

February 16, 2025



Geneva Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

Follow us on Social Media



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Geneva Presbyterian Church

February 16, 2025

10:30am

Childcare is available in a downstairs classroom -- please ask an Usher for help.

The Gathering

Welcome to worship with Geneva Presbyterian Church! Whether you're joining us online or in person, we're glad you're here and grateful to be gathered as a community united in Christ. This is your spiritual home -- we encourage you to sing, pray, and be yourself just as God made you in this holy space.

We greet with open arms and open hearts guests and new church members across the full diversity of life, including differences in sex, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, range of abilities, marital status, family structure, financial means, and education.

No matter who you are, you are welcome here and we hope you will feel home at Geneva.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome to the Worship of God

Call to Worship

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in
the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

People: to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

Leader: Wait for the LORD;

People: be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

– Psalm 27:1,4, &14

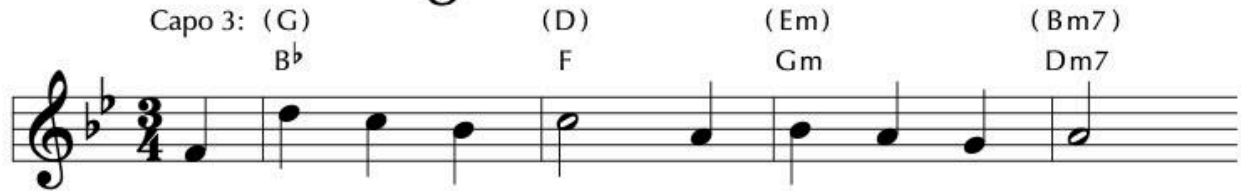
Opening Hymn

“Together We Serve”

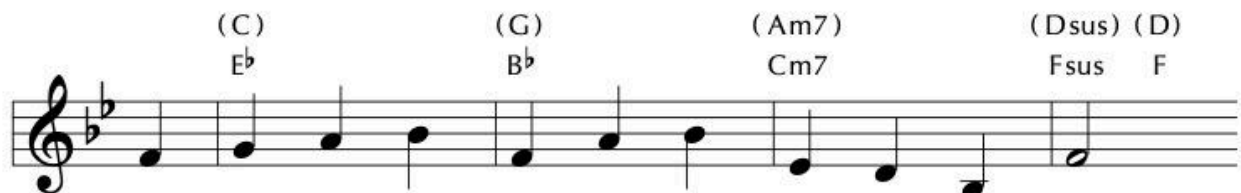
(verses 1-3)

Together We Serve

767



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(below in unison, then silent personal prayers)*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear in silence.

In your mercy, set us free from a past that we cannot change. In your grace, open to us a
future where we are changed: made new in forgiveness and sent out again as disciples.
Lord, hear the prayers of our humble hearts...

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response “Love the Lord Your God” *(sung twice)* #62

62 Love the Lord Your God

Capo 4: (C) (G) (F) (C)
E B A E

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.

(C) (G) (F) (C)
E B A E

Love the Lord your God with all your soul.

(F) (Dm7) (Em7) (Am7) (Dm7) (G) (C)
A F#m7 G#m7 C#m7 F#m7 B E

Love the Lord your God with all your mind.

(F) (Dm7) (Em7) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)
A F#m7 G#m7 C#m7 A B E

Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

Joys and Concerns *(The Online Church recording is turned off during this portion of the service for privacy. We will resume recording after the Lord's Prayer.)*

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Passing of the Peace

“Rain Down”

#48

Rain Down 48

Capo 3: (D) (F#7) (Bm) (D7) (G)
F A7 Dm F7 Bb

Rain down; rain down; rain down your
(D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D) (F#7) (Bm)
F/A Gm7 C7 F A7 Dm

love on your peo - ple. Rain down; rain
(D7) (G) (Em) (A7) (G) (D)
F7 Bb Gm C7 Bb F

down; rain down your love, God of life.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination *(in unison)*

Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken through the ages: by the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your only Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:3-7

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Cali Bronkema

(Children 5th grade and younger are invited to join Bridges to Worship in the downstairs classroom following the Children's Sermon. Please join NextGen Director Cali Bronkema in the rug area to participate!)

Second Scripture Reading

James 1:2-4

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Sermon **“The Snow that Melts and the Fire that Refines ”** *Rev. Patrick McElwaine*

Affirmation of Faith/The Apostles’ Creed *(in unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic* Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*(*meaning all of God’s churches)*

The Thanksgiving

The Offering

Beloved, we invite you to join in the ministry of this church with your tithes and offerings. Your gifts may be received in the physical offering plate in the back of the sanctuary or online using the QR code in your bulletin. Let us give generously and joyfully.



Music Offering

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

“Give Thanks, O Christian People”

Give Thanks, O Christian People 644

1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship

who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap - pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:

to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,

to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984

MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904
 Text © 1986 Fresh Winds of the Spirit by Lavon Bayler (admin. The Pilgrim Press)

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

7.6.7.6.D

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Names in bold are new prayer list additions.
The work, worship, pastor and leadership of Geneva.

Comfort for the Family and Friends of
Helen Fink, Carolyn Fink's mother in law;
Tomoko Alexander, mother of Jeff Alexander;
Bobbie Maxwell;
John Wright;

Andy Sullivan, Friend of the McElwaine Family;
Michelle Wilson (husband, Myles, and son, Holden), friend of Tom Sadler;
Justin Pack, nephew of PJ Davis;
Tina Martin, Sister-in-Law of Ken Sprinkle;
The family of Katie Richards Roome, friend of Letitia Denaburg;
Emmanuel Mbi;

Healing and Comfort for
Kevin Shaver, health concerns;
Rolf Winch, recovering from knee surgery;
Breanne Spriggs, Allyson McElwaine's cousin, recent surgery;
Mike Sydoriak, health concerns;
Eleanor Rassmussen, Allyson McElwaine's aunt, health concerns;
Nancy Morse, health concerns;
Scott Brown, health concerns;
John Hanson, friend of Sara Torrence, health concerns;
Margaret and Don Acton, parents of Amanda White, continued health concerns;
Paul Quin, husband of Pamela Wilson, health concerns;
Rosie Perthel, health concerns;
Pepe Marin, health concerns;
Nancy Rawson, health concerns;
Rosalie Ruff, health concerns;
Dinah Paffrath, aunt of Renee Moloznik, receiving cancer treatments;
Jeff Leicht, Renee Moloznik's brother;
Judith Sadler, mother of Tom Sadler, mental illness and PG County guardianship care;
Leland Perthel, living with Post-Concussion Syndrome;
Sandra Kichefski, sister of Sheri Sankey, health concerns;

WELCOME TO GENEVA! We welcome you to this church and want you to feel at home. We want you to feel accepted here, and also challenged, even as we invite you to accept and challenge us. If you are new to this community or do not have a church home, we invite you to join us. Please contact a staff member using any of the emails on the back of today's bulletin.



Birthdays: Helene Chimba (2/1); Parker Hart Alexander (2/3); Elyssa Lyn Alexander (2/3); Janelle Thibau (2/14); Curtis Chimba (2/18); Elaine Winch (2/19); Laura Szakos (2/20); Rosie Perthel (2/23); Heinz Nagel (2/23); Margo Hunt (2/24); Thomas Devine (2/25); Ryan Alexander (2/25)

This Week at Geneva

Sunday, February 16	10:30am	Worship - In Person and Online
Tuesday, February 18	12:00pm	Meeting - Executive Committee
Wednesday, February 19	6:00pm	Food for the Soul - Host Homes



Geneva February



Neurodiverse Playdate
February 1st, 11-Noon
At "We Rock"



Adult Bible Study
Feb. 5th
6:00 PM



Joyful Noise Service
Feb. 9th
9:30-10 AM



Valentines Day Party
Feb. 12th
6:00 pm



Childrens Chimes
Practice
Feb. 16th & 23rd
Following Worship



Food for the Soul
Feb. 19th & 26th
6pm



Geneva's Bible Explorers



WHAT IS IT?

A Time For:

- Diving deeper into Bible stories
- Starting to relate faith to their lives
- Intergenerational learning
- Dinner together!

WHEN IS IT?

- Mar. 12th
- Mar. 19th
- Mar. 26th
- April 2nd
- April 9th
- April 30th
(Celebration Day!)

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Kids who are developmentally at the 1st grade reading level (or higher)
- Adult volunteers who want to share their favorite Bible story



To Sign Up: Email Ms.Cali by Mar.6th

Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor; Ben Shaver, Music Director;

Carl Perthel, Lector; Kyla Lupo, Zoom Host.

Zach Micheals and Sheri Sankey, Audio/Visual

Church Elders	Church Deacons
Kyla Lupo, Julie Moloznik, Tom Sadler, Sheri Sankey, Ken Sprinkle, Amanda White, Elaine Winch	Eve Dailey, Sheena Galliani, Allyson McElwaine, Carl Perthel, Janelle Thibau

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or concerns, please share them with our officers.

Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God by
the Geneva Presbyterian Family.

Geneva warmly welcomes all our guests joining us today

Geneva Staff:

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor, pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com

Ben Shaver, Music Director, music.genevapotomac@gmail.com

Cali Bronkema, Next Generation Director, nextgen.genevapotomac@gmail.com

For Office of Administrative needs, admin@genevapotomac.org

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Today's Prayer of Confession: Presbyterian Outlook, 2024 Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution.

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