are interested in being part of this service -- please send your name by email to Carol Blythe at blythecarol@gmail.com by MONDAY JANUARY 24th.** The Background Check and Training requirements do not apply for anyone meeting the family at a church event and it does not apply if you help set up the apartment before the family arrives.

PARENTING CONNECTION. This is an open invitation for any parent looking for support in their daily revolutionary work of parenting. It will center around the practice of Listening Partnerships, as developed by Hand in Hand Parenting. The goal is that with intentional, attentive, and generous listening with each other, we can provide the same for our children. Please reach out to Shiowei with any questions or interest! shiotheway@gmail.com

FREE AT-HOME COVID TESTS. The government has recently announced that they will be sending 4 free at-home COVID tests to any household that requests it. You can register online to receive these here: <https://www.covidtests.gov>

OUR LABOR TOGETHER | A Mission Statement

We are a multi-racial, multi-ethnic community of Christ followers committed to the sacred work of anti-racism, social justice, and radical inclusion.

OUR BELOVEDNESS | A Values Statement

We affirm that God celebrates the creative diversity of God's kin-dom, loving people of every color, faith, nationality, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. It matters that people who have been historically marginalized by the Christian church in America see themselves listed here as God's beloved. In other words, ***you*** are our values statement.

- We believe Black Lives Matter. Further still, Black Lives are precious and beloved by God. We are a church shaped by this profound theological statement. Until this is fully understood and expressed in the policies and practices of this nation's political and social life, it is essential for people of faith to keep saying, and living, this truth.
- We believe no human being is "illegal," and as a Sanctuary Church, we fully welcome and support people of all immigration statuses.
- We believe LGBTQ+ lives are sacred, beautiful, and ought to be fully included and affirmed in all aspects of congregational life and leadership.
- We celebrate that our worshipping life is multi-lingual and multi-dimensional, especially shaped by Latin American, particularly Salvadoran, traditions, and the Historic Black Church tradition.
- We value interfaith inclusion and welcome people of any and all faith traditions to find a home here.
- We value people for who they are and not for their role in an economy where wealth accumulates and people struggle to live.
- We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the Piscataway, Anacostan, and Nacotchtank Peoples past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. We believe that the earth is sacred and that we must continue to learn how to be better caretakers of the land we inhabit.
- We value diverse theological voices which have long stood on the margins within the Christian tradition in America.

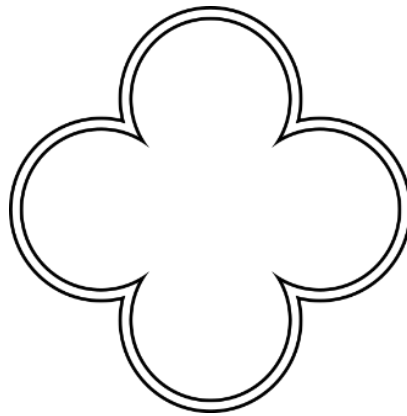
OUR HOLY IMAGINATION | A Vision Statement

We believe that Jesus identifies particularly with oppressed and marginalized people and invites us into radically inclusive community. As a historically white church with the sacred gift of now being a multiracial Christian community, we hear the clarion call to engage in the active and disruptive work of anti-racism and decolonization, both within ourselves and in the world. Ultimately, we commit to this labor as a *joyful* act of discipleship that leads us ever deeper into the Gospel of liberation and life.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

New this week: Rochelle Powell, Eva Powell's grandmother

Family and friends of Lee Jeter, Al Jeter's brother; Family and friends of Delois Mitchell Greene, Terry Greene's mother; Family and friends of Richard Alan Chen, Teresa Kosmidis' father; Family and friends of Lucy Leanna Johnson, Jackie Wright's grandmother; Bradley Sims, friend of Carter Vaughn; Family and friends of Catherine Ogidi, Godwin Orakwue's sister; The Pliego Family; Brian Cook, friend of the Kosmidis family; Shalom scholar, Karla Giron, and members of the Baptist Association of El Salvador; Liubov Russell; Javier Dario Galindo, Nathalie Galindo-Lee's brother; Paul Lansing; Joe and Shirley Taylor, Jessica Taylor's parents; Marlene Shambaugh, Courtney Miller's aunt; Loved ones of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and all who are unjustly taken from this life by the sin of white supremacy; Each and every one of us, particularly the most vulnerable among us as we face the effects of COVID-19 together; Gilles Bikindou, of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church in Cary, NC; Sue Bollinger, Michelle Harris-Love's mother; Maria Isabel Bueso; Luis Campos; Daniel Alcazar-Roman's uncle; Dorothy Dale, Amy Dale's aunt; Argentina Jiguan; Rena Jirack; Lucy Johnson, Jackie Wright's grandmother; The Langford Family; Rich Madigan; Carmen Myers, Theresa Beaton's cousin; Alison Peebles; Roxana Rodezno, Lorena Pereira's sister-in-law; Brian Scott, Yolanda Appiah-Kubi's brother and Salima Appiah-Duffell's uncle; Jackie Sellers, Janice Glover's sister; Farooq Shabazz, Sakeenah Shabazz's brother; Ruby Shepherd; Dr. Lilia Stoycheva, friend of Liubov Russell; Olive Tiller; Desmond Tio, friend of Karla Fahey; Harold Walker, Jackie Wright's stepfather; Earl and Jenna Wright, Isaac Wright's parents; In light of the effect of the policy decisions that continue to be made by the current administration to challenge the dignity and worth of immigrant lives, we lift up prayer of lament-and-hope on behalf of Holy Families who seek justice, reunification, and basic human rights; We also lift up prayers of anger-and-hope that the hearts of elected and appointed officials would turn from stone to flesh for the sake of their souls and the soul of this nation; 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; Our collective response to resisting white supremacy. Victims of terror everywhere; Our Nicaraguan, Honduran, Haitian and Salvadoran brothers and sisters impacted by the decimation of Temporary Protected Status.



CHURCH STAFF

Sally Sarratt (she/her)	Senior Co-Pastor (ssarratt@calvarydc.org , ext. 121)
Maria Swearingen (she/her)	Senior Co-Pastor (mswearingen@calvarydc.org , ext. 103)
Al Jeter (he/him)	Supervisor of Maintenance (ajeter@calvarydc.org , ext. 128)
Jojo Andigsen (he/him)	Facilities (jandigsen@calvarydc.org)
Zack Eccleston (he/they)	Church Operations and Communications Coordinator (zeccleston@calvarydc.org)

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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