

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva*

*English-Speaking Congregation*  
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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis   Organist: Regine Kummer  
Ministers of Music: Terry MacArthur, Koko Taylor

Christmas Day + 25 December 2020

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan*

Welcome

Prelude

Regine Kummer

Opening Words

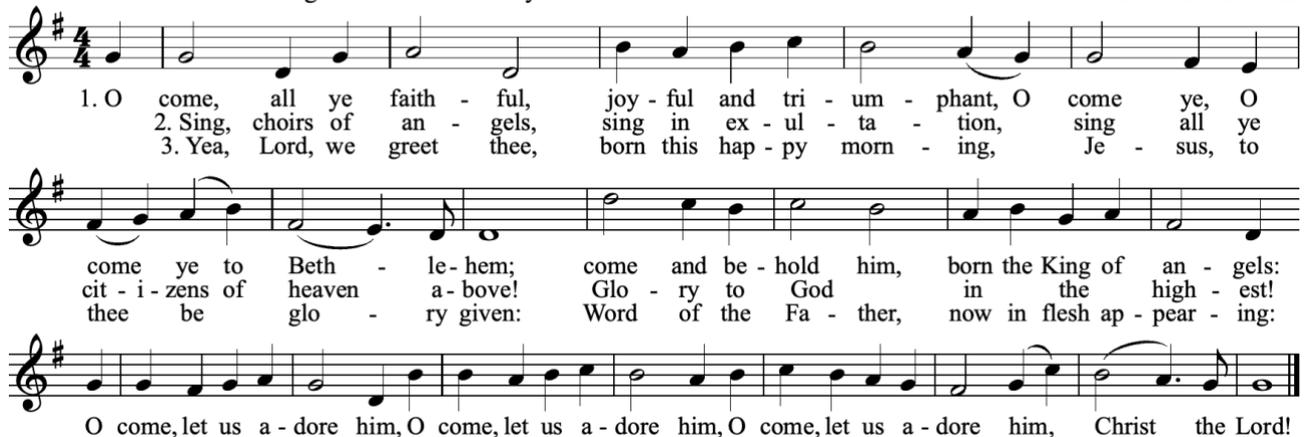
In many and various ways,  
*we sing of God's coming into our midst.*  
Even if we cannot be many voices in church,  
*the songs remain alive.*  
We rejoice in grace and truth,  
*in the messengers, the angels, the announcements that deliverance is nigh.*  
So the word sings among us,  
*and we delight in its glory.*

Hymn

**O come, all ye faithful**

Latin John Francis Wade. English Frederick Oakeley

John Francis Wade



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O  
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing all ye  
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, Je - sus, to  
come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:  
cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God in the high - est!  
thee be glo - ry given: Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for doing marvelous things.  
God's right hand and holy arm have gotten victory.  
The Lord has made known the victory;  
God has revealed God's vindication in the sight of the nations,  
and remembered steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Carols

*Christians, Awake and Greet the Happy Morn*  
*Words by John Byrom*  
*Sung by Maureen Gumbé*

*The Little Drummer Girl*  
*Words and Music by Katherine Kennicott Davis*  
*Sung and played by the Kupcis Family*

*Joy to the World*  
*Sung and played by Mako Hayafuji*

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.  
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the Ruler, the Lord.  
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.  
Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,  
for God is coming to judge the earth.  
God will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

Carol

*O Thou Joyful Day*  
*Original German by Johann Daniel Falk*  
*Sung by Dinesh, Ritu, and Arnav Suna*

Prayer for Christmas Day

The Lord be with you.  
***And also with you.***

Carol

*Pastorinhas (Noel Rosa)*  
*Sung by Lusmarina Campos Garcia*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

Carol

*Mbuye Yesu Lowani M'mtima / Lord Jesus, Come into My Heart*  
*Sung by Fulata Moyo*

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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

Carols

*Gentle Night*  
Words and music by Tom Manion  
Sung and played by Tom and Judy Davis

*Nóttin var sú ágæt ein / This Was the Blessed Night*  
Sung and played by Kristín Tómasdóttir

*Ich steh an deiner Krippen hier / I Stand Here at Your Cradle*  
German by Paul Gerhardt, music by J. S. Bach  
Sung and played by Christoph and Elisabeth Benn

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-14

The Gospel according to John, chapter 1.  
*Glory to you, O Lord.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

**Of eternal love begotten**

Latin, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; English, John Mason Neale alt.

Twelfth century plainsong



1. Of e - ter - nal love be - got - ten un - cre - at - ed One - in - Three,  
2. Oh that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin, full of grace,  
3. This, the one whom heaven-taught sing - ers sang of old with one ac - cord,  
4. All the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gels end - less prais - es sing;  
5. God Re - deem - er, God Cre - a - tor, God the Spir - it, now to thee



Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ, the Source, the End will be  
by the Spir - it's power con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race,  
whom the scrip - tures of the pro - phets pro - mised in their faith - ful word,  
all earth bow to Christ our Sov - ereign, and our joy - ful tri - bute bring.  
hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un - wea - ried prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
and the child, the world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
shines a - mong us, long - ex - pect - ed: let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,  
Let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,  
hon - or, glo - ry and do - min - ion and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Prayers of Intercession

God, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

Carol

*Hunger Carol*  
*Words by Shirley Murray, music by I-to Loh*  
*Sung by Ester Pudjo Widiasih*

The Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
*And also with you.*

Gathering of Gifts

*Carols chosen by the congregation*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God with us,  
*taking on a human voice,*  
able to sing,  
*ready to share good news,*  
dwelling among us with a grace and a truth that unsettles  
and thus makes new,  
*thank you for choosing to be bound, as we are,*  
*that you might walk us into freedom.*  
Thank you for the gift of life,  
settled in your love,  
cradled, in spite of everything else, in your hands.  
*Thank you for the wonder of your presence,*  
*resettling us in a community where we are beloved of God,*  
like you,  
with you,  
because of you,  
Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us,  
*our way and our goal, this day and all days. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*

Sending Forth

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Song

**Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child**

African-American spiritual

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child. Je - sus,

Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and mild; new life, new hope the Child will bring.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

Carol

*Mary's Boy Child / O My Lord*  
*Words and music by Jester Hairston. Arrangement by Bony M*  
*Sung by New Born King Choir, Zimbabwe*

\* \* \*

**Thank you** to those assisting with leadership in today's worship service:

*Readers:* Le Geyt family

*Prayers:* Sarah Stephens

*Videography:* Ray Woodcock

*Flowers:* German-Speaking Congregation

*Musicians:* Natalie Deffenbaugh, Regine Kummer, Terry MacArthur, Koko Taylor

**This Week's Schedule: \***

<b>Sunday, 27 Dec.</b>	11h00	Worship on the First Sunday of Christmas, Rev. Dr. Sivin Kit preaching
	12h15	Coffee hour

*\*(all activities take place online, unless otherwise noted)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Christmas Worship Continues**

Our celebration of Christmas continues on 27 December, with worship on the First Sunday of Christmas at 11h00. Rev. Dr. Sivin Kit will be preaching, and the service will be broadcast live on our YouTube channel.

### **Online Coffee Hour – 25 and 27 December**

An online coffee hour will follow the services on 25 and 27 December. Details for connecting to these fellowship times will be sent to everyone who has asked to be included in the coffee hour lists. If you are not currently receiving the Zoom coffee hour links and would like to join either or both of these times, please contact Andy Willis: [pastor@genevalutheran.ch](mailto:pastor@genevalutheran.ch).

### **Please Consider a Year-End Gift to the English-Speaking Congregation**

Throughout this tumultuous year, members and friends of the congregation have been extremely generous, providing consistent support for our ministry through 2020. We are now very close to meeting our annual budget and fully funding our ministry for the year. Can you make a year-end gift to the congregation to help us reach it?

*Thank you for your generous support throughout this year!  
Details for making a year-end gift can be found on our website:*

<https://genevalutheran.church/giving/>