

# EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 17H30

5 MAY 2024

# THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION OF THE ELCG WELCOMES YOU!

*We are a church with open arms,  
where each person is welcome in God's all-inclusive love.  
Jesus shared God's gracious love with all people, and we seek to follow this  
example. People of any economic status, marital or family situation, sexual  
orientation, gender identity, or ability are welcome to full participation in our  
congregation. We honor the unique gifts of each.*

Read more about who we are at: [www.genevalutheran.church](http://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 evening:

*Reader:* Clare Duran

*Prayer leader:* Dinesh Suna

*Ushers:* Penuel Kiondo Zanetti, Andréia Costa Vieira

*Offering counters:* Sam Mungure, Njoroge Njuguna

*Flowers:* Hellen Msemu

*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/>*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva*

*English-Speaking Congregation*

20, rue Verdaine CH1204 Geneva, Switzerland

Telephone / Fax: 022 310 50 89

pastor@genevalutheran.ch

office@genevalutheran.ch

www.genevalutheran.ch

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Sixth Sunday of Easter + 5 May 2024, 17h30

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka*

Welcome

Prelude

Greeting

from Psalm 98

Sing a new song to the Lord,

***who has done marvelous things.***

whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

***O Lord, you have made known your victory.***

You have revealed your vindication in the sight of the nations.

***You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.***

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.***

Hymn

Earth and all stars

verse 1

Herbert F. Brokering

David Johnson



- 1. Earth and all stars, loud rush - ing plan - ets,
- 2. Trum - pet and pipes, loud clash - ing cym - bals,
- 3. En - gines and steel, loud pound - ing ham - mers,
- 4. Class - rooms and labs, loud boil - ing test tubes,
- 5. Knowl - edge and truth, Loud sound - ing wis - dom,



1-5. sing to the Lord a new song!



- Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm,
- Harp, lute, and lyre, loud hum - ming cel - los,
- Lime - stone and beams, loud build - ing work - ers,
- Ath - lete and band, loud cheer - ing peo - ple,
- Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



1-5. sing to the Lord a new song! God has done mar -



- ve - lous things. I, too, sing prais - es with a new song!

English and Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House

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 king, the Lord.*

Hymn

Earth and all stars

verse 2

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
 the world and those who live in it.*  
 Let the rivers clap their hands;  
*let the hills sing together for joy before the LORD,  
 who is coming to judge the earth.*

Hymn

Earth and all stars

verse 3

The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,  
*and the peoples with equity.*

Hymn

Earth and all stars

verses 4, 5

Invitation to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of steadfast love,  
remind us again and again  
*how you have given yourself for us,*  
*how you have chosen us,*  
*how you have searched for us,*  
*how you have called us friends.*

Response

**Khudaayaa rae ham kar**

Traditional Urdu

R.F. Liberius: Pakistan

1,3. Khu daa - yaa, rae ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham,  
Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham,  
Khu - daa - yaa, rae-ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae-ham.

*Lord, have mercy.*

God of abounding mercy,  
forgive us all that is not love.  
*Heal us from the continued force of selfishness,*  
*the brokenness of relationships that we cannot seem to mend,*  
*the misplaced responses from hurts unattended,*  
*the missed opportunities for compassion,*  
*the fears that bind.*

Response

Masihaa, rae ham kar

2. Ma - sii - haa, rae ham kar, Ma - sii - haa, rae ham.  
 Ma - sii - haa, rae ham kar, Ma - sii - haa, rae-ham.  
 Ma - sii - haa, rae ham kar, Ma - sii - haa, rae-ham. *D.C.*

*Christ, have mercy.*

Transform our world  
 so that justice is no longer frayed,  
 and inequalities no longer strangle those left behind.  
***Renew in us a new yearning for peace,***  
***to counter the powers of vengeance, pride, and greed***  
***that reduce whole peoples to famine***  
***and innocents to senseless destruction.***  
***Fill us and our world with love, God of grace.***  
***so we rediscover your joy,***  
***through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for his friends.***

Response

Khudaayaa rae ham kar

Traditional Urdu

R.F. Liberius: Pakistan

1,3. Khu daa - yaa, rae ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham,  
 Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae ham,  
 Khu - daa - yaa, rae-ham kar, Khu - daa - yaa, rae-ham. *fine*

*Lord, have mercy.*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Hymn of Praise

**O Jagdesswara**

As taught by Vinita Manchala: Sanskrit: India

O Ja - ga - dees - wa - ra Sa - da - pi Chin - ma - ya Ja - ga - dees -  
 wa - ra van - de, Ja - ga - dees - wa - ra van - de.  
 Repeat 3 times  
 O Pa - ri - poo - ji - ta Pa - ra - par - at - ma  
 A - na - va - ra - tam van - de. A - na - va - ra - tam van - de.

Transcription Terry MacArthur

*O Lord of the Universe and conscious Lord. Hail to you O most venerable supreme self.  
 Hail to you forever and ever.*

Prayer of the Day

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

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Alleluia

Thamil, India

Asian Planning Group



Al' - lee - lu - yaa, Al' - lee - lu - yaa, Al - lee - lu - yaa - vee,  
Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.



Al - ba, O - mee - ga - vuk - kee, Al' - lee - lu - yaa - vee.  
You are the Al - pha, O - me - ga, Hal - le - lu - jah to you.

Thamil, English, and Music 2009, Asian Planning Group. Some rights reserved.

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Gospel

John 15:9-17

The Gospel according to John, chapter 15.

*Glory to you, O Lord.*

[Jesus said] “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not

know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, O Christ.*

Alleluia

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

**Love is the touch**

Alison M. Robertson

John Bell: Scotland

Dm C/D G/D Gm/D Dm

## 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.*

## Prayers for Healing

# Songs during the Prayers

## What wondrous love is this

Southern Harmony: USA



1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
2. When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down be-  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll



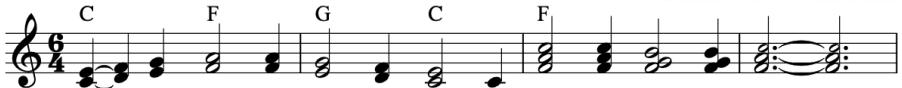
caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my  
neath God's right - eous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme I will  
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul.  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing; while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

## I will live for you alone

Trisha Watts: Australia



I will live for you a - lone, for you a - lone I'll live.



Heal me. Heal me. Heal me and let me live.

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# There is a balm in Gilead

African American spiritual

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to make the wound-ed whole. There is a

Fine

balm in Gil-e-ad, to heal the sin-sick soul. 1. Some - times I feel dis-  
2. Don't ev - er feel dis-  
3. If you can - not preach like

cour - aged, and think my work's in vain, but  
cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend, who,  
Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul, you can

*D.C. al Fine*

then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
if you ask for knowl - edge, will nev - er fail to lend.  
tell the love of Je - sus, who died to save us all.

## Ubi caritas

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

*Lento* ♩ = 72

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor.

U - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

U - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

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

## 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.*

# The Passing of the Peace

Christ is risen!

*He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!*

Gathering of Gifts

*Ubi Caritas*

Choir

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.*

*(Wherever there is charity and love, there is God.)*

*Love your neighbor as yourself,*

*God is there. God is there.*

## Offertory **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**

V. Massilaamanni: India English D.T. Niles

V. Maasilaamanni: India



1. Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God.



Al - le - lu - ia in the high - est! For - ev - er praise God.



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow.



Clap your hands, re - joic - ing. Strike your harps, re - sound - ing;



raise you voice, re - call - ing ev - ery mer - cy fall - ing.



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow.

Tamil and Music © V. maasilaamanni. English © D.T. Niles.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of love,  
thank you for abiding with us and in us,  
giving us a commandment that is not burdensome,  
but promising a joy that heralds your good news  
and a peace that passes understanding.

*Thank you for a healing that includes acceptance,  
a wholeness that embraces the needs of others,  
an abundance of generosity that draws strangers into a circle of friends.*

Thank you for not leaving us slaves to anger and vengeance,  
but calling us into the freedom of the cross of Jesus Christ,  
following the love without end.

*Thank you for embracing us,  
making us worthy to called friends of your Anointed,  
knowing his hands are on our shoulders,  
urging us toward life abiding in him,  
conquering sin and death  
rising with him in glory, this day and all days.  
Amen.*

## Benediction

Hymn

Love astounding

Jeannette M. Lindholm

W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony* 1825: USA



1. Love a - stound - ing, love con - found - ing lim - its fear - ful  
2. Love re - ceiv - ing, love be - liev - ing we re - joice with



minds im - pose. Love re - new - ing, love pur - su - ing  
thanks and song, faith re - gain - ing, hope pro - claim - ing;



ev - ery heart un - til it knows love's trans - form - ing,  
love has taught us, we be - long safe with - in love's



heal - ing good - ness, loves a - bid - ing gen - tle grace,  
ten - der keep - ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.



love's en - dur - ance, love's as - sur - ance,  
Love de - fend - ing, love un - end - ing



love's con - sol - ing strong em - brace.  
love of God en - fold - ing all.

English © 1999 Jeannette M. Lindholm

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Dismissal

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Easter Season Small Group Study – *Getting Involved with God***

During Lent, several groups met weekly to discuss portions of the book *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament*, by Ellen Davis. Some existing groups will be continuing, and new ones may be forming—so whether you participated during Lent or not, you're welcome to join a group this season. The book is a collection of freestanding essays and sermons on a variety of Old Testament themes--so it won't be a problem to join midway.

If you didn't participate in the Lent study and are interested in joining a group now, please contact Andy Willis: [pastor@genevalutheran.ch](mailto:pastor@genevalutheran.ch).

## **Interested in Joining the English-Speaking Congregation?**

The ESC will be receiving new members during the Easter season. Becoming a member means claiming this congregation as your church community in Geneva. You can be a member here and still maintain your membership in another congregation in your home country. If you are interested in joining our congregation in the coming weeks, please contact Andy Willis.

## **Spring Congregational Assembly – 26 May**

Our congregation will hold its annual spring assembly on Sunday 26 May, immediately following the worship service at the church. Please mark your calendar—all members are encouraged to attend.

## **Membership Directory Update**

We will be producing an updated membership directory in the coming weeks and ask you to inform the church office of any changes to your information (address, phone number, email, etc.) or make any updates on the printed version (together with the sign up sheets) after the service today.

## **Can You Host a Visiting University Student from 29 May to 2 June?**

From 29 May to 2 June, a group of twelve university students from College Park, Maryland in the U.S. will be visiting Geneva. They are part of the Lutheran campus ministry at the University of Maryland and will be spending some days in Geneva for meetings with ecumenical and humanitarian organizations before going to Taizé for a week. We have been asked to help house the students for their three nights here. Housing a student would mean giving him/her a place to sleep, and possibly sharing dinner with him/her. Can you host one or more students? Contact the church office or sign up on the sheet this morning.

## **Serving Weekly Coffee Hour**

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

12 May – Group D

19 May – Group E

26 May – Group A

2 June – Group B

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

## **No Choir Rehearsal on Ascension Thursday**

The choir will not rehearse on 9 May. Regular rehearsals will resume the following week, on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **Music Camp this Summer**

From Sunday, 11 August to Friday, 16 August 2024; there will be a summer camp organized by our music director Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg at La Lécherette in Vaud. The camp is for children ages 7 to 13, and previous musical knowledge is not required. The whole team together with the children will create a musical with a Circus theme, and the performance of the musical will be held on Sunday, 18 August at 16h00 at the ELCG. The cost for the week is CHF 400 per child (all-inclusive) with a discount for multiple children from the same family. Contact Katharina ([katharina@genevalutheran.ch](mailto:katharina@genevalutheran.ch)) to sign up or for more information.

Cover Image:  
Photo by [Jen Theodore](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## This Week's Schedule:

<b>Wed, 8 May</b>	<b>19h00</b>	Prayer group
<b>Sun, 12 May</b>	<b>10h00</b>	Church school
	<b>11h00</b>	Worship on the Seventh Sunday of Easter

*Office hours: Tuesday 9h30-17h30, Thursday 9h30-17h30, Friday 9h30-13h30*

**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 today,** *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 be in touch and answer any questions you might have about our congregation.*

### ELCG Connection Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
New to Geneva? Y/N \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_