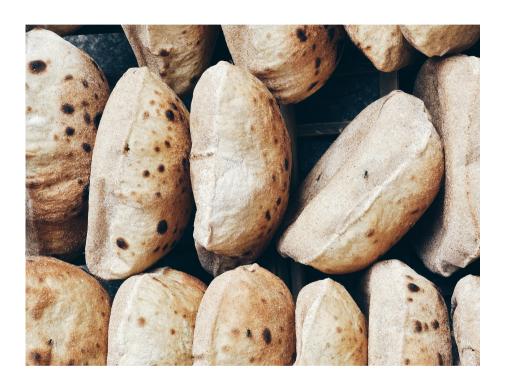
# **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA**

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00 30 MARCH 2025

# 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

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:

Scribe: Sylvain Fournier Reader: Nina Kiderlin Altar care: Ana Villanueva

Assisting ministers: Elisabeth Benn, Faith Fookes, Rumiko Jaussi,

Nyambura Njoroge

Ushers: Queen King'ori, Nashipai Naing'ola Offering counters: Sam Mungure, Njoroge Njuguna

Church school: Aguste Alweendo, Pia Hannewald, Kiki Lawal

Flowers: Rumiko Jaussi

Videgraphers: Breanna Ndwiga, Ray Woodcock

## 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

Fourth Sunday of Lent + 30 March 2025, 11h00

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

The Lord's Prayer 'Give us today our daily bread'

Welcome

Prelude

Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Felix Mendelsohn Op.65 Sonata VI (last part of 'Choral') This is based on the melody of the first hymn.

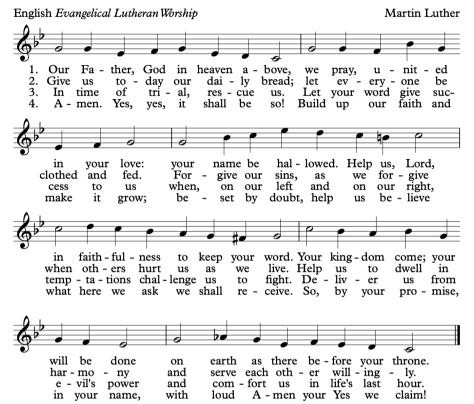
# Greeting

The bread we need, the labor that satisfies, the seeking that delights in what is yet to be, the grace that in forgiving others, we find ourselves forgiven, the hallowed name, which names us one family, the will attuned to God's will, the kingdom, in which we are not subjects but heirs, the power, the dying by which we gain the life worth the living, the glory, bread shared.

For the gifts of God, we pray, listening through the words for God's way forward.

# Hymn Our Father, God in heaven above

During this hymn, children who wish to go to church school are invited to do so.



English, hymnal version, © 2006s Augsburg Fortress.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

# Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:1-5

and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

This is God's holy word, *life for all people*.

#### Call to Prayer

## Prayer of Confession

Satisfaction often eludes us, generous God. The wanting never seems to end.

Even when our dreams are realized,
they don't often end up the way we had hoped.
We remain restless facing the constant 'More'
constantly put before us:
more memory, more speed,
more excitement, more space,
more vacation, more style,
more friends, more investments,
more laughs, more money.
Was daily bread ever enough?

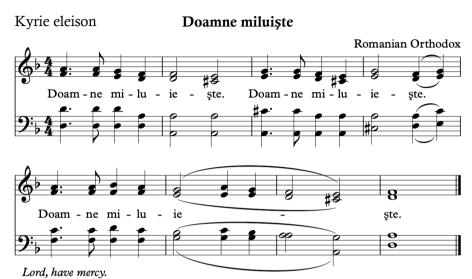
When we fail to listen to you, *forgive us.* 

When we allow your word to be drowned out by seller's noise, *forgive us.* 

Turn us so we come to you and discover the wonder of your love, which can turn daily bread into delight and the grace of sharing into the fullness of life.

Transform what we want, and how we want, so when we gather at the table of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, no one is left hungry,

and no one left aside, but together we become his body, the bread the world needs each day, the bread we need this day to rest in you.



## Words of Assurance





Marire Tatălui şi Fiului şi Sfintului Duh. Şi acum şi pururea, şi in vecii vecilor. Amin. Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, age to age, you are God forever more. Amen.



English, Jeffrey T. Myers © Strube, Munich.

# Prayer of the Day

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

#### Psalm 63:1-8

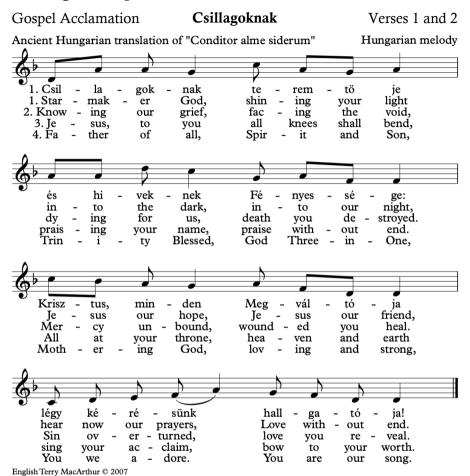
O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; y our right hand upholds me.



- örök halált eltérítvén meggyógyítád e világot, hozván neki orvosságot.
- 2. Ki világon könyörülvén, 3. A te erős hatalmadnak minden térdek meghajolnak, mennyeiek és földiek Urnak vallják fölségedet.
- 4. Hálát adjunk az Istennek, Atva, Fiú, Szentléleknek, három személy fölségének, egymivoltú Istenségnek.

The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 11.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

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

Gospel Acclamation

Csillagoknak

Verses 3 and 4

Sermon

Andy Willis



English and Music © 2002 GIA Publications

#### 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*.

#### 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.



Gathering of Gifts The Lord's Prayer

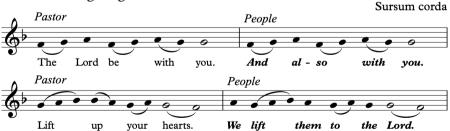
Music by Nikolay Nikolayevich Kedrov Sr., Russia

Choir



Music © T. Kiewicz, notation Hartmut Bietz © Strube Verlag GmbH, Pettenkoferstraße 24, 80336 München, Germany, English, © Jeffrey T. Myers, Alte Mainzer Gasse 2, 60311 Frankfurt am Main, Deutschland.

# Great Thanksgiving





Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### **Preface**





Music Urmas Sisask, Estonia © 1993 Fazer Music Estonia Inc. Espoo, Finland.

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

#### Words of Institution

## Remembering

This is the bread we need for today, the bread that satisfies.

This is the wine poured out, so that sins are forgiven.

At this table we become Christ's body and blood.

We remember the death of Christ until he comes.

#### Lord's Prayer

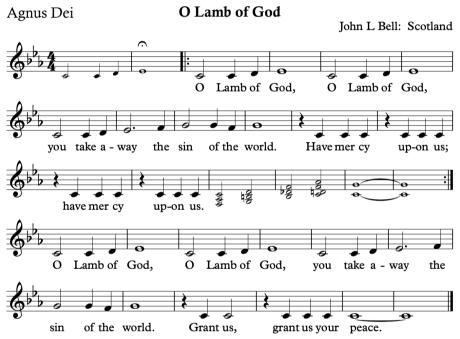
in our many languages

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.



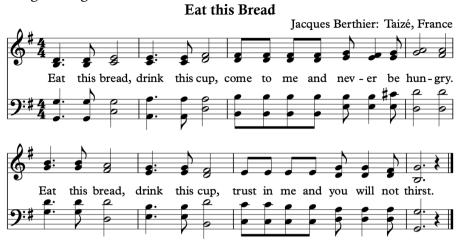
Music © 1986, 2008 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Glasgow G2 3DH Scotland

#### Invitation to Communion

All are welcome for communion.

Come and take any available space around the altar. The bread will be passed in a basket. Take a piece of bread and eat it. Then take the basket and offer it to the next person with the words, the body of Christ. Then choose a cup (a dark cup for wine, a lighter cup for grape juice). Place the used cup on the next tray.

# Songs during Communion



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

## Maye nziwe

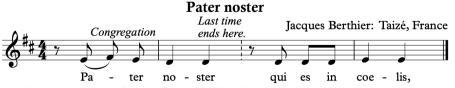


as taught by George Mxadana. Arranged by John Bell. Arr. © 1988 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Glasgow G51 3UU, Scotland.

#### Until all are fed



Like the One who loves us each and ev-ery one we serve un-til all are fed. English and music © 2010 Sassafrasongs ASCAP, www.untilallarefed.net Used by permission.



Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé, France. Our Father, who is in heaven

# Sending forth

#### Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

#### **Dismissal**

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

Writing on the Lord's Prayer Card: "Give us today our daily bread."

On the altar, retrieve your card from previous weeks. If this is your first time here this Lent, take a blank card. Invite one other person to write on your card, "Give us today our daily bread" in their own language. Maybe at the same time you write on theirs. Pens with different colors are on the tables and on the altar for writing. You might use the printed graphic as a model, but feel free to add your own artistry. We all become scribes. Other phrases of the prayer will be added during the services to come.

When the writing is complete, put your card back its envelope and put it in the box in alphabetical order so you can retrieve it when you next come to church. If you were not here before in Lent, take an envelope, put your name on it, and add it to the others. If you are a visitor, you might ask more than one person to write on the card. Then take the card with you as a reminder of the service and as an invitation to pray.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### The Season of Lent and the Lord's Prayer

This year for the season of Lent, our congregation is focusing on the Lord's Prayer. We'll move slowly through this central prayer of our faith, focusing on a single line each week. In a time with more than its share of uncertainty and tumult, we root ourselves deeply in communion with God and with one another.

#### Next Sunday, 6 April – 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, 6 April, worship will take place in the evening. We hope to see you there. *Please note there is no church school this Sunday*.

#### **New Church School Time**

For the remainder of the school year, we'll be trying out a different schedule for church school: church school for ages 3 to 12 will meet during a portion of the worship service (instead of at 10h00). Children will begin the service with their families and return in time for Communion. We'll give this schedule a try for the coming months—contact Andy Willis or the church office with any questions.

#### **Renewing Andy Willis's Contract**

Andy Willis's contract with the English-Speaking Congregation of the ELCG will expire in March of 2026, and all members are now invited to participate in the process of evaluating whether to renew the contract for an additional three-year term.

- A forum on this topic was held last Sunday (23 March)
- A survey has been sent to all members (open until 31 March).

Following the survey and the forum, the Council will make a recommendation on whether or not to renew Andy's contract, and the congregation will vote at our assembly on 25 May. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Nina Kiderlin, congregation president.

# Planning for the Harvest Festival – Meeting today

This year's Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday 17 May—and it's time to get planning! A planning team will meet after worship today to work on preparations for the event. If you'd like to help with this annual event in our congregation focused on raising funds for churches and organizations helping the most vulnerable, come and join the meeting—all are welcome!

#### **Lent Book Study – The Practice of Prayer**

In keeping with our Lenten theme this year, the community is invited to join in reading and discussing *The Practice of Prayer* by Margaret Guenther. This lovely book addresses practical questions around topics like listening for God, finding God in the ordinary, and praying through times when God does not seem to be listening. It promises to be a rich and rewarding study, grounding us in a core practice of our faith. Groups meet weekly (mostly online) for discussion through the six week of Lent. If you'd like to join, please contact Andy Willis: pastor@genevalutheran.ch

The church still has a small number of copies of the book available—if you'd like to purchase one, please contact the office.

#### Lunch and Games for Teens - Today

Following worship today, teens are invited to spend the afternoon together at the church. We'll have lunch as a group and play board games together. All youth ages 13-19 are welcome to join!

#### Prayer Group - Tuesday 1 April

Our congregation's prayer group meets monthly to pray for the needs of our community and our world. The next meeting will take place at church on Tuesday, 1 April from 19h until 20h. If you cannot join in person, it will also be possible to join online, via Zoom. Please contact Kiki Lawal with any questions you have or prayer requests you like to share: kiki.lawal@gmail.com.

## Lent Quiet Day - Saturday 5 April, 10h00-16h00

Time without a phone, or a list of things to do, time to reflect, to pray, to take account, time to step back, to consider new steps, to wonder what steps Christ might put before you, the gift of time, healing time, holy time, time set apart with others from our church taking time,

...time will be the gift we offer each other as we meet on Saturday, 5 April at Le Cénacle, a former monastery in Geneva from 10h00 to 16h00. Bring a simple lunch, a Bible, a friend, who also needs some time. While we will have moments of common prayer, most of the day will be for reading, walking, reflecting. Le Cénacle will be responsible for the breaks during the day, so we need to give them an idea of how many might be coming. It will help us if you register on the sign-up sheet available this morning.

#### Women's Circle Invitation

Ladies, come and join our Women's Circle! We gather in our church, our village, on one Saturday each month from 10am to 12pm for coffee and croissants and for fellowship and fun. All women church members and regular attendees are welcome. Dates for the coming months: **19 April**, **10 May**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers, Gladys Yegon, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler or the office for more information.

#### Children's Choir - 12 and 13 April

On Saturday 12 April, Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg will be offering a children's choir rehearsal at the church from 10h to 12h. The children will learn a song that they will then sing during the worship service on 13 April. Kids of all ages are welcome! Contact Katharina with any questions: katharina@genevalutheran.ch

#### Serving at the Soup Kitchen – 3 May

Our congregation will be serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 3 May 2025. 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.

#### **Music Camp this Summer**

From Sunday, 10 August to Friday, 15 August 2025, there will be a summer camp organized by our music director Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg at Maison de Jeunesse de Vers-l'Eglise in Les Diablerets 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 Noah's arc as the theme, and the performance of the musical will be held on Sunday, 17 August at 16h00 at the ELCG. The cost for the week is CHF 550 per child (all-inclusive) with a discount for multiple children from the same family. Contact Katharina (katharina@genevalutheran.ch) to sign up or for more information.

## **Serving Weekly Coffee Hour**

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

6 April – Group A 20 April – Group C 27 April – Group D

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



Cover Image: Photo by <u>Alex Block</u> on <u>Unsplash</u> Bread stall, Cairo, Egypt

#### This Week's Schedule:

Tue, 1 April	19h00	Prayer group
Thurs, 3 April	19h30	Choir rehearsal
Sat, 5 April	10h00	Lent Quiet Day at Le Cénacle
Sun, 6 April	17h30	Worship on the Fifth Sunday in Lent
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'd love to be in touch and answer any questions you might have about the church.

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