

# **REVELATION AS RESISTANCE**

## July 20, 2025

JOIN US ON THE CORNER OF FILLMORE & JACKSON Click here to watch on our website Click here to watch on YouTube



# WELCOME!

Our mission is to nurture and inspire our faith community to transform lives for Christ.

## **COMMUNITY GROWS HERE**

Thank you for joining us in worship. Your presence matters here. Author Rachel Held Evans wrote, "Christianity isn't meant to simply be believed; it's meant to be lived, shared, eaten, spoken, and enacted in the presence of other people... Try as I may, I can't be a Christian on my own. I need a community. I need the church. Imagine if every church became a place where everyone is safe, but no one is comfortable. Imagine if every church became a place where we told one another the truth. We might just create sanctuary."

We need you. As we work to create transformational community on the corner of Fillmore and Jackson, your community needs your presence and your voice. It's been five years since our world was upended by Covid.



And while much has changed since then, our need for each other and our need for community has not. Worship, at its root, is participatory. Your voice, in prayer and song, joins with the voices of others, as an offering to God. "Liturgy"—the words we say together in worship—means "the work of the people." Thankful for the privilege of doing the work together.

For early and non-readers, icons are included in the left margin throughout the bulletin.



Assisted listening devices are available at the Front Desk, and **large print hymnals** are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry).

## DAILY LECTIONARY: JULY 20-JULY 26

Monday: Revelation 20:1-6 Tuesday: Revelation 20:7-15 Wednesday: Revelation 21:8-15 Thursday: Revelation 21:16-22 Friday: Revelation 22:6-13 Saturday: Revelation 22:14-21

If you could use a new study Bible, we have some for sale. This is the updated version of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) that we have in the pews. Available for \$25 after worship. Rev. Marcella Auld Glass Rev. Joann H. Lee

Rev. Man Man

Rev. Victor H. Floyd

**Michael Conley** 

## PRAYER REQUESTS

You may submit prayer requests through the **Prayer Line:** (415) 346-3832, ext. 600. Prayer boxes are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry) and at the Front Desk. The Deacons and Pastors honor confidentiality and pray for each request.

Calvary Deacons: Prayer, Essential Errands, Spiritual Support Helen Huckleberry, Deacon Co-Moderator Terry Milby, Deacon Co-Moderator Rev. Victor Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care



Notice of Filming: Most of Calvary's worship services are livestreamed on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. While most of the footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

#### July 20, 2025

#### Prelude "Prélude Modal Op. 6" (1934)

**Introit** "Laudate Dominum"

Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

Tiburtio Massaino (1550–1609)

Praise God, all you nations; extol God, all you peoples. For great is God's love toward us, and the faithfulness of God endures forever.

Glory to the Creator, and the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (Psalm 117)

#### **WELCOME**

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, and sing your praise! Blessing and glory and wisdom be to our God forever! Give all your worship to the One who is, who was, and who is to come. Thanksgiving and honor and power and might—only to the three in one! Every word, every thought, every praise you have, offer to God alone. Even when we come to the end of human language, still we sing to the Lord!

- \*Hymn 357 "The Days Are Surely Coming"
- \*CALL TO CONFESSION
- \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You are the One God, Source and Light and Salvation for all your creation.

We confess that we are prone to orienting our lives around others, though.

Our imaginations are so constrained by the systems of this world that we have fallen

to the temptation to believe this is the only way there is.

We have believed there are limits on who and how and how many.

We have listened to those who say they can save us, if only we buy their product or vote their way.

We have thought we were alone and powerless to resist, and so we tried to find ways to use the system for good, believing it wouldn't corrupt us too.

Forgive us, God, for accepting the lie that there are no other options, and lift our eyes beyond to your infinite grace, where multitudes upon multitudes gather and celebrate true power that comes only from your love and acodness.

We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lamb who was slain and yet lives to guide us all to green pastures and living waters in your new creation.

Amen.

- \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON
- \*GLORIA "Glory to the God Above"



#### \*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you!

#### And also with you!

The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace. Following The Peace, children ages infant to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to walk with their parents down to the Lower Level Sunday Studio and Childcare space. Children may also sit with their families during worship.

**LLANGLOFFAN** 

#### BLESSING OF THE PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM PARTICIPANTS

ANTHEM "Sanctus" from Missa Sexti Toni Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest!

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may listen for your Word, and we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.



SCRIPTURE Revelation 7:1-17 (page 998) The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Revelation as Resistance: Putting the World Together"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From the Theological Declaration of Barmen (1934)

Scripture tells us: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) And "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ... I am the door; if anyone enters by me, he will be saved." (John 10:1, 9)

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church could and would have to acknowledge as a source of its proclamation, apart from and besides this one Word of God, still other events and powers, figures and truths, as God's revelation.

Scripture tells us: "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." (Matthew 28:20) And, "The word of God is not fettered." (II Timothy 2:9)

The church's commission, upon which its freedom is founded, consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people in Christ's stead, and therefore in the ministry of his own Word and work through sermon and Sacrament.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church in human arrogance could place the Word and work of the Lord in the service of any arbitrarily chosen desires, purposes, and plans.

Following the Affirmation, Calvary Youth (grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12th) are invited to fellowship and conversation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

#### OFFERING

The ushers will be walking down the aisles with offering plates if you'd like to pass your contribution toward either aisle as they walk by. You can also place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary.

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Clap Your Hands"

Clap your hands, O faithful people! Shout to God a song of praise! From the dust of conquered nations, God a realm of grace shall raise. In appointed courts of glory Faithful to God's name always. May we prosper all our days. With a shout, a blast of trumpet, God shall mount a throne on high; Let our praise, as finest incense, Rise to meet God in the sky. Fill the world with glad rejoicing, Heaven shall sing, and earth reply. All God's works to glorify. Let your hearts be filled with aladness, As the lord your life shall bless; Live as heirs of God's great justice, Wear the cloak of righteousness. God will grant us earth's dominion, All things good, and nothing less, For our gift of faithfulness. -Psalm 47, paraphrased from Michael Morgan Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

#### \*Doxology



#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

\*Hymn "Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor" (Please see insert.)

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\*CHORAL BLESSING "The Peace of the Earth"

The peace of the earth be with you, The peace of the heavens too; The peace of the rivers be with you, The peace of the oceans too. Deep peace falling over you; God's peace growing in you. REGENT SQUARE

Guatemalan melody, arr. John Bell

PostLude "Toccata in E minor"

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Most of the litanies are inspired by resources from Teri Peterson of BibleWorm and LiturgyWorm.



#### The Second Coming

By William Butler Yeats

Turning and turning in the widening gyre The falcon cannot hear the falconer; Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world, The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere The ceremony of innocence is drowned; The best lack all conviction, while the worst Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some revelation is at hand; Surely the Second Coming is at hand. The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out When a vast image out of *Spiritus Mundi* Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert A shape with lion body and the head of a man, A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun, Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds. The darkness drops again; but now I know That twenty centuries of stony sleep Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle, And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?



This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14–16 and Matthew 24:29–36/Mark 13:24–32/Luke 21:25–36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.



## Sermon Series: Norld Nithout End

**The Book of Revelation** is as close as scripture comes to science fiction. It is full of unexpected wonders, bizarro beasts, strange new worlds. It is not meant to strike fear in us but to jolt us into perceiving God's always-renewing reality. Although Revelation contains thinly



veiled symbols of ancient empire, it also features well-disguised images so esoteric we may not understand them this side of the veil. John's Revelation is an invitation to an eternity already unfolding with our every breath, world without end.

## Next Week in Worship: Fuly 27 at 10am

Rev. Victor H. Floyd: The City with Open Gates: God's Future Without Fear Revelation 21:1-7, 22-27; 22:1-5 In its final chapters, Revelation gives us a vision of a world healed, restored, and bursting with light. The New Jerusalem is not an escape plan but a divine promise for this world—where there are no temples of exclusion, no gates shut to the outsider, and no more night for the weary. God's justice includes rivers of healing, trees for all peoples, and a city where glory comes in all colors. This is the future we're called to build—right here, right now.

### SUPPORT PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

From July 4th to 5th, heavy rainfall resulted in catastrophic flash flooding in the Hill Country area in central Texas. Concerns remain for additional heavy rains and flooding from Hill Country to north Texas. The sudden floods resulted in more than 80 lives lost and search and rescue is ongoing.



**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** is in communication with the Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Disaster Network and Mission Presbytery to coordinate a response and assess the needs, including Emotional and Spiritual Care.

*Visit pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/national-disaster/texas-hill-country-flooding* for more information and to support PDA, our denomination's response to the flooding in Central Texas. Your prayers and faithful giving are deeply appreciated.

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## CALVARY SUNSET CRUISE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 AT 6PM REGISTER BY AUGUST 18

Sail under the Golden Gate Bridge & experience the Bay from a unique perspective! *Pre-Boarding Options:* Have dinner near the ferry at one of several

restaurants offering on site dining or take out; if you want, bring your own picnic (and wine) aboard. Both inside and outside tables are provided. Warm clothing suggested for outdoor seating. Meet at dock in Tiburon by 6pm for group boarding; the cruise departs at 6:30pm and returns at 8pm. Cost: adults (13+) \$20, children (6-12) \$15, small children (3-5) \$5, children under 3 are free. Sign up and pay (cash or check) in Calvin Hall on Sundays, August 10 and August 17 during Coffee Hour. Or pay online by credit card at calpres.org/events. Sign-ups close August 18. Please note there are no refunds for the sunset cruise reservations after August 18. Some partial scholarships are available for those who need it; contact Rev. Joann Lee at 415-346-3832.

CALVARY WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PROGRAM STAFF



The Rev. Marcella Auld Glass, Pastor & Head of Staff The Rev. Joann H. Lee, Associate Pastor for Community Formation The Rev. Victor H. Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care Michael Conley, Director of Music Ministries John Walko, Organist Alison Faison, Director of Children & Family Ministries Robin Morjikian, Director of Development & Volunteer Ministries Jeff Smith, Director of Youth Ministries