

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

25 FEBRUARY 2024

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION OF THE ELCG WELCOMES YOU!

We are a home away-from-home, with people from different places becoming sisters and brothers in Christ.

Our members come from 40 countries and six continents. Some are in Geneva for decades, others for only a few months. All help the parish to be a community of shared beliefs, experiences and concerns. Opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth and recreation bring families, friends and acquaintances together. Such bonds are precious in a city of so many welcomes and farewells.

Read more about who we are at: www.genevalutheran.church

If you are worshipping with us for the first time or if you have been here before and would like to know more about our community, please fill out a connection card. You can scan this QR code to submit one online, or you can fill out the card on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering basket or give it to one of the ushers.



We are glad you are here—welcome!

Thank you to those sharing in worship leadership this morning:

Readers: Gladys Yegon & church school students

Prayer leader: Fulata Moyo

Altar care: Aleida Auld

Assisting ministers: Fulata Moyo, Nyambura Njoroge,
Sarah Stephens, Ana Villanueva

Ushers: Mee Ji, Queen King'ori, Joan Kiologwe, Nashipai Naing'olah

Offering counters: Johnny Camaddo, Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti

Church School: Nanah Naing'olah, Grete Willis, Gladys Yegon

Flowers: German-Speaking Congregation

Coffee hour: Neighborhood Group C

Videographers: Breanna Ndwiga, Ray Woodcock

Our congregation is committed to handling personal data in a responsible and transparent way and in compliance with Swiss law. You'll find our Data Privacy Notice at:

<https://genevalutheran.church/data-privacy/>

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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Second Sunday in Lent + 25 February 2024, 11h00
A Season of Psalms and Staffs

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:
Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands

Welcome

Preparation for Worship

Greeting

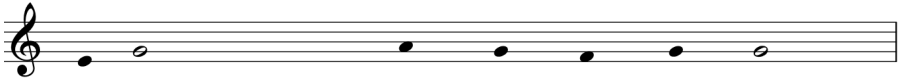
Psalm 51:15, 10; 43:10



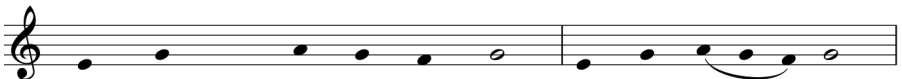
O Lord, o-pen my lips, **and my mouth shall pro-claim your praise.**



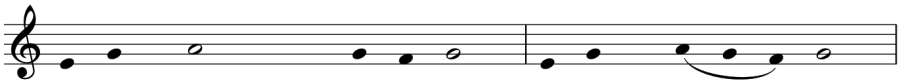
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and put a new and right spir - it with - in me.



O send out your light and your truth; **let them lead me;**



let them bring me to your ho - ly hill **and to your dwel - ling.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:
as it was in the be-gin-ning is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Gathering Psalm

Mily gyönyörűség

Zoltán Sumonyi, adapted from Psalm 133

Dániel Gryllus, Hungary

La la la la etc.

1. Mily gyö - nyö - rű - ség, í - me lásd,
 1. How good it is, oh do you see,
 2. Like pre - cious oil poured on the head,

a - mi - kor az a - tya - fi - ak e - gyütt
 when God's peo - ple meet to - geth - er as if
 run - ning down on Aa - ron's beard and fur - ther

mu - zsi - kál - nak Ott van az ál - dás, hi - szed - é,
 they were one, there is the bless - ing, do be - lieve:
 down his long robe, like when the dew of Her - mon falls

csak o - da küld a mi U - rünk pen - gő ci - te - rá - kat.
 God com - pos - es life and mu - sic so his king - dom comes.
 on the Mount of Zi - on and is seen by all the peo - ple.

Music © Dániel Gryllus, Hungary. Hungarian © Zoltán Sumonyi, Hungary. English © 2022, Kinga Marjatta Pap, Hungary. Adapted by Terry MacArthur.

2. Lámpaolaj, mely lefolyik a hajadon, le a köntös prémes premeiéig.
 Hogyha Sionnak tetején megül a Hermon harmatja, s csillog Ninivéig.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Introduction to the Readings

Antiphon **As the deer pants for the water**

Paraphrased from Psalm 42

Martin Nystrom: USA

D A/C# Bm G Em A(sus4) A7 D A(sus4) A7




As the deer pants for the wa - ter so my soul longs af - ter you;

D A/C# Bm G Em7 A7 D



you a - lone are my heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

Bm Bm/A G D G G/F# Em F#(sus4) F#



You a-lone are my strength, my shield; To you a-lone may my spir - it yield.

D A/C# Bm G Em7 A7 D



You a - lone are my hearts de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.

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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.”

Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarah your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer

Psalm 42:1-6a

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God,
my soul longs for you, O God,

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
My soul thirsts.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?
When?

My tears have been my food day and night,
while people say to me continually,
'Where is your God?'
Where?

These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.
These things I remember.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Why?

Hope in God;
***for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.***

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, Abraham believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

My soul is cast down within me;
 therefore I remember you
 from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
 from Mount Mizar.

I remember.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows have gone over me.
 By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
 and at night his song is with me,
 a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock,
 'Why have you forgotten me?

Why?

Why must I walk about mournfully
 because the enemy oppresses me?'

Why?

As with a deadly wound in my body,
 my adversaries taunt me,
 while they say to me continually,
 'Where is your God?'

Where?

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
 and why are you disquieted within me?

Why?

Hope in God;
for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

The Gospel according to Mark, chapter 8.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then [Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?"

Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer

Psalm 43

Antiphon

As the deer pants for the water

see page 3

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

When we are tested

Ruth Duck

based on a Flemish carol

1. When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
 2. When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
 3. When we are temp - ted to bar - ter our souls,
 4. When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
 trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
 sort - ing the sift - ing the wrong from the right,

nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
 trust - ing your pre - sence, our on - ly true rest.
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
 an - gels of heal - ing of hope and of prayer.

Apostles Creed

We affirm our faith using the ancient creed of our baptism.
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

O send out your light and your truth
let them lead us.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Gathering of Gifts *As a hart longs for flowing streams* Choir
Words adapted from Psalm 42 and music by Andrew Donaldson: Canada

1. *As a hart longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for the living God.
When shall I come, when shall I come and behold the face of God?
When shall I come?*

*Refrain: I remember how I went with the throng,
how I led them in procession to the house of God.
I remember shouts of joy, I remember shouts of joy,
I remember all the songs of thanksgiving.*

2. *Day and night, tears have been my food.
Some say to me, "Where is your God?"
My soul, why are you cast down?
Soon I will praise, soon I will praise,
I will praise my help and God, soon I will praise!*

Offertory

We who once were dead

Muus Jacobse. English, composite

Rik Veelenturf: The Netherlands



1. We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing
 2. We were lost in night, but you sought and found us.
 3. He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us.
 4. Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing;



Je - sus as our head.
 Give us strength to fight;
 On him we are fed,
 we shall then re - main



Life is o - ver - flow - ing when he breaks the bread.
 death is all a - round us. Je - sus be our light.
 eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.
 liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

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Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Psalm 100:5; 19:1; 77:11, 13, 19, 20; 107:1-2; 2:7

The heavens are telling your glory,
 and the firmament proclaims your handiwork.

*We give thanks to you, O Lord,
 for your steadfast love endures forever.*

We will call to mind your deeds
 We will remember your wonders of old.
 Your way, O God, is holy.
 With your strong arm you redeemed your people.

You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

*We give thanks to you, O Lord,
for your steadfast love endures forever.*

The redeemed you have gathered in
from the east and from the west,
from the north and the south.

*We give thanks to you, O Lord,
for your steadfast love endures forever.*

We give thanks for the one to whom you said,
“You are my son; today I have begotten you.”
So with the church on earth and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name.

Sanctus

Repeat several times

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

San - ctus, san - ctus Do - mi - nus

The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé, France.

*Cantor: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

Hosanna in the Highest

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis. Ho-

The image shows a musical score for Hosanna in the Highest. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The piece begins with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé, France.

*Cantor: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembrance

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
With this bread, the body of Christ,
the Lord comes near to the broken-hearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.
With this wine, the blood of Christ,
deep calls to deep; the song of the Lord is with us.
We proclaim the mystery of our faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Lord's Prayer

In our many languages

***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.***

Agnus Dei

Dona nobis pacem

Jacques Berthier : Communauté de Taizé

The image shows a musical score for 'Dona nobis pacem' in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is simple, with quarter notes for the first four measures and half notes for the last two. The lyrics 'Do - na no - bis pa - cem.' are written below the notes.

Give us peace.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. (2x)
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

Communion

*Because this is the table of Jesus Christ, all people are welcome and invited to his feast.
From the tray, take a light-colored cup if you wish to receive grape juice or a dark-colored
one if you wish to receive wine. After being served, place your cup on the tray for used
cups.*

Songs during communion **What is this place**

Dutch, Huub Oosterhuis

English David Smith, adapted A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*: Holland 1626

1. What is this place where we are meet - ing?
2. Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing,
3. And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble,

On - ly a house, old wood its floor. Walls and a roof
sparks that are sown in us like seed: names for our God,
bro - ken and shared, a liv - ing sign. Here in this world,

shel - ter - ing peo - ple, win - dows for light, an
dreams, signs and won - ders, sent from the past are
dy - ing and liv - ing, we are each oth - er's

o - pen door. Yet it be - comes a bod - y that lives when
all we need. We in this place re - mem - ber and speak a -
bread and wine. This is the mir - a - cle that re - claims us

we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.
peace - ful, whole and true. Through death God makes us new.

Jesus, remember me

Jacques Berthier: France

Je - sus re-mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Je - sus, re-mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé-Communauté, France.

As the deer runs to the river

Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

Harold Friedell: USA

1. As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and
2. When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no
3. "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum - moned, "all who
4. Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est

wea - ry from the chase, we have come from hurt and
stream or spring was seen, Mo - ses struck the rock, and
for God's mer - cy plead! God's for - give - ness, like a
thirst un - sat - is - fied. Lead us to the wa - ters

hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace. Je - sus,
wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
foun - tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
flow - ing from the cross on which you died.

source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live.

English Herman G. Stuempfle Jr. © 2002 GIA Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Music Harold Friedell © 1957. 1985 H.W. Gray Co.

Sending Forth

Benediction

Announcements and Welcoming Visitors

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday, 3 March – Worship at 17h30

On the first Sunday of each month, our congregation holds its worship service at 17h30 instead of 11h00. So please remember that next Sunday, 3 March, worship will take place in the evening. Please note there will be no church school this Sunday.

The Season of Lent – Prayer and the Psalms

Lent is a season calling the church to fasting, reflection, and prayer, and one of the great resources for prayer in our tradition is the book of Psalms. These ancient poems and songs offer us profound language for speaking to God, inviting us to bring the whole of our lives and experience into God's presence. We'll be paying particular attention to the psalms in worship this Lent, as well as the path of prayer we are called to walk.

As part of this emphasis, we are offering devotions with suggestions for praying with the psalms at home throughout the season. You'll find this week's devotions, prepared by Judy Davis, as an insert in today's bulletin.

Lent Study on the Psalms

In addition to worship, we are exploring the psalms in weekly small group meetings during Lent. These groups are reading and discussing portions of Ellen Davis's book *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament*. Groups meet at a variety of times during the week, primarily on Zoom. Interested in participating? Mark the signup sheet available after worship today or contact Andy Willis.

Geneva Gospel Choir – Concert Today

The Geneva Gospel Choir is a workshop-based choir, coming together several weekends each year, under the leadership of Nehemiah H Brown, to prepare music, sing in a local church service, and perform a concert. The choir has been working hard this weekend and will hold a concert tonight (25 February) at Emmanuel Episcopal Church at 19h00. All are welcome!

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

Our congregation holds a simple coffee hour after worship each Sunday. Preparation for coffee hour is by neighborhood groups:

3 March – Group D

10 March – Group E

17 March – Group A

24 March – Group B

*If you can help on a week when your group is assigned,
please let your group's coordinator know*

Prayer Group – Meeting on Wednesday 6 March

Are you interested in joining with others in praying for the needs of our community and the world? Our congregation's prayer group is meeting on Wednesday, 6 March from 19h until 20h. All are welcome! If you're interested in participating, please contact Kiki Lawal: kiki.lawal@gmail.com.

Women's Circle Invitation

Ladies! You're invited to come to our Church Women's Circle! We will gather in our church, which is our village, on one Saturday each month for coffee and croissants and to share in fellowship and fun. All women church members and regular attendees are welcome in the Circle. We plan to meet on the following dates: **16 March, 13 April, 18 May from 10h00 to 12h00**. Contact Marit Bauer-Moore (079 320 3046; maritbmoore@hotmail.com) or Cynthia Wilbers (079 409 8503; cwilbers@gmail.com) for more information.

Cover image:

Photo by [Pete Alexopoulos](#) on [Unsplash](#)

This Week's Schedule:

Tues, 27 Feb 19h00	Congregation Council meeting
Thu, 29 Feb 19h30	Choir practice
Sun, 3 Mar 17h30	Worship on the Third Sunday in Lent
<i>Office hours: Tuesday 9h30-17h30, Thursday 9h30-17h30, Friday 9h30-13h30</i>	

Our church is entirely self-supporting. Our ministry is entirely funded by the contributions of members and friends of the congregation. There are three ways you can donate today:

By bank transfer: Using the banking app on your phone, scan one of the QR codes below:



Banque Cantonale de Genève
CH26 0078 8000 0510 7337 8



Post Finance
CH13 0900 0000 1200 9677 6

By cash: Place your contribution in the offering bags during worship.

By U.S. dollar check: Make the check payable to “Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,” and on the memo portion, write “GMG 0858”.

Thank you for your support of our ministry together!

If you are a guest in our congregation this morning, *please fill out the connection card below—you can place it in the offering bag or hand it to the pastor or one of the ushers. We would love to learn more of your story and answer any questions you might have about our congregation.*

ELCG Connection Card	
Name	_____
Phone	_____
Email	_____
Comments	_____
New to Geneva? Y/N	Date _____