

# EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

## THE REIGN OF CHRIST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

24 NOVEMBER 2024

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

*We are a community on the move,  
discovering Christ together on the journey of faith.*

*We see Christianity as a path to be walked together—learning, serving, praying, sharing, and growing alongside sisters and brothers. As we live and practice our faith, we not only encounter a new community; we also find the presence of God.*

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 morning:

*Reader:* Caetano de Chassey

*Prayer leader:* Cristina Rendón

*Altar care:* Mee Ji

*Assisting ministers:* Filipa de Chassey, Eva de Chassey, Rumiko Jaussi

*Ushers:* Alessia de Chassey, Caetano de Chassey

*Offering counters:* Johnny Camaddo, Njoroge Njuguna

*Church school:* Marc de Chassey, Grete Willis

*Flowers:* Aguste Alweendo

*Coffee hour:* Neighborhood Group B

*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

Last Sunday after Pentecost + 24 November 2024, 11h00  
The Reign of Christ

A Home Away from Home: Stewardship for 2025

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore*

Welcome

Prelude

Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Greeting

With our mouths filled with laughter,  
***and our tongues with shouts of joy,***  
we rejoice in the grace of God,  
***who has given us an indescribable gift, Jesus Christ,***  
whose self-giving becomes our living,  
***whose gospel leads us home,***  
where justice and peace embrace,  
***and the fullness of love reigns.***

Hymn

O Christ, what can it mean for us

Delores Dufner, OSB

England

1. O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
 2. You came, the im - age of our God to heal and to for -  
 3. Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
 4. You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -

king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose praise the church would  
 give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that we might rise and  
 all, you said the first must be the last and ser - vice be our  
 noun. You died for us up - on a cross with thorns your on - ly

sing? As - pir - ing not to glo - ry's height to pow - er, wealth, and fame  
 live. To break the law of death you came, the law of love to bring:  
 call. O Christ, in work - place, church, and home let none to pow - er cling:  
 crown. But still, be - yond the span of years our glad ho - san - nas ring,"

you walked a dif - ferent, low - ly way an - oth - er's will your aim.  
 a dif - ferent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - ferent kind of king.  
 for still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - ferent kind of king.  
 for now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - ferent kind of king!

# Invitation to Prayer

## Prayer of Confession

God of steadfast love,  
we confess we are not very good as giving you our lives.  
We often keep the best for ourselves.  
When we are constantly told we have to look after ourselves first,  
we have trouble trusting that you will take care of us.  
Our gifts to you can often be more like an insurance premium,  
protecting our long-term interests,  
than an overflowing of thanks for your love.

*Forgive us.*

*Renew in us a faith that turns our giving cheerful  
and changes our direction from self-service to full-time serving,  
retrieved from our exile,  
finding our way home to you,  
dancing in the company of saints  
dressed in towels ready for washing feet,  
honoring your Beloved, Jesus Christ.*

## Sung Response

## Lord, have mercy

Swee Hong Lim: Singapore

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a double bar line and repeat sign, followed by the melody for 'Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.' The second staff continues the melody for 'Lord, have mer - cy on us.' with a final double bar line and repeat sign.

© Swee Hong Lim

## Words of Grace

Hymn of Praise

Glory be to you

Ps 98 adapted by Samuel Liew: Singapore

Indonesian/Malaysian folk song adapted by Samuel Liew



Glo-ry be to you, our Cre - a - tor and our God, to  
 you, the Ho - ly Spir - it, and to Je - sus Christ, our Lord.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
*we were like those who dream.*

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
*and our tongue with shouts of joy;*

then it was said among the nations,  
*'The Lord has done great things for them.'*

The Lord has done great things for us,  
*and we rejoiced.*

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
*like the watercourses in the Negeb.*

May those who sow in tears  
*reap with shouts of joy.*

Those who go out weeping,  
*bearing the seed for sowing,*  
 shall come home with shouts of joy,  
*carrying their sheaves.*

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.'

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### Alleluia

Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker: Australia

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### Gospel

Mark 14:3-9

The Gospel according to Mark, chapter 14.

*Glory to you, O Lord.*

While [Jesus] was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this

ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.’ And they scolded her. But Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, O Christ.*

Alleluia

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

**Take my gifts**

Shirley Erena Murray

Colin Gibson: Aoteroa/New Zealand

1. Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,  
 2. Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir-it sowed,  
 3. Take what-ev - er I can of - fer, gifts that I have yet to find,

gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free.  
 har - vest of your own com - pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God;  
 skills that I am slow to sharp-en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,

Now be-cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a-way;  
 spiced with hu-mor, laced with laugh-ter fla-vor of the Je-sus life,  
 things made beau-ti-ful for oth-ers in the place where I must be:

now the bread of love is ris-ing, loaves of love to mul-ti-ply!  
 tang of risk and new ad-ven-ture, taste and zest be-yond be-lief.  
 take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

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## 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.*

## 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  
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Anthem

*May the love of the Lord  
 English, Maria Ling. Music, Swee Hong Lim: Singapore*

Choir

*May the love of the Lord, rest upon your soul.  
 May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.  
 May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
 May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.*

*A note about this piece:*

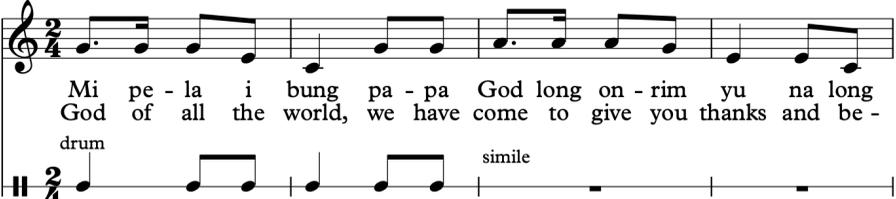
*Swee Hong Lim and Maria Ling were thankful for the birth of their first  
 child after many years of waiting. One day the baby stopped breathing, but  
 the prompt action of the nurses revived him. The song was written like a  
 lullaby, with the accompaniment conveying a rocking crib, in gratitude for  
 God’s providence.*

Offertory

Psalm 68:26 Neo-Melanesian

**Mi pela i bung**

Traditional: Papua New Guinea



The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in 2/4 time and contains the melody for the lyrics. The bottom staff is also in 2/4 time and contains a drum accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the top staff.

Mi pe - la i bung pa - pa God long on - rim yu na long  
 God of all the world, we have come to give you thanks and be -  
 drum simile



For the prophets drumming justice and rhyming hope,

*thanks.*

For the gift of Jesus Christ, loving the whole world,

*thanks.*

With the church on earth, with all the saints and angels,  
we join in the ongoing hymn of praise.

Sanctus

## Kudus, kudus, kuduslah Tuhan

Sakamoto: Indonesia

Ku - dus, ku - dus, ku - dus - lah Tu - han Al -  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
lah se - ga - la ku - a - sa. Sur - ga dan bu - mi are  
power and might. Heav - en and earth are  
pen - uh ke - mu - lia an - Mu. Ter - pu - ji - lah, Ter - pu - ji - lah,  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.  
Eng - kau di sur - ga. Ter - ber - kat - i - lah, yang da - tang  
Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
a - tas na - ma Tu - han. Ter - pu - ji - lah  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - na  
ter - pu - ji - lah Eng kau di sur - ga.  
in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

from MISA SUNDA, © Sukanto, Indonesia. From Sound the Bamboo, Christian Conference of Asia. Hong Kong..

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

## Remembering

Love is served at this table, as we remember Jesus.  
This bread, the body of Christ.  
This wine, the blood of Christ.  
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

Anak domba Allah

M. Karatem: Indonesia

A - nak-dom-ba Al - lah, Yang meng - ha - pus do - sa  
du - ni - a. A - nak - dom - ba Al - lah,  
1. 2. ka - sih - an - i ka - mi, ka - sih - an - i ka - mi.  
3. b'ri - lah ka - mi da - mai, b'ri - lah ka - mi da - mai.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. 3rd time grant us peace.*

## 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

### Far beyond our mind's grasp

*First verse, unison. Second verse, treble voices.*

*Third verse, all with tenor harmony. Fourth verse, unison*

Francisco F. Feliciano: Philippines      Caturgo Na Nonoy, Bicol folksong: Philippines

1. Hin - di ko ma - i - sip, kay la - king hi -  
1. Far be - yond our mind's grasp and our tongue's de -  
2. None of us is worth - y to re - ceive your  
3. So our hearts are lift - ed to the realm a -  
4. Soon you bid us scat - ter, share what we in -

wa - ga Kay la - king pag - li - ngap, pag - pa - pa ka -  
clar - ing, you are here in mys - tery, qui - et - ly and  
es - sence, in this meal to - geth - er, yet, the gift is  
bove us, nour - ished and u - ni - ted by the pre - cious  
her - it from this home of bless - ings where we taste your

sa - kit, Sa - la na - ming ta - o nang i - yong a -  
with - out fail: lift - ed once on Cal - vary, sin and weak - ness  
yours by choice, death can nev - er snatch us from your ho - ly  
bread and wine. Here what sweet con - tent - ment know - ing that you  
peace and grace. May our lives be al - tars glow - ing with your

G/B Gm/Bb D/A A D

ku - in Wa - lang hang - ga - nan, Diyos, ang 'yong pag - i - big.  
 bear - ing, O Lord, how won - der - ful you call us through the veil.  
 pres - ence, your prom - ise is for life; we on - ly can re - joice.  
 love us! We thank you for this feast, this fel - low - ship di - vine.  
 Spi - rit to light the lamps of those who al - so seek your face.

Words and Music arrangement, Francisco F. Feliciano. English, James Minchin. © Asian Institute of Liturgy and Music, Manila, Philippines

### May we see Christ's loving face

*May be sung as a canon (a round). Start at any measure.*

Trisha Watts: Australia

**A** F<sup>(sus4)</sup>/C **B** F/C C

May we see Christ's lov - ing face.

**C** F<sup>(sus4)</sup>/C **D** F/C C

May we be an i - con of his grace.

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# More than we know

Shirley Erena Murray: Aotearoa/New Zealand

Lu Chen Tiong: based on Malay folk motives

1. More than we know, God works with - in us,  
2. He is God's eye, chang - ing our fo - cus,  
3. He is God's face, smile of the rain - bow,  
4. He is God's heart, tuned to our heart-beat,

more than we trust, mus - tard seeds grow,  
he is the light, flood - ing our mind,  
co - lor of peace, blend - ing us all,  
he is the air, lift - ing our wings,

more than we dream, God's pos - si - bil - i - ty,  
he is the fire, Spir - it and en - er - gy  
he is the coin, God's new e - con - o - my,  
his are the arms stretched out, to chal - lenge us,

this is the gos - pel of love: for Christ has come  
spark - ing our spir - it to shine.  
spend - ing to feed and to save.  
he is our cour - age to fly,

bring - ing us life, life in its full - ness and joy.

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## Sending forth

Christ our king,  
*lead us into serving you and others in your name.*  
Christ our king,  
*rejoice in us, so we think we are dreaming, at home in your presence.*

Christ our king,  
*take our lives and make us yours. Amen.*

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Dismissal

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Congregational Assembly – Immediately Following Worship**

Members, please plan to attend—your voice is important, and we need at least 50 members for a quorum. A video will be shown in the gemeinderaum for children.

### **Stewardship for 2025 – “A Home Away from Home”**

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. Today, Sivin Kit gave witness. We are now encouraged to offer our estimates of giving for the coming year. Please take this step of participating in our ministry in an intentional way and submit your giving estimate, either online or using the paper forms, by 30 November: <https://genevalutheran.church/giving-season/>

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

### **Advent Market at the ELCG – Saturday 30 November**

The German-Speaking Congregation will hold its annual Advent Market at the church next Saturday, 30 November, from 11h to 15h. There will be Advent wreaths and Christmas treats available for purchase, as well as crafts for children. All are welcome—for more information, visit [www.luther-genf.ch](http://www.luther-genf.ch).

## **Stars Singing Thanksgiving: An Advent-Christmas for troubled times**

Advent begins next Sunday. The epistle readings for this season 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.

### ***Making the stars – Monday, 25 November***

Monday, 25 November, 19h30 at the church, some of the worship committee will be sitting together with tea and shiny paper, cutting and folding. The directions are simple. A few more hands will make the work lighter. But what better way to give Advent a spiritual start than sitting with friends, or friends in the making, preparing stars for worship?

### ***First Sunday of Advent, 1 December, 17h30***

Advent starts with an evening service. In the dusky light, the stars begin to shine.

### ***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.

## **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](mailto:chriselis_benn@bluewin.ch)) for more information.

## **Interreligious Ceremony for World AIDS Day – 1 December**

In 2024, we must remember that the AIDS pandemic is still killing many people around the world. The Interreligious Platform of Geneva, l'Antenne LGBTI Genève, and l'Espace Fusterie join forces with the association PVA-Genève (People Living With HIV/AIDS) for a time of commemoration on the theme "To push back prejudice, ignorance and fear, let's promote encounter, knowledge and respect." The day begins with an interreligious ceremony at Eglise St-Germain at 15h00 and continues with a march and a dance. All are welcome—more information here:

<https://interreligieux.ch/wp/evenement/ceremonie-interreligieuse-sida-2024/>

## **Geneva Gospel Choir – Workshop and Concert Next Weekend**

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 next Gospel Choir weekend will be 29 November – 1 December:

- 29 Nov: Practice at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 18h-21h
- 30 Nov: Practice at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9h-17h00
- 1 Dec: Concert at Eglise St-Germain, 19h

All are welcome to participate! For more information, contact Christine Housel: [vgavospchoir@gmail.com](mailto:vgavospchoir@gmail.com) / +41 79 426 5912

## **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:

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 December – Group C  | 8 December – Group D  |
| 15 December – Group E | 22 December – Group A |

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

Cover Image:

Sarcophagus of Drausin, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=49988>

**This Week's Schedule:**

<b>Mon, 25 Nov</b>	<b>19h30</b>	Advent craft – Making stars for worship
<b>Thurs, 28 Nov</b>	<b>19h30</b>	Choir rehearsal
<b>Sat, 30 Nov</b>	<b>11h00</b>	Advent Market at the ELCG
<b>Sun, 1 Dec</b>	<b>15h30</b>	Congregation Council meeting
	<b>17h30</b>	Worship on the First 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  
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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.

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