

Peace and
Perseverance in
Poetry

How'd **This Book**
End Up in the **Bible??!**

August 24, 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: AUGUST 24–AUGUST 31



Monday: Jeremiah 7:1-15
Tuesday: Jeremiah 7:16-26
Wednesday: Jeremiah 7:27-34
Thursday: Jeremiah 11:1-17
Friday: Jeremiah 12:1-13
Saturday: Jeremiah 2:1-3
Sunday: Jeremiah 2:4-13

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

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Rev. Joann H. Lee

Rev. Victor H. Floyd

Michael Conley

Rev. 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

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.

August 24, 2025

♪ **PRELUDE** "Prelude on the Welsh Tune RHOSYMEDRE (Lovely)" (1920)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

♪ **INTROIT** "'The Call" from *Five Mystical Songs*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.*

*Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joys in love.
—George Herbert, 1633*

👂 **WELCOME**

🔊 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Here, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in our hearts:

calling us to generous acts, to share the gifts we have been given.

Now, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in our land:

calling us to generous acts, to open our hearts to all in need.

In every place, in every moment, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in all creation:

calling us to generous acts, to stand with God's people: the least, the lost, the little, the last.

♪ ***HYMN** "As a Chalice Cast of Gold" (*Please see insert.*)

Dix

👂 ***CALL TO CONFESSION**

🕯 ***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short of your call to love one another well.

We allow ourselves to be blinded by wealth and power.

We ignore those around us who suffer injustice, poverty, and rejection.

We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities.

Help us to see your great generosity, hear your word of mercy, and feel your great love for all who need your redemptive grace.

Strengthen us to reach out in service to those who are in need.

Make us aware of those outside our own communities, that we may see them as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy.

May we continue to grow in grace as we learn to love as you first loved us. Amen.

👂 ***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

♪ ***GLORIA** "Glory to the God Above"

GOLDEN GATE, Michael Conley

Glo-ry to__ the God a-bove, and to the Son, the Lord of
Love, Glo-ry to__ the Spi-rit, Three In__One, Glo-ry to God through whom all good things come.
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is__ now, and for-ev-er shall be. A -
men, a - men, a - men, a - men!



*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 5th 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.



ANTHEM "Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One"

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

*Rise up, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for lo the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear upon the earth;
the time of singing of birds has come.
Rise up, my love, my fair one,
and come away.
—Song of Songs 2:10–12*



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living Word, you still have many things to say to us. Speak, and we will try to hear them. Amen.



SCRIPTURE Song of Songs 2:10–13; 8:6–7 (page 544; 548)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



SERMON "How'd This Book End Up in the Bible??!"



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 John 4:7–21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent their only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent their Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in God and he in us, because God has given us of their Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their siblings are liars; for those who do not love a sibling whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their siblings also.



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 "Set Me As a Seal"

René Clausen (1953–)

*Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.
—Song of Songs 8:6–7*

♪ ***DOXOLOGY**

DUKE STREET

Praise God, from whom all _____ bless - ings _____ flow;

Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise God a - bove, _____ ye _____ heav'n - ly _____ 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 37 "Let All Things Now Living"**

ASH GROVE

♪ ***BENEDICTION**

♪ ***CHORAL BLESSING "Six-Fold Amen"**

Michael Conley

♪ **POSTLUDE "Postlude on ST. ANNE (O God, Our Help)" (1960)**

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Leading Worship This Morning

Betsy Dodd
 Rev. Marcella Auld Glass
 Rev. Joann H. Lee
 Rev. Victor H. Floyd
 Michael Conley
 John Walko
 Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols
 Natalie Ter Agapova
 Nancy Hall
 Joachim Luis
 Michael Villarreal
 Calvary Summer Choir

Liturgist
Preaching
Assisting
Assisting
Conductor
Organist/Pianist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist

Next Week in Worship: August 31 at 10am

Rev. Victor H. Floyd: *Wisdom on Stage*
Job 28 An end-of-the-summer musical extravaganza! Let's worship God in a joyful and challenging service of "Lessons & Show Tunes" with biblical Wisdom as our guide.

Children's Meditation

The Children's Meditation is taking a break during the summer and will resume Sunday, September 7.

SPOKEN AND REMEMBERED

The banners recently installed in the Sanctuary carry the names of 296 people who died on the streets of San Francisco in 2024. There are dozens more we don't know. The decorative fringe along the balcony is made from the same fabric used for the names. Its more festive nature balances the deep grief we hold for these lives lost with a celebration of life for the beloved children of God that they are.

For decades, an interfaith community in the Tenderloin has come together annually around the Winter Solstice to read the names of neighbors who have died on the streets that year.

This exhibition is the collection of memorial banners from the 2024 Annual Vigil, featuring nearly 300 names that call us to collectively grieve and refuse to allow them to remain unspoken in death.

The Annual Vigil has become more visible in recent years. The number of neighbors lost ranges from around 180 to nearly 400, and our remembrance now includes a singing processional to the steps of City Hall before moving across to the plaza, a site where civic governance intersects with our City's most visible social problems.

This gathering remains an intentional interfaith ceremony of mourning and memory that gives voice and name to the conditions and vulnerabilities of homelessness in San Francisco.

In 2020, Skywatchers, a cross-cultural, intergenerational, mixed-ability community arts collaboration, joined this event as part of their arts-based advocacy for housing and health justice in the Tenderloin. Each year, they sew fabric banners for every loved one lost with help from local community organizations like St. John's, Faithful Fools, and San Francisco Night Ministry.

By embodying art-making as a form of civic participation, Skywatchers hopes to inspire discovery, engage discourse, and manifest change in our San Francisco neighborhoods.



2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Friends, we give thanks for the generosity you have already shown in support of the 2025 Annual Giving Campaign. Calvary has received pledged commitments of \$1,236,500 (or 92% of our goal). This means \$113,500 remains to meet our ministry and program plans for this year.

Isaiah reminds us, 'Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?' We believe God is doing something new here at Calvary, and every pledge—regardless of the amount—brings us closer to that vision.

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you might be part of this final step. Together, let's ensure Calvary continues to be a beacon of love, grace, peace, and transformation in our community.

To make a pledge for 2025, please visit calpres.org or pick up a pledge card at the Welcome Table in the Atrium.


CALVARY WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PROGRAM STAFF



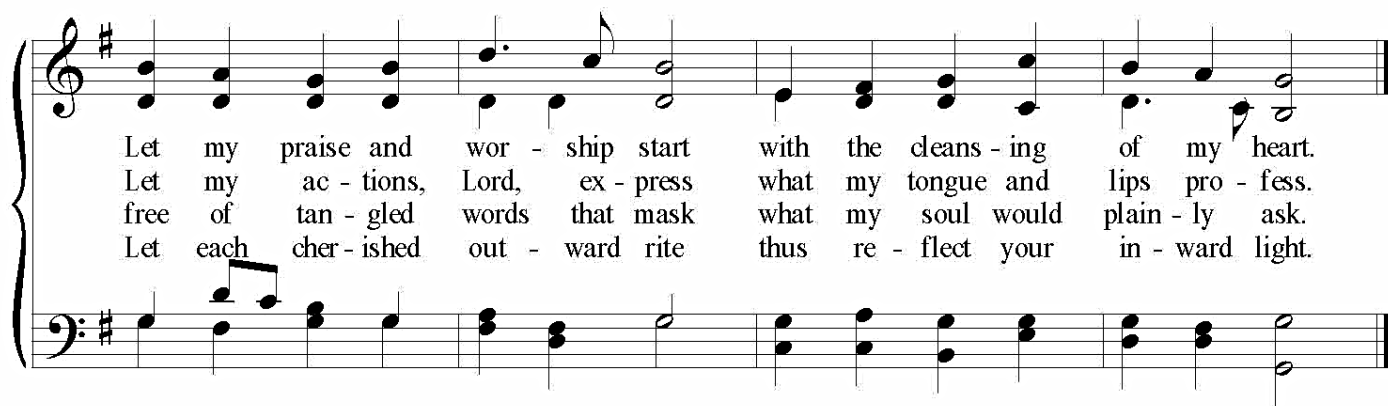
The Rev. Marcella Auld Glass, Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Joann H. Lee, Associate Pastor for Community Formation
The Rev. Victor H. Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care
Michael Conley, Director of Music Ministries
John Walko, Organist
Alison Faison, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Robin Morjikian,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



As a chal - ice cast of gold, burn - ished, bright and brimmed with wine,
Save me from the sooth - ing sin of the emp - ty cul - tic deed
When I bend up - on my knees, clasp my hands, or bow my head,
When I dance or chant your praise, when I sing a psalm or hymn,



make me, Lord, as fit to hold grace and truth and love di - vine.
and the pi - ous, bab - bling din of the claimed but un - lived creed.
let my spo - ken, pub - lic pleas be di - rect - ly, simp - ly said,
when I preach your lov - ing ways, let my heart add its A - men.



Let my praise and wor - ship start with the cleans - ing of my heart.
Let my ac - tions, Lord, ex - press what my tongue and lips pro - fess.
free of tan - gled words that mask what my soul would plain - ly ask.
Let each cher - ished out - ward rite thus re - flect your in - ward light.

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing
2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,
to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains,
by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.
God's ban - ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;
a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,
till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:
as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).