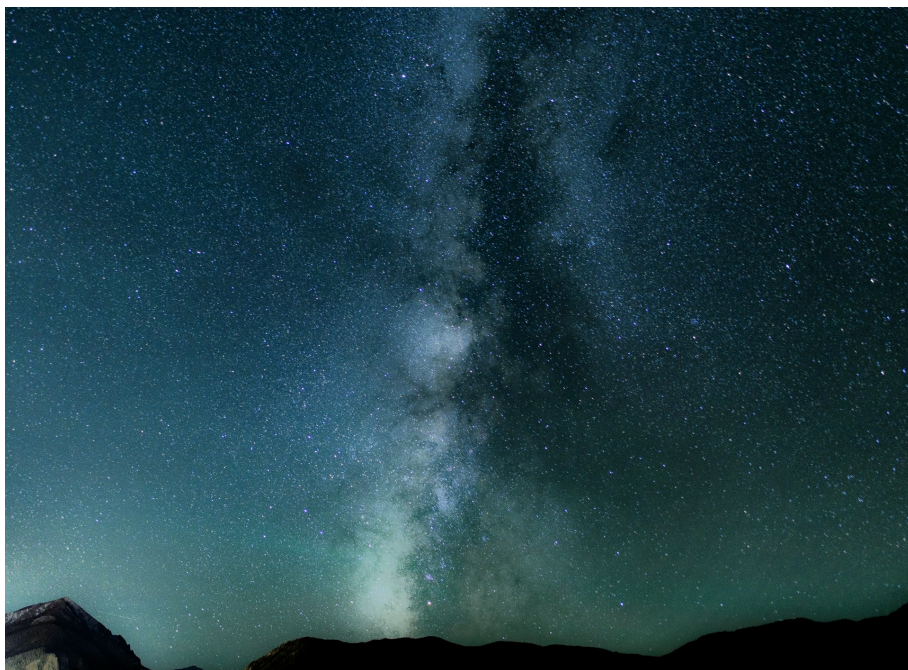


EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION
WORSHIP SERVICE AT 17H30
1 DECEMBER 2024

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION OF THE ELCG WELCOMES YOU!

*We are a parish of many cultures and traditions,
with deep Lutheran roots and wide ecumenical branches.*

Geneva is a crossroads city and our doors are open to people from all over the world. About half of our members come from Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Anglican and other traditions, and half have Lutheran links. The Lutheran Church of Geneva was started by German expatriates in the 18th century, and the English-Speaking Congregation was formed in the 1950s after the World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, World YWCA and United Nations agencies opened offices in Geneva.

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 evening:

Reader: Puspa Barua

Prayer leader: Maarten Wilbers

Altar care: Seng Ra Marit

Assisting ministers: Elisabeth Benn, Faith Fookes, Damaris Hassink,
Maritza Vitela

Ushers: Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti, Lusubilo Malakibungu

Offering counters: Ngoni Hove, Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti

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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English-Speaking Congregation
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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

The First Sunday of Advent + 1 December 2024, 17h30

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Myanmar, Thailand*

Prelude

Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Hymn

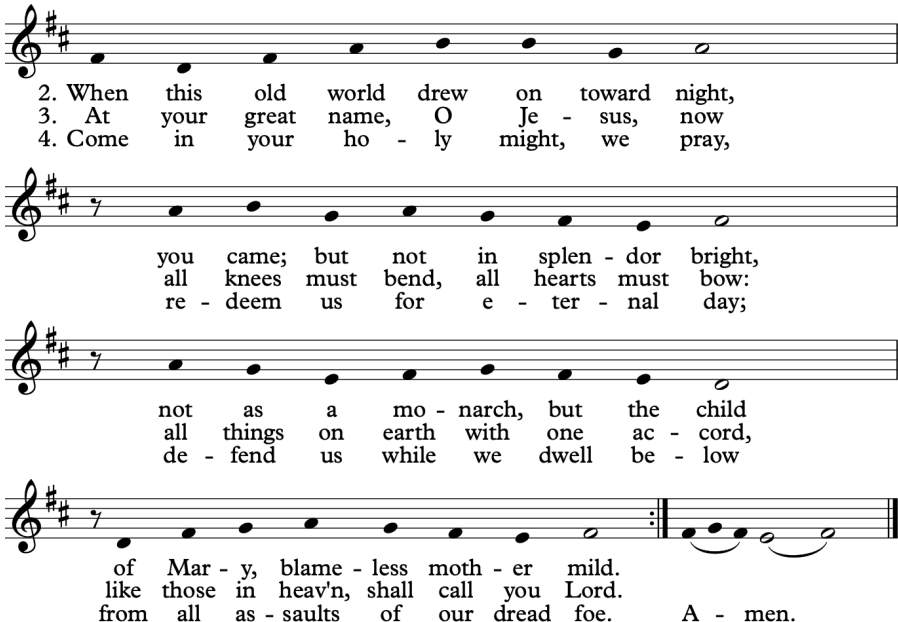
Creator of the stars of night

*Verse 1 (solo): Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,*

O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

Latin hymn, 9th century. English *Hymnal* 1940 altered

Plainsong mode IV



2. When this old world drew on toward night,
3. At your great name, O Je - sus, now
4. Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,

you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;

not as a mo - narch, but the child
all things on earth with one ac - cord,
de - fend us while we dwell be - low

of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe. A - men.

English © 1940 Church Pension Fund

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that
we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most

earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

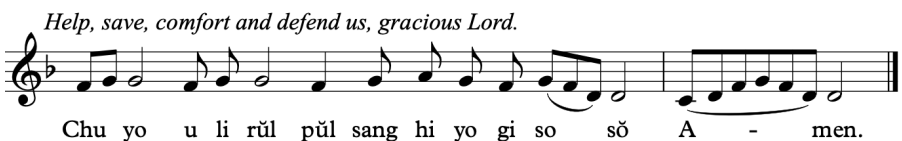
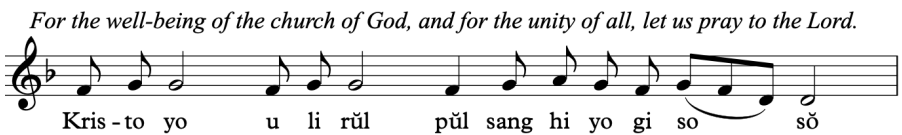
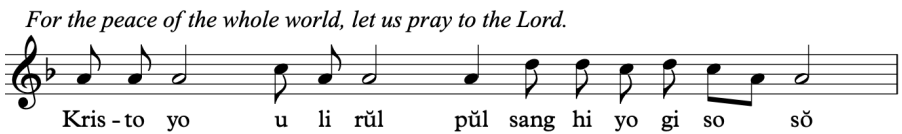
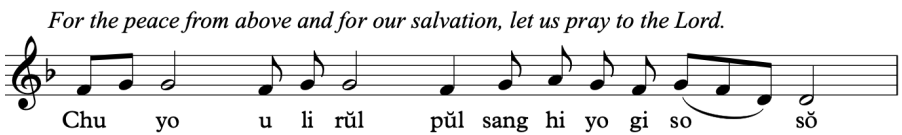
This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Litany

Geonyong Lee: Korea



© Geonyong Lee, Daewoo Apt. 104-303, Bangbae 3, Seocho-ku, Seoul, Korea.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Alleluia

Ms. Hlar Hay, Myanmar



Ha - le - lu, Ha - le - lu - ja, Ha - le - lu, Ha - le - lu - ja, Ha - le - lu, Ha - le - lu - ja!

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Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 21.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things

have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

As the dark awaits the dawn

Susan Palo Cherwien

Carl F. Schalk: USA

1. As the dark a - waits the dawn, so we a - wait your
 2. As the blue ex - pec - tant hour be - fore the sil - vering
 3. As the moon re - flects the sun un - til the night's de -
 4. Shine your fu - ture on this place, en - light - en ev - ery

light. O Star of pro - mise, scat - ter night, lov - ing
 skies, we long to see your day a - rise, whole and
 crease, may we your heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing
 guest, that through us stream your ho - li - ness, bright and

bright, lov - ing bright, till shades of fear are gone.
 wise, whole and wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.
 peace, liv - ing peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.
 blest, bright and come dawn, O Sun of grace.

English © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

Blessing the Stars

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.

Sung Response

Lei cung kan Boi

Refrain, verse 1

Sang Maung: Myanmar

Falam Chin traditional melody: Myanmar

Refrain

Lei cung kan Boi le khamh tu toi dor in kan in nawl
God of re - gion and of world, for our land now we pray,

toi dor in thla kan cam Bawi Pa.
hum - bly seek your bless - ing, our God.

1. Keep us in your peace, safe from foes and from ty - rants'
2. Make us one in love; know - ledge, truth, wis - dom be our

greed. Come, Lord bless our lea - ders; may they act right - ful - ly.
guide. O Lord let all na - tions prize your way: peo - ple free.

Transcription and adaptation © Sang Maung. English © Jim Minchin.

Second time: Refrain and verse 2

The Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.


Gathering of Gifts

Your gifts are essential to our congregation's ministry.

You can give in several ways: by placing money in the offering bag, by bank transfer (details on the back of the bulletin), or by TWINT.

**Donate now with
TWINT!**

 Scan the QR code with the
TWINT app

 Confirm amount and
donation



Anthem

The Voice of God

Choir

Words: Peter Icarus, Music: Michael McCabe

*The voice of God goes out to all the world;
his glory speaks across the universe.
The Great King's herald cries from star to star:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.*

*The Lord has said: "Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from light:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.*

*"The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.*

*"Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.*

*"His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held.
The lame shall run, the halting tongues shall sing,*

*and prisoners laugh in light and liberty:
with power, with justice, he will walk his way."*

Offertory

Of the Father's love begotten

Latin, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; English, John Mason Neale

Twelfth century plainsong



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be-gan to be,
2. Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an-gel hosts his prais-es sing,



Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga,
all earth bow to Christ, our Sov - ereign,



Christ, the source, the end will be. of the things that are, that have been,
and our joy - ful tri - bute bring, let no tongue on earth be si - lent,



and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,

Prayer over the Gifts

Great Thanksgiving



Preface

Sanctus

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

We remember Jesus, his coming in our midst.
This bread, his body, this wine his blood.
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

O Lamb of God

Mabel Wu: Hong Kong



O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.



O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.



O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Melody, Mabel Wu © 1994 Taosheng Publishing House, Hong Kong.

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome for communion.

Come and take any empty space around the altar. You will receive the bread.

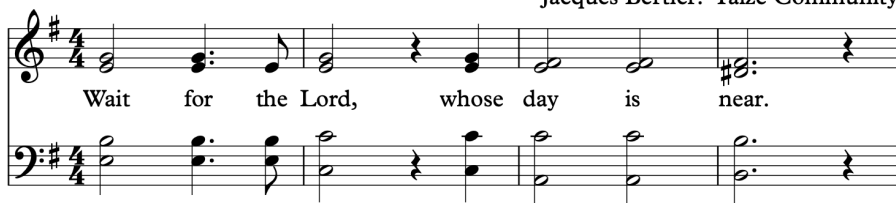
Then choose a cup: a dark cup for wine, a lighter cup for grape juice.

Place the used cup on the next tray before returning to your seat.

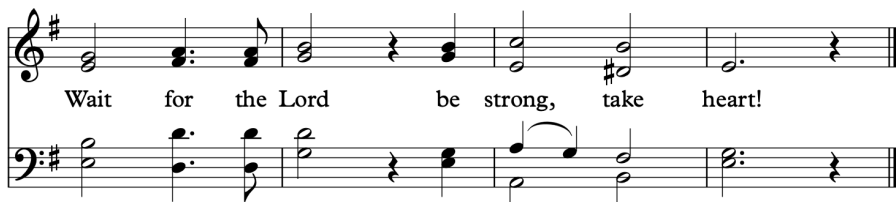
Songs during Communion

Wait for the Lord

Jacques Bertier: Taizé Community



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord be strong, take heart!

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

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum 1710

based on 15th-century French processional

Based on antiphons from Advent Vespers

English John Mason Neale 1852

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free
Oh, come, blest Day - spring, come and cheer

and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
thine own from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny.
our spir - its by your ad - vent here;

that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
From depths of hell thy peo - ple save
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

O-so-so

Geonyong Lee: Korea

1. O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyŏng - hwa ũi - im - gŭm
 1. Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Sa - vior.
 4. Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con - cile all na - tions.

2. O-so-sŏ o-so-sŏ, sa-rang ũi-im-gŭm,
 u-ri-ga han-mom i-ru-ge ha-so-sŏ.

3. O-so-sŏ o-so-sŏ, cha-yu ũi-im-gŭm,
 u-ri-ga han-mom i-ru-ge ha-so-sŏ.

4. O-so-sŏ o-so-sŏ, tong-il ũi-im-gŭm,
 u-ri-ga han-mom i-ru-ge ha-so-sŏ.

Sending forth

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stars Singing Thanksgiving: An Advent-Christmas for troubled times

The epistle readings for the season of Advent insist that we prepare for the coming of Christ with thanks for the gift of God. So we will be using the image of stars, which might help make our gratitude visible and vital.

Second Sunday of Advent, 8 December, 11h00

As giving thanks becomes our pattern, more stars surround us.

Third Sunday of Advent, 15 December 11h00

The Sunday School pageant becomes our rejoicing.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 22 December 11h00

Mary's Magnificat leads us into praise.

Christmas Eve, 24 December, 17h30

Candlelight with an abundance of stars will shine over the carols.

Christmas Day, 25 December 11h00

Communion and carols celebrate the presence of Christ.

Stewardship for 2025 – “A Home Away from Home”

What difference has this community made in your life? How has our church served as a “home away from home” for you? And how will you help to ensure that this important mission continues? Every autumn, we as congregation members are invited to reflect on what this community means to us and on how we will each offer our support in the coming year in terms of time, talents, and money. We are now encouraged to offer our estimates of giving for the coming year. If you have not already done so, please make your 2025 estimate now, and take this step of participating in our congregation in an intentional way in the year to come: <https://genevalutheran.church/giving-season/>

Women's Circle Invitation – Friday, 6 December

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 next on **6 December at 18h30, for a Christmas dinner.** Contact Marit Bauer-Moore (079 320 3046; maritbmoore@hotmail.com) or Cynthia Wilbers (079 409 8503; cwilbers@gmail.com) for more information.

Choir Rehearsals - Thursday Evenings

The choir of the English-Speaking Congregation is open to anyone—we meet on Thursday evenings from 19h30 until 21h00 to learn the music for the upcoming Sunday worship service and work on additional pieces. Come and sing!

Serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 21 December

Our congregation will be serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 21 December 2024. It takes place from 8h30 until about 13h00 at Le Jardin de Montbrillant (Rue de Montbrillant 3) just behind Geneva Cornavin train station. All are welcome to sign up and help prepare and serve a warm meal. Contact the church office or Elisabeth Benn (chriselis_benn@bluewin.ch) for more information.

Geneva Gospel Choir –Concert This Evening

The Geneva Gospel Choir has held a workshop this weekend and will perform a concert this evening, 1 Dec, at Eglise St-Germain (in the Old Town) at 19h00. All are warmly welcome to attend.

Christmas Carol Singalong

On Sunday, 22 December at 17h00, the English- and German-Speaking Congregations will hold a Christmas carol singalong at the church. And on Friday, 20 December at 19h00, there will be a practice for those playing instruments to accompany the singing (open to everyone – no prior skills required). Weather permitting, we'll be in the church garden, singing for one another and for our neighbors in the Old Town--and if the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll be in the sanctuary. Refreshments will be provided afterward; all are warmly welcome.

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

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

8 December – Group D

15 December – Group E

22 December – Group A

29 December – Group B

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

Cover Image:
Photo by [Nathan Anderson](#) on [Unsplash](#)

This Week's Schedule:

Thurs, 5 Dec	19h30	Choir rehearsal
Fri, 6 Dec	18h30	Women's Circle Christmas dinner
Sat, 7 Dec	14h00	Christmas pageant rehearsal
Sun, 8 Dec	10h00	Church School
	11h00	Worship on the Second Sunday of Advent

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 _____