

December 8, 2024



Geneva Presbyterian Church

11931 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 424-4346
www.genevapotomac.org

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

Follow us on Social Media



@genevachurchpotomac on Instagram



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Geneva Presbyterian Church

December 8, 2024

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

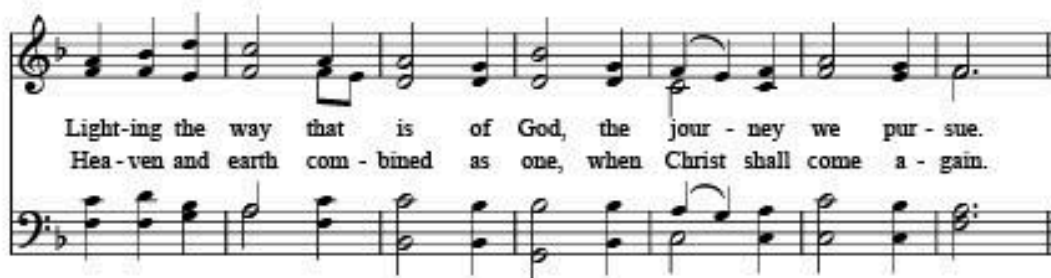
Welcome to the Worship of God

Wreath Lighting Hymn

Advent 2



1. Kin - dle this flame of peace. May it burn bright and true.
2. God's realm is our de - sire, where peace and jus - tice reign.



Light-ing the way that is of God, the jour - ney we pur - sue.
Hea - ven and earth com - bined as one, when Christ shall come a - gain.

Wreath Lighting Liturgy

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness:

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Leader: God has promised us a new creation,

People: a forever home where Christ's glory will be our light.

Leader: Blessed is the Holy One our God!

People: We light two candles, longing for the Kingdom of Peace.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Jonathan Dail and Kristina Kough,
Miles and Felicity Dail

Opening Hymn

"The King Shall Come"

#101

ADVENT

The King Shall Come 101

MORNING SONG

1. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phants breaks,
2. Not as of old a lit - tle child to bear, and fight, and die,
3. O bright-er than the ris - ing morn when He, vic - to - rious, rose
4. O bright-er than that glo-rious morn shall this fair morn-ing be,

when beau - ty gilds the east-ern hills, and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
when Christ, our King, in beau-ty comes, and we His face shall see.

Call to Confession

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

God Of The Present Future, you are coming to be for us the way and the truth and the life. We confess that we have not truly expected your kingdom to be arriving. We accept lies as truth, exploit our neighbors, and grow weary in our discipling. How differently we would live if we knew tomorrow was the day of Your second coming.

God With Us, forgive our sinfulness. Awaken our hearts to call upon your mercy and be led forth again in grace. Hear us as we approach you now in silent personal prayer...

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response “Prepare Ye Way of the Lord”

Refrain (2x), Verse (*sung by choir*), Refrain

Refrain:

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD

James E. Moore, Jr.

Pre-pare ye the way of the Lord.

Pre-pare ye the way of the Lord.

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VERSE (*sung by choir*):

Fill ev'ry valley, bring all mountains low.
(to Refrain)

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 *(sung on Communion Sundays)*

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as in heav'n. Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trials and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours. Now and forever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

Refrain Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath - ered to - day.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Em, Am7, Bm7, Esus, Em, Am7, Bm7, Esus, Em, Am7, D, G, C, Am, Dsus, D, G, C, G, Em, Bm, Em, Am7, D, G, Dsus, D, Em, Em7, C, Am7, D, G, Am7, G.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination *(in unison)*

Jesus Christ, Eternal Word and Son of God, speak your promises of life into our hearts as we attend to these scripture readings. Blessed Spirit of God, bring these promises to fruition as we receive, believe, and live all that we hear. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

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

Matthew 3:1-12

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Jesus, the Word Spoken"

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

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

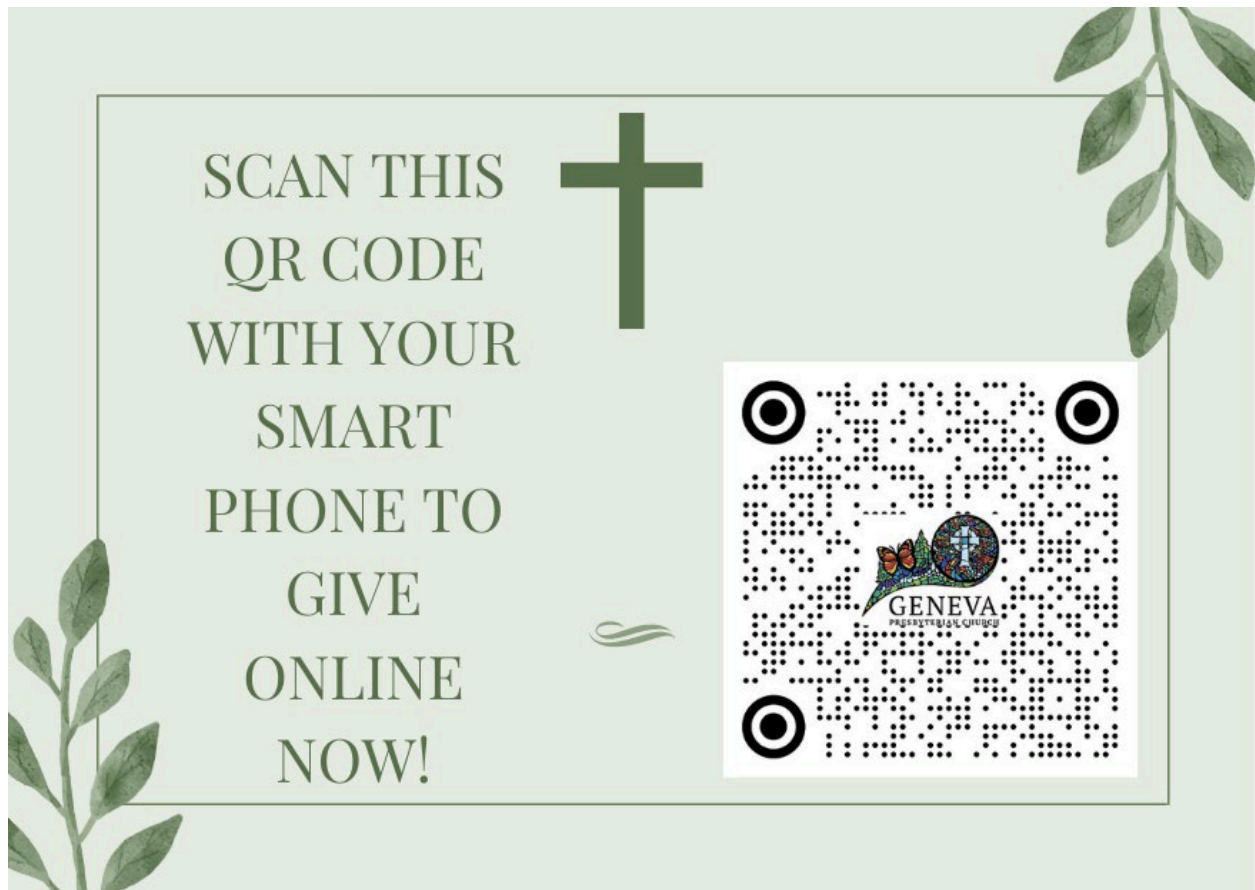
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; 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

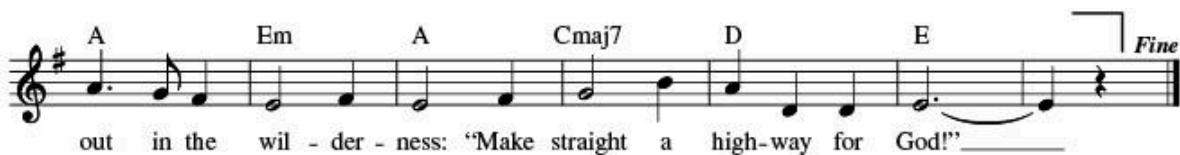
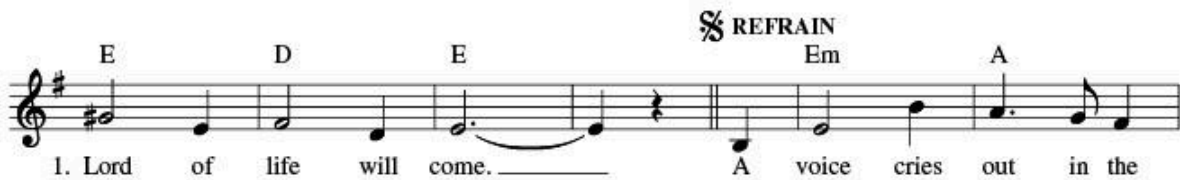
The Sending

Closing Hymn

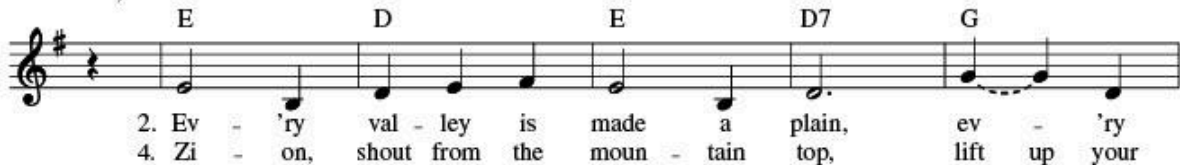
“A Voice Cries Out”

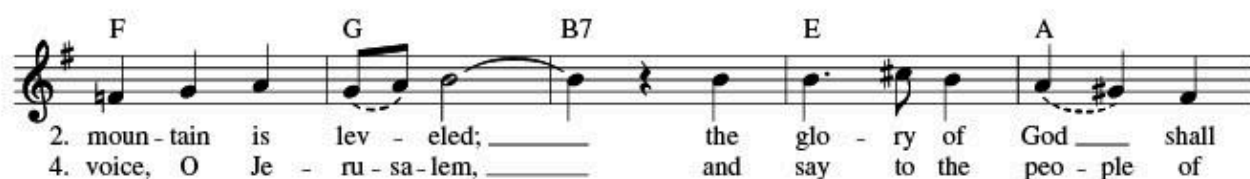
A VOICE CRIES OUT

VERSE 1 *With strength* (♩ = ca. 168)



VERSES 2, 4



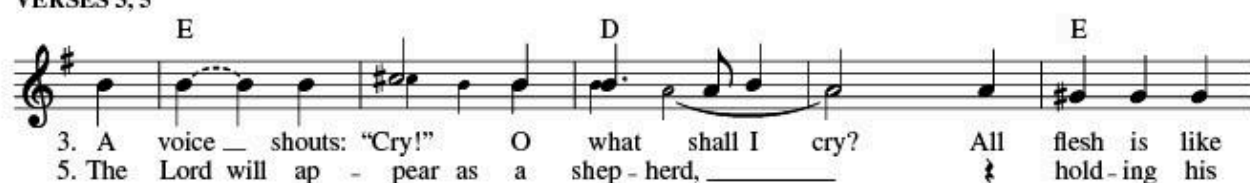


2. moun - tain is lev - eled; _____ the glo - ry of God _____ shall
4. voice, O Je - ru - sa - lem, _____ and say to the peo - ple of



2. then be re - vealed, and the na - tions will sing in praise. _____
4. God's _____ own land, "Be - hold, be - hold your God!" _____ D.S.

VERSES 3, 5



3. A voice _____ shouts: "Cry!" O what shall I cry? All flesh is like
5. The Lord will ap - pear as a shep - herd, _____ hold - ing his



3. grass and its flow - ers: _____ the grass _____ may with - er, the
5. lambs in his arms, _____ keep - ing his flock so



3. flow - ers may fade, but the Word of the Lord is for - ev - er. _____
5. close to his heart, _____ lead - ing them all, old and young. _____ D.S.

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

John Wright;

Michelle Wilson (husband, Myles, and son, Holden), friend of Tom Sadler;

Justin Pack, nephew of PJ Davis;

Vince Lupo's family member, Uncle Lawrence Lupo;

Tina Martin, Sister-in-Law of Ken Sprinkle;

The family of Katie Richards Roome, friend of Letitia Denaburg;

Emmanuel Mbi;

Healing and Comfort for

Bobbie Maxwell, health concerns;

Kevin Shaver, health concerns;

Breanne Spriggs, Allyson McElwaine's cousin, recent surgery;

Andy Sullivan, Friend of the McElwaine Family, receiving end of life care;

Mike Sydoriak, health concerns;

Eleanor Rassmussen, Allyson McElwaine's aunt, health concerns;

Bob Daraskevich and his family, friend of Kyla Lupo undergoing cancer treatment;

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: Isabelle Thibau (12/3); Carter Harris (12/12);
Ludivine Kom-Liapoe (12/14); Jim Kaufmann (12/16); Brent Davis (12/17)

This Week at Geneva

Wednesday, December 4	6:00pm	Adult Bible Study - Online
Saturday, December 7	11:00am	Neurodiverse Playdate - Geneva
Sunday, December 8	9:30am	Joyful Noise Worship - In Person
Sunday, December 8	10:30am	Worship - Advent week 2
Sunday, December 8	Afternoon	Blood Drive - With Beth Sholom
Wednesday, December 11	6:00pm	Bible Explorers
Wednesday, December 11	6:00pm	Adult Bible Study - Online

Geneva Presby "December"



Adult Bible Study
Dec. 4th, 11th & 18th
6:00 PM



Neurodiverse Playdate
Dec. 7th 11am-Noon
@ Geneva



Joyful Noise Service
Dec. 8th
9:30-10 AM



Bible Explorers
Dec. 11th & 18th
6-7PM



Advent Craft Event
Dec. 15th
Following Worship



Bells Concert
Dec. 15th
5pm



Sing-a-Long & Cookies
Dec. 22nd
Following Worship



Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 24th
5 pm



A Christmas Concert

**Sunday, December 15, 2024
5:00 p.m.**

The Bells of Geneva and Sanctuary Choir
present
An Evening of Music for the Holidays!

Come and experience traditional familiar tunes
and new contemporary Christmas songs!

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POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia
to decorate the sanctuary for Advent,
please email **Laura Szakos** in the church
office at admin@genevapotomac.org

If your poinsettia is in honor or memory of
someone please be sure to include that
information in your email.

Cost: \$15/plant
Deadline: Monday, Dec. 16

Please note your check or cash "Poinsettias" or
pay online as a "special gift" below:

<https://genevapotomac.org/give/online-giving/>

Today's Worship Leaders

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

Jane Campbell, Lector; Kyla Lupo, Zoom Host.

Sheri Sankey and Curtis Chimba, 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 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

Laura Szakos, Church Office Administrator, admin@genevapotomac.org

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