

# VIRTUAL SUNDAY

1 de diciembre / December 1, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

# CALVARY DC

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THE

WEARY

WORLD

*Rejoices*

## PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Advent series theme, call to worship, prayers of the people, and reflections are adapted from Kate Bowler's Advent resources including "The Weary World Rejoices" and the Advent blessings in her book "The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days." Learn more and explore this year's Advent devotional at [katebowler.com](http://katebowler.com).

### La Bienvenida | Welcome

Pastor Maria

### Canción | Opening Hymn

Toda La Tierra | All Earth is Hopeful  
sung by Tim Shaw

Toda la tierra espera al Salvador  
Y el surco abierto, la obra del Creador;  
Es el mundo que lucha por la libertad,  
Reclama justicia y busca la verdad.

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!  
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:  
This, the labor of people who struggle to see  
How God's truth and justice set everybody free.

### Palabras de Alabanza | Call to Worship

Corina Lopez, Deacon

We live in the already-but-not-yet.

**This means we have hope for a future of peace, safety, joy, and restoration.**

Living in the already-but-not yet means we need to make space for lament.

**Lament invites us to express our sorrow, pain, and confusion.**

It is the act of grieving with God.

**This Advent season, as we make a home for grief and joy in our souls, we also hold closely the "big hope" we have for the world and for our community.**

### 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.**

### 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.**

### Tiempo con los Niños | Time with Children

Pastor Sally

## Ofrendas | Offertory

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

Corina Lopez, Deacon

## Canción | Scripture Refrain

When God is a Child

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
Leading us on till the morning is bright.**

**When God is a child  
there's joy in our song.**

**The last shall be first  
and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.**

## Lectura | Scripture

Lucas | Luke 1:5-24

Pastor Sally

<sup>5</sup>In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

<sup>8</sup>Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, <sup>9</sup>he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. <sup>10</sup>Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup>Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup>When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup>You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth... <sup>18</sup>Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." <sup>19</sup>The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup>But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

<sup>21</sup>Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup>When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. <sup>23</sup>When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

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<sup>5</sup> Hubo en los días de Herodes, rey de Judea, un sacerdote llamado Zacarías, de la clase de Abías; su mujer era de las hijas de Aarón, y se llamaba Elisabet. <sup>6</sup> Ambos eran justos delante de Dios, y andaban irrepreensibles en todos los mandamientos y ordenanzas del Señor. <sup>7</sup> Pero no tenían hijo, porque Elisabet era estéril, y ambos eran ya de edad avanzada.

<sup>8</sup> Aconteció que ejerciendo Zacarías el sacerdocio delante de Dios según el orden de su clase, <sup>9</sup> conforme a la costumbre del sacerdocio, le tocó en suerte ofrecer el incienso, entrando en el santuario del Señor. <sup>10</sup> Y toda la multitud del pueblo estaba fuera orando a la hora del incienso. <sup>11</sup> Y se le apareció un ángel del Señor puesto en pie a la derecha del altar del incienso. <sup>12</sup> Y se turbó Zacarías al verle, y le sobrecogió temor. <sup>13</sup> Pero el ángel le dijo: Zacarías, no temas; porque tu oración ha sido oída, y tu mujer Elisabet te dará a luz un hijo, y llamarás su nombre Juan. <sup>14</sup> Y tendrás gozo y alegría, y muchos se regocijarán de su nacimiento. <sup>18</sup> Dijo Zacarías al ángel: ¿En qué conoceré esto? Porque yo soy viejo, y mi mujer es de edad avanzada. <sup>19</sup> Respondiendo el ángel, le dijo: Yo soy Gabriel, que estoy delante de Dios; y he sido enviado a hablarte, y darte estas buenas nuevas. <sup>20</sup> Y ahora quedarás mudo y no podrás hablar, hasta el día en que esto se haga, por cuanto no creíste mis palabras, las cuales se cumplirán a su tiempo.

<sup>21</sup> Y el pueblo estaba esperando a Zacarías, y se extrañaba de que él se demorase en el santuario. <sup>22</sup> Pero cuando salió, no les podía hablar; y comprendieron que había visto visión en el santuario. Él les hablaba por señas, y permaneció mudo. <sup>23</sup> Y cumplidos los días de su ministerio, se fue a su casa.

## Reflecciones | Reflection

*Pastor Maria*

## A Blessing for Hope on the First Sunday of Advent

*by Kate Bowler*

God, these are darkening days,  
with little hope in sight.  
Help us in our fear and exhaustion.  
Anchor us in hope.  
Blessed are we with eyes open  
to see the accumulated suffering of danger,  
sickness, and loneliness,  
the injustice of racial oppression,  
the unimpeded greed and misuse  
of power, violence, intimidation,  
and use of dominance for its own sake,  
the mockery of truth,  
and disdain for weakness or vulnerability  
—and worse, the seeming powerlessness  
of anyone trying to stop it.  
Blessed are we who ask: Where are you, God?  
And where are Your people  
—the smart and sensible ones who fight for good  
and have the power to make it stick?  
Blessed are we who cry out:  
Oh God, why does the bad always seem to win?  
When will good prevail?  
We know you are good, but we see so little goodness.

God, show me your heart.  
How you seek out the broken,  
lift us on your shoulders,  
and carry us home—  
no matter how weak we've become.  
God, seek us out, and find us,  
we your tired people,  
and lead us out to where hope lies  
where your kingdom will come  
and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Fill me with your courage.  
Calm me with your love.  
Fortify me with your hope.

P.S. Open your hands as you release your prayers.  
Then take hold of hope. As protest.

## **Meditación | Musical Meditation**

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**  
*Rhea Naomi Williams*

*As the Advent candle of Hope is lit, we invite you to reflect on a big hope that starts small.*

## **Bendición | Benediction**

*Pastor Sally*

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**, Corina Lopez  
[clopez260@hotmail.com](mailto:clopez260@hotmail.com) 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—** TODAY: Sunday, December 1

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“We Got Us” Prayer Booklet**— The Sunday following the presidential election, we gathered for a prayer service to intentionally lift up trans lives, immigrant lives, and the uncertain future we all face. Grace Boone has lovingly illustrated and compiled those prayers into a digital booklet which can be downloaded to and printed from your device! You can find it at the adjacent QR code. We hope this offers you space for reflection, courage, and care.



**Estudio Bíblico Vida y Esperanza con Rev. Edgar Palacios**— El curso se impartirá en las instalaciones de las 9:00-10:15 am, los domingos 24 de noviembre, 8 y 15 de diciembre. El objetivo de este estudio será conocer el significado de la vida real y la esperanza en el mensaje bíblico.

**Advent Happenings**— We are heading into the Advent Season! Below is a quick glance at all the events happening in the next month. If you're looking for a daily devotional this season, you can find the "The Weary World Rejoices" by Kate Bowler at the adjacent QR code. We hope you make plans to gather and celebrate with us!



Week One—

- **Sunday, December 1**- VIRTUAL worship

Week Two—

- **Sunday, December 8**- IN-PERSON worship (Bilingual language group gathering following worship)
- **Wednesday, December 11**- Theology on Draft Christmas Party! Please RSVP Rev. Mahogany Thomas ([mthomas@calvarydc.org](mailto:mthomas@calvarydc.org)) for more details.
- **Saturday, December 14**- Latino Fellowship Holiday Party, 6:00 pm in Shallenberger Hall

Week Three—

- **Sunday, December 15**- IN-PERSON worship- Live Nativity Sunday with Christmas luncheon/party to follow

Week Four—

- **Sunday, December 22**- IN-PERSON worship
- **Tuesday, December 24**- Christmas Eve Potluck Brunch and Hymn Sing, 10:30 am in Woodward Hall

## 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.

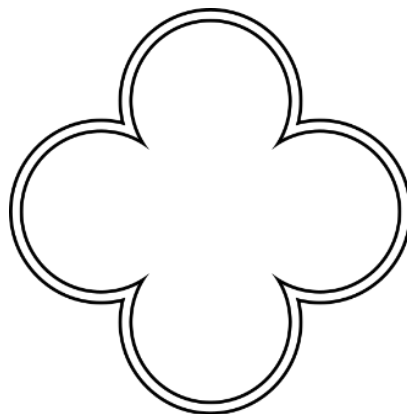
## OUR HOLY IMAGINATION | A Vision Statement

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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

Michelle Nikolov, friend of Liubov and Chuck Russell; Dan Mayfield, Jay Mayfield's father; All those affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton; George Brummett-Wudel, Will Brummett and Grace Boone's niece; Diego Torres-Siclait, Manuel Torres Anjel's grandson; Ed Renfrow, Phil Renfrow's brother; Alice Bartlett; Eleonora Settels; Carrie Dale, mother of Amy Dale; Bradley Sims, friend of Carter Vaughn; Marlene Shambaugh, Courtney Miller's aunt; Luis Campos, Daniel Alcazar-Roman's uncle; 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)

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