

AMAZING GRACE



Ships on a Stormy Sea, by Albert de Marées, oil on canvas, 1848

August 16, 2026

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WELCOME

OUR VISION IS TO AMPLIFY A MESSAGE OF LOVE AND JUSTICE THROUGH A GROWING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FULLY ALIVE TO ITS CALLING – TRANSFORMING SAN FRANCISCO AND THE WORLD.

DEEPER CONNECTION, ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Thank you for joining us in worship at Calvary. We recognize that our community and the world suffer from disconnection, division, and a loss of meaning. We seek to respond to those challenges by cultivating a spiritual home where people grow in faith, find belonging, and engage in Christ-centered transformation that reaches beyond our walls, out into the world.

We envision a church where people

- Seek to know God and be on the lookout for awe and wonder
- Speak and live the values God has given us
- Serve and enrich the community around us
- Invite others to walk with us as we follow Jesus



It matters that you are here. Our witness to the world is strengthened when we can build community across our differences and with the unique gifts each person offers. 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, building deeper connections, rooted in community.

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



***The asterisk indicates rising in body or spirit.**

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



DAILY LECTIONARY: AUGUST 16–AUGUST 22

Sunday: Luke 15:1-10

Monday: Psalm 130; Genesis 43:1-34; Acts 15:1-21

Tuesday: Psalm 130; Genesis 44:1-34; Romans 11:13-29

Wednesday: Psalm 130; Genesis 45:16-28; Matthew 8:1-13

Thursday: Psalm 124; Genesis 49:1-33; 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Friday: Psalm 124; Genesis 49:29-50:14; 2 Corinthians 10:12-18

Saturday: Psalm 124; Genesis 50:15-26; Matthew 16:5-12

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.



Rev. Marcella Auld Glass Rev. Joann H. Lee

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Rev. Victor H. Floyd

Michael Conley

Victor H. Floyd

Michael Conley

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Terry Milby, Deacon Co-Moderator

Jared Waterman, Deacon Co-Moderator

Rev. Victor Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care

Notice of Filming: Most of Calvary's worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. 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.

August 16, 2026

🎵 **PRELUDE** "Twilight"; "Water Lilies" Herman Beeftink (b. 1953)

🎵 **INTROIT** "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" Ken Medema (1970)
*Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.*

👂 **WELCOME**

🔊 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

To know the warmth of love,
To have the assurance that someone cares,
To be confident of our worth,
To be bold to love in return,
To be washed over with grace,
To be accepted as we are:
This is to know a bit of God.
Then let us worship our God.

🎵 ***HYMN 649** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" AMAZING GRACE

👂 ***CALL TO CONFESSION**

🕯 ***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of Grace, you call us to be different from the world, but the world is seductive, and so we come here to be strengthened. God of Vision, you hold before us an alternate way of life, different priorities, different loyalties, different values, but we know that the world is not only seductive but powerful, and so we are drawn in to following its priorities, accepting its values, showing loyalty to its gods. God who blesses the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful, forgive us when we lose sight of these qualities, when we misunderstand their role in the world. Amen.

👂 ***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

🎵 ***GLORIA** "Glory to God" CELESTIAL HARMONY, Michael Conley

Glo - ry to God: the Cre - a - tor, the
Christ, and the Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ As it was in the be-gin - ning, is
now, and will be for - ev - er, _____ world with - out
end, a - men. Glo - ry - to God. _____

🕊 ***THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!
The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace.

 **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**
O God, Lover of humanity, Joy of creation, pour out your Spirit on us that we may hear your ancient words in a new key. Inspire us to sing your praise in every land and with every generation, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

 **SCRIPTURE** Luke 15:1-10 (page 850)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

 **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**
Following the Blessings of the Backpacks, children aged infant to 5th grade are invited to walk with their parents down to the Lower Level Sunday Studio and Childcare space. Children may also remain in worship with their families.

 **ANTHEM** "Amazing Grace" trad. hymn, arr. Lloyd Larson

<i>Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.</i>	<i>Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come; 'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.</i>
<i>'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!</i>	<i>When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.</i>

 **SERMON** "Amazing Grace"

 **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**
**We sing of God the Spirit,
who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter
and moving in the human heart.**

**We sing of God the Spirit,
faithful and untameable,
who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.**

**The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy
not only in what is familiar,
but also in that which seems foreign.**

**We sing of the Spirit,
who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
transforming us and the world.**

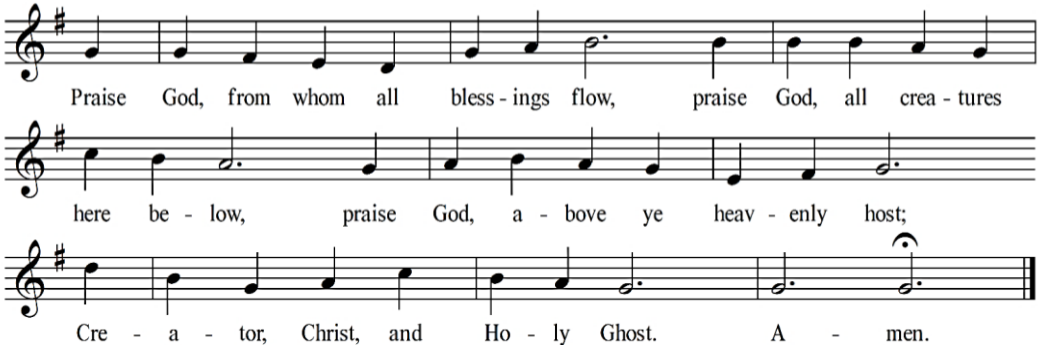
**We offer worship
as an outpouring of gratitude and awe
and a practice of opening ourselves
to God's still, small voice of comfort,
to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.
Through word, music, art, and sacrament,
in community and in solitude,
God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.**

Following the Affirmation of Faith, Youth (grades 6th-12th) may meet in the 2nd floor lounge area, called The S.P.O.T. (Spiritual, Passionate, Open-minded, Transformative).

 **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 may also place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary.

 **OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "When We All Get to Heaven" Emily D. Wilson (1898) arr. Cliff Duren
*Sing the wondrous love of Jesus; sing His mercy and his grace.
 In the mansions, bright and blessed, he'll prepare for us a place.*
Refrain:
*When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!
 When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory!*
*While we walk the pilgrim pathway, clouds will overspread the sky;
 but when traveling days are over, not a shadow, not a sigh! [Refrain]*
*Let us then be true and faithful, trusting, serving every day.
 Just one glimpse of him in glory will the toils of life repay. [Refrain]*
*Onward to the prize before us! Soon his beauty we'll behold.
 Soon the pearly gates will open; we shall tread the streets of gold. [Refrain]*
 –Eliza Edmunds Hewitt (1898)

 ***DOXOLOGY** OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow, praise God, all crea - tures
 here be - low, praise God, a - bove ye heav - enly host;
 Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

 ***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 396** "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" HOLY MANNA

 ***BENEDICTION**

 ***CHORAL BLESSING** "Six-fold Amen" Michael Conley

 POSTLUDE "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON, arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

Acknowledgements:

The Call to Worship is from Beth Neel, holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship.
 The Affirmation of Faith is excerpted from *Song of Faith* of the United Church of Canada (2006),
united-church.ca/beliefs/statements/songfaith.

LEADING WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Amy Ovalle	<i>Liturgist</i>
Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt	<i>Preaching</i>
Rev. Joann H. Lee	<i>Assisting</i>
Rev. Victor H. Floyd	<i>Assisting</i>
Michael Conley	<i>Conductor</i>
Natalie Ter Agapova	<i>Soloist</i>
Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols	<i>Soloist</i>
Nancy Hall	<i>Flute/Soloist</i>
Joachim Luis	<i>Soloist</i>
Jefferson Packer	<i>Soloist</i>
Ben Pattison	<i>Soloist</i>
Michael Villarreal	<i>Soloist</i>
Calvary Summer Choir	

Pastor Marci is away from Calvary on her sabbatical, returning September 1; **John Walko** is out, returning in September.

NEXT WEEK IN WORSHIP AUGUST 23 AT 10AM

Rev. Victor H. Floyd: *What a Friend!*

John 15:10-17 It may be aged and worn, but the old hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" has a story to tell! More than a sweet Sunday School song, this chestnut is planted in biblical narratives and calls us into an intimate theology of abiding love.

In Memoriam

Diane E. Scott
(1942-2026)



FAREWELL, NANCY HALL

After nearly 11 years of faithful service, our Alto Soloist & Section Leader, Nancy Hall, is retiring. Today is her last official Sunday, although we hope to see her back from time to time in the future. Nancy was the first person I hired as the new Music Director at Calvary, back in 2015, and she has graced the choir loft with her many talents ever since. In addition to ably singing solos, duets, and small ensembles with the other soloists, expertly leading the altos, and beautifully playing the flute, she has also shared with us a wide range of musical knowledge and know-how, and her contributions to both worship and concerts have been vast. Her never-failing warmth and positivity will be dearly missed almost as much as her musicianship. Nancy is moving to San Ramon to be closer to family, and we wish her every happiness in this next chapter of her life. Thank you for being such a special part of the Calvary Music Ministry and the church as a whole. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

~Michael Conley, Director of Music Ministries

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CHOCTAW

*Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 hatak ilbusha pia ha
 is pi yukpalashke.*

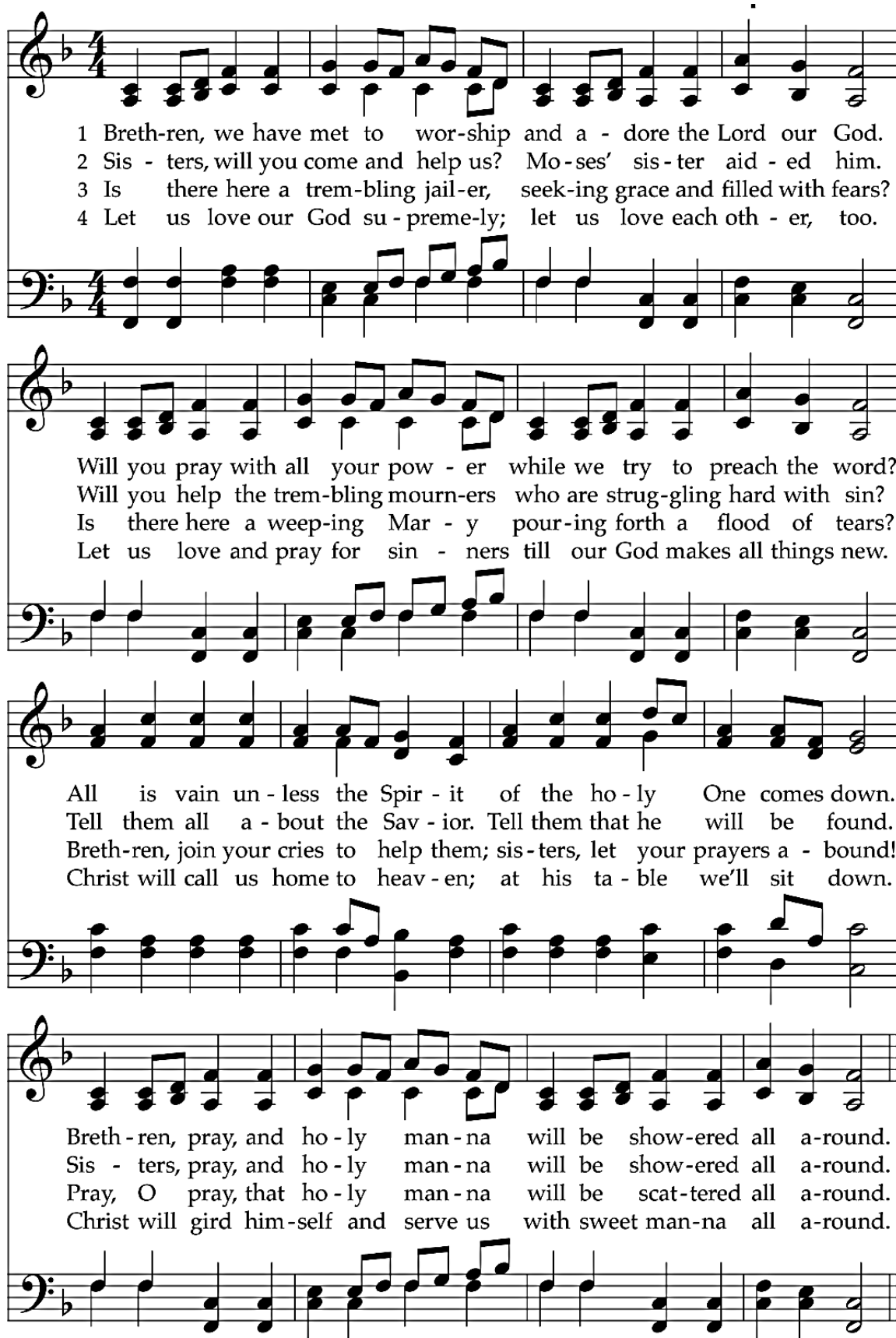
CREEK

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 ah non ah cha pa kas
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 um e ha ta la yus.*

NAVAHO

*Nizhónígo joobá diits' a'
 yisdáshúítinígí,
 lah yóóiyá, k'ad
 shénáhoosdzin,
 doo eesh'íí da ít'ée.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.



1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a - dore the Lord our God.
 2 Sis - ters, will you come and help us? Mo-ses' sis-ter aid - ed him.
 3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
 4 Let us love our God su - preme-ly; let us love each oth - er, too.

Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word?
 Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?
 Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?
 Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.

All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the ho - ly One comes down.
 Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior. Tell them that he will be found.
 Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis-ters, let your prayers a - bound!
 Christ will call us home to heav - en; at his ta - ble we'll sit down.

Breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man-na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man-na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Pray, O pray, that ho - ly man-na will be scat-tered all a-round.
 Christ will gird him-self and serve us with sweet man-na all a-round.

This hymn comes out of the early 19th-century southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12-13). As its name shows, the five-note tune was created for this text.