

# IN-PERSON SUNDAY

10 de diciembre / december 10, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

# CALVARY DC

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[facebook.com/calvarydc](https://www.facebook.com/calvarydc)



*grace boone*

## SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Música | Prelude

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (PUER NOBIS)

Martha Sobaje (b. 1948)

Laura Henderson, organ

### La Bienvenida | Welcome

Pastor Sally

### \*Cántico de Alabanza | Opening Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*La vela de paz a será encendido por el equipo apoyando a la family Afgana.  
The candle of peace is lit today by the Afghan Refugee Family support team.*

**1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and restless sleep,  
more weapons fill the sky.  
The children weep with sorrow,  
for friends who are no more.  
We ask you for your hand of peace,  
to end the strife of war.**

**2. How silently, how silently,  
their peace has gone away.  
No laughter rings, no choir sings,  
in shepherds' fields this day.  
The angels in the heavens,  
are hushed in sad lament.  
The children of the holy land,  
are fearful, lost, and spent.**

**3. O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend on us we pray.  
Your love bring down on David's town,  
Drive fear and hate away.  
Awake the hearts of nations,  
let justice be restored.  
Rebuild the peace in silent streets,  
where once your love was born.**

### \*Palabras de Alabanza | Call to Worship

Nancy Renfrow, Deacon

In the midst of suffering and despair,  
**God's prophet cries, "Comfort!"**  
Amid all that causes us pain, that brings us to tears,  
**God's care falls over us like a gentle rain.**  
In this season of short days and long nights  
**We are called to tend to each other.**  
On this second Sunday of Advent, we give thanks for God's compassion for us.  
**Let us worship God.**

*Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good." Used with permission.*

### \*La Paz de Cristo | Passing the Peace

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

*\*Congregation stands. La congregación se pone de pie.  
Para traducción del servicio en español, por favor hablar con un ujier.*

**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.**

**Tiempo con los Niños | Time with Children**

*Pastor Sally*

**Ofrendas | Offertory**

**Lo! How A Rose E'er Blooming**  
Robert Edward Smith (b. 1946)  
*Laura Henderson, organ*

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.



**Oraciones del Pueblo | Prayers of the People**

*Nancy Renfrow, Deacon*

**Meditación Musical | Scripture Refrain**

**Gloria, Gloria, #34**

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, Gloria, Aleluya, Aleluya!**

**Lectura | Scripture**

**Lucas | Luke 1:39-53**  
*Carol Blythe, Liturgist*

Mary set out in those days and went to the hill country with haste, to a Judean town. There she entered the house of Zecharia and greeted Elizabeth. Now when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. From where does this [visit] come to me? That the mother of my Sovereign comes to me? Look! As soon as I heard the sound of your greeting in my ear, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Now blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of those things spoken to her by the Holy One."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Holy One,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's own womb-slave.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is God's name.  
God's loving-kindness is for those who fear God  
from generation to generation.  
God has shown the strength of God's own arm;  
God has scattered the arrogant in the intent of their hearts.

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
God has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.”

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<sup>39</sup> En aquellos días, levantándose María, fue de prisa a la montaña, a una ciudad de Judá; <sup>40</sup> y entró en casa de Zacarías, y saludó a Elisabet. <sup>41</sup> Y aconteció que cuando oyó Elisabet la salutación de María, la criatura saltó en su vientre; y Elisabet fue llena del Espíritu Santo, <sup>42</sup> y exclamó a gran voz, y dijo: Bendita tú entre las mujeres, y bendito el fruto de tu vientre. <sup>43</sup> ¿Por qué se me concede esto a mí, que la madre de mi Señor venga a mí? <sup>44</sup> Porque tan pronto como llegó la voz de tu salutación a mis oídos, la criatura saltó de alegría en mi vientre. <sup>45</sup> Y bienaventurada la que creyó, porque se cumplirá lo que le fue dicho de parte del Señor.

<sup>46</sup> Entonces María dijo: Engrandece mi alma al Señor;

<sup>47</sup> Y mi espíritu se regocija en Dios mi Salvador.

<sup>48</sup> Porque ha mirado la bajeza de su sierva;

Pues he aquí, desde ahora me dirán bienaventurada todas las generaciones.

<sup>49</sup> Porque me ha hecho grandes cosas el Poderoso; Santo es su nombre,

<sup>50</sup> Y su misericordia es de generación en generación a los que le temen.

<sup>51</sup> Hizo proezas con su brazo; Esparció a los soberbios en el pensamiento de sus corazones.

<sup>52</sup> Quitó de los tronos a los poderosos, Y exaltó a los humildes.

<sup>53</sup> A los hambrientos colmó de bienes, Y a los ricos envió vacíos.

English translation from *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church*  
by Rev. Dr. Wilda C. Gafney

## Música Especial | Special Music

**Someday at Christmas**  
Desmond Thompson, soloist

## Sermón | Sermon

*Pastor Maria*

## \*Himno | Departing Hymn

**Canticle of the Turning**

**1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?**

**Refrain— My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.**

2. Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
for the world is about to turn.

*Refrain*— My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.

3. Though the nations rage from age to age,  
we remember who holds us fast:  
God’s mercy must deliver us  
from the conqueror’s crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
is the promise which holds us bound,  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,  
who is turning the world around.

*Refrain*— My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.

## \*Bendición | Benediction

*Pastor Sally*

## Música | Postlude

**Postlude on En el Frio Invernal**  
Charles Callahan (b. 1951)  
*Laura Henderson, organ*

Sign up for our weekly newsletter, **Latest Happenings**.  
Visit [calvarydc.org](http://calvarydc.org) and select “Sign up for Updates.”

Contact the **Deacon of the Week**, Nancy Renfrow,  
[nrenfrow@verizon.net](mailto:nrenfrow@verizon.net) with your cares and concerns.



**Livestream available on all In-Person Sundays—**  
[facebook.com/CalvaryDC](https://facebook.com/CalvaryDC).

**Join us from home on Zoom for Holiday Virtual Sundays—**  
[bit.ly/ZoomCalvaryDC](https://bit.ly/ZoomCalvaryDC) or watch the livestream at link above.

**UPCOMING VIRTUAL SUNDAYS—**December 31 at 10:30 a.m. (New Year’s Eve)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Advent at Calvary**— During the season of Advent, we will be worshipping IN-PERSON as we linger with the stories in Luke's gospel about Mary, the mother of Jesus, whose journey from bewilderment to joy continues to be one for the ages. We are especially thrilled to share the artistry and talent of our very own Grace Boone who has lovingly prepared special linocut stamp art for our thematic bulletin covers.

**December 3**— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of Advent as we gather in-person and reflect on Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel.

**December 10**— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the second Sunday of Advent as we listen to Mary's song of justice as the world is turned around and upside down. Following the service, join us for a **special program** led by Palestinian-American Baptist, GJ Tarazi on ways to advocate for justice and peace in Israel/Palestine. *Please see announcement below for more details.*

**December 17**— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the third Sunday of Advent as we witness the birth of Jesus. Our children will dress up for the **live nativity** as angels and shepherds as we retell the Christmas story in worship; then, we'll stay awhile after the service to celebrate the season with a **special holiday lunch** and an extra dose of merriment! Grace Boone will also have a table set up for anyone who would like to take a little Advent linocut stamp art home with them.

**December 24**— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the fourth Sunday of Advent (and Christmas Eve!) for a special **holiday hymn sing**. We'll gather around the piano and sing our Christmas favorites together. Children and their grown-ups are more than welcome to come in your favorite Christmas pajamas and/or holiday silly sweaters. Join us for a cozy Christmas Eve celebration!

**December 31**— Join us for VIRTUAL worship at 10:30 a.m. as we gather on Zoom and/or Facebook Live for a time of reflection in the Watchnight tradition.

**Theology on Draft Christmas Party**— On **Wednesday, December 13 at 7pm**, Theology on Draft will have a Christmas Party at Pastor Sally and Maria's house. Please RSVP Rev. Mahogany Thomas ([mthomas@calvarydc.org](mailto:mthomas@calvarydc.org)) by Sunday, **December 10**.

**Program on Palestine**— On **Sunday, December 10th**, following the worship service, GJ Tarazi, a Palestinian-American Baptist, will present an informative program on Palestine. GJ is a member of Ravensworth Baptist Church in Virginia, and he has been involved with Calvary over the past decade as we have sought to advocate for justice in Israel/Palestine. There will be a light meal served. GJ, who still has relatives in Gaza, will share his family story, some history of Gaza and Palestine and lead a discussion about the Apartheid-Free Faith Community pledge. This presentation is the first in a series of learning events for Calvary. In January or February, we plan to have a representative from Jewish Voice for Peace make a presentation and we will have additional educational events before any congregational action on whether or not to adopt the [Apartheid-Free Faith Pledge](#).

## OUR LABOR TOGETHER | A Mission Statement

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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

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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.

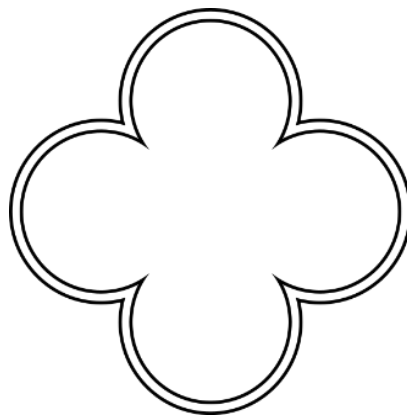
## OUR HOLY IMAGINATION | A Vision Statement

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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

Alice Bartlett; Eleonora Settels; Carrie Dale, mother of Amy Dale; Bradley Sims, friend of Carter Vaughn; Paul Lansing; Joe Taylor, Jessica Taylor's father; Marlene Shambaugh, Courtney Miller's aunt; Luis Campos, Daniel Alcazar-Roman's uncle; Rena Jirack; Ruby Shepherd; Harold Walker, Jackie Wright's stepfather; For peace to prevail in Ukraine, Palestine, Afghanistan, and Yemen; 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.



## CHURCH STAFF

**Sally Sarratt** (she/her)

**Maria Swearingen** (she/her)

**Mahogany Thomas** (she/her)

**Shiwei Cheng** (she/her)

**Jojo Angdisen** (he/him)

**Al Jeter** (he/him)

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## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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