

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

25 MAY 2025

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION OF THE ELCG WELCOMES YOU!

*We are a congregation where music,
liturgy, and prayer reflect the richness of the global church.*

We gather each week for worship that is both firmly rooted in the ancient forms and traditions of Christian liturgy and attuned to contemporary concerns. We encounter the good news of Jesus in scripture, in song, in the sacraments, and in the gathered community. The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle shapes our weekly worship, leading us to pray for and sing songs from different parts of the world.

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:

Prayer leader: Maureen Gumbé

Reader: Jonathan Frerichs

Ushers: Caetano de Chassey, Eva de Chassey, Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti

Offering counters: May Chin Long, Tom Taylor

Church school: Marc de Chassey, Gladys Kiptum, Ewan Kit, Kiki Lawal

Flowers: Hellen Msemo

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter + 25 May 2025, 11h00

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:
Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles

Guest Choirs:
Universal Voices (Switzerland) and Eclectic Voices (London)
Conducted by Scott Stroman

Welcome

Prelude *Have a Talk with God* Guest choirs
 Stevie Wonder, arr. Scott Stroman

Greeting

The peace that the world cannot give,
the light so illuminating no other lamp is needed,
the new city without any temple
because the presence of God is everywhere,
the leaves for the healing of the nations reconciling better than any deal,
the gates opened because there is no longer anyone to fear,
the songs rising with blessings and honor and glory to the Lamb—
the new creation calls to us,
drawing us to the dawning of what is yet to be,
when the praise of God becomes our strength, our joy, our breath,
because everything false will have disappeared.

Hymn

When all is ended

Brian Wren

Charles R. Anders: USA



1. When all is end - ed, time and trou - bles past,
2. As in the night, when light - ning flick - ers free,
3. A - gainst all hope, our wear - y times have known
4. Then do not cheat the poor, who long for bread,
5. With earth - y faith we sing a song of heaven
6. With all cre - a - tion, pain and an - ger past,



shall all be mend - ed, sin and death out - cast?
 and gives a glimpse of dis - tant hill and tree,
 wars end - ed, peace de - clared, com - pas - sion shown,
 with dream worlds in the sky or in the head,
 all love ful - filled, all loved, all wrong for - given.
 e - vil ex - haust - ed, love su - preme at last



In hope we sing, and hope to sing at last:
 each flash of good dis - clos - es what will be:
 great days of free - dom, ty - rants ov - er - thrown.
 but sing of slaves set free and child - ren fed,
 Christ is our sign of hope, for Christ is risen!
 a - live in God, we'll sing an un - sur - passed



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

English, Brian Wren © 1989 in Bring Many Names, by Hope Publishing Co. Melody, Charles R. Anders,
 © 1978, Lutheran Book of Worship.

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God, whose glory outshines our seeing,

Forgive us

when our focus remains on ourselves.

Forgive us

when we chose not to see what you would have us see.

Forgive us

when our fears overshadow your love.

Turn us so we abide in your light

and through the gift of your Spirit,

discover the untroubling that leads to peace,

peace with ourselves,

peace with our neighbors,

peace with other peoples,

peace with the world,

peace with you

though Jesus Christ.

Sung Response

Love's in Need of Love Today
Stevie Wonder, arr. Scott Stroman

Guest choirs

Words of Grace

Hymn of Praise

Jeso Loharanon'aina

Valborg Andersen 1851-1935

G. Wennerberg 1871-1901

Miadanadana

1. Je - sus Christ, our riv - er of life Je - sus Christ, our
 1. Je - so Lo - ha - ra - no - n'ai - na, Je - so Ma - so -

sun and light. You, the Ho - ly One, are the true path. Guide us,
 a - ndro-nay! 'Zao ny fo - nay mi - ta - rai - na, Mba ve-

teach us, lead the way. Bless - ed Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 lo - my i - za - hay! O, sa - vao ny za - von - ta - ny

Lord, our sav - ior, Lamb of God, Ho - ly Word, which
 Ao a - mpa - nde - ha - na - nay Di - a I - a -

dwells a - mong us, Je - sus Christ, our hope and life.
 nao - i - ha - ny No ho Ma - so - a - ndro-nay.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

First Reading

Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make God's face to shine upon us.
that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God,
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God,
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere God.

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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.

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Gospel

John 14:23-29

The Gospel according to John, chapter 14.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

O healing river

Fran Minkoff

Fred Hellerman: USA

F7 $\text{♩} = 56$ B \flat E \flat B \flat E \flat /B \flat

1. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
 2. This land is parch - ing, this land is
 3. Let the seed of free - dom a - wake and

B \flat E \flat B \flat F7 B \flat E \flat B \flat C7

wa - ters, send down your wa - ters up - on this
 burn - ing, no seed is grow - ing in the bar - ren
 flour - ish. Let the deep roots nour - ish. Let the tall stalks

F C7 F F7 B \flat E \flat B \flat D7

land. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
 grounds. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
 rise. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your

Gm D7 Gm C7 B \flat E \flat B \flat /F E \flat /F B \flat

wa - ters and wash the blood from off the sand.
 wa - ters. O heal - ing riv - er, send your wa - ters down.
 wa - ters. O heal - ing riv - er from out of the skies.

Music, Fred Hellerman. English, Fran Minkoff © 1964 (renewed), Appleseed Music, Inc.

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.

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.***

Passing of the Peace

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Gathering of Gifts

If It's Magic
Stevie Wonder, arr. Scott Stroman

Guest choirs

*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!**



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TWINT app



Confirm amount and
donation



Offertory

Bendice, Señor nuestro pan

Argentina

Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan, y da pan a los que tien - en
Lord, bless the bread you have given, and give bread to all who are

ham - bre y ham - bre de jus - ti - cia a los que tien - en
hun - gry, give hun - ger for jus - tice to those with

pan. bread. Ben - di - ce Se - ñor nues - tro pan.
Lord, bless the bread you have given.

English, Donald Wetherick

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

with the word *light*, you created worlds.

Thanks for your word.

You breathed into humanity, so we might also speak.

Thanks for your word.

Although Moses stammered,

you gave him authority to free your people.

Thanks for your word.

To prophets and poets, you gave rhymes and rhythms,

patterns to attract our attention and hear your voice.

Thanks for your word.

At the right time, you sent your Beloved, Jesus Christ, your word,

walking, eating, speaking, dwelling with us in the flesh.

Thanks for your word.

Receive what we offer you

our songs, our gifts, our lives,

and transform us,

so we live into your vision of a community alive to the fullness of
your love in Jesus Christ,

*whose word becomes peace,
whose touch becomes healing,
whose presence becomes life,
whose dying becomes our rising
honoring the name of the Blessed Trinity,
now and ever. Amen.*

Hymn

Rombaho

*Malagasy text and music, Niriko Gaëtan
Verse 1, English paraphrase by Andrew Donaldson*

*** A small ensemble will sing the verses;
all join in the refrain, printed on the following pages ***

Refrain: Embrace us, Lord, embrace us otherwise we are lost.

- 1. From all that turns us from you, God, our God,
from all that is empty or untrue,
everything false, or unjust, we lay down to love you and serve you.*
- 2. Do not cling to earthly goods, money, objects, all are “mammon”,
the devil’s residences.*
- 3. Jesus, my friend, save us sinners, hear our voices calling you to save us.*

as sung by the Chorale Avana Loterana eto Soisy: Madagascar

Alto on the middle note. Tenor on the bottom note.

Phonetic: Whoa, Whoa rum - bow, Whoa Whoa rum - bow.
 Malgasy: Ô Ô Rom - baho Ô Ô Rom - baho

Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

An - gel, nah, nah - ha - ré. Fah mee - tsah
 An - dre - na - na - ha re Fa mi - ja -

rum - bow rum - bow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

- - lee lah - yé. Zah - ah - too - yé.
 ly la - hye! Zahay - a - toy e!

rum - bow rum - bow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

Fah - ren - djé - ké. Whoa Whoa Whoa
 Fa - ren - dre - ke. Ô Ô Ô

rum - bow rum - bow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

rum - bow Whoa rum - bow.
 Rom - baho Ô Rom - baho

rum - bow rum - bow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

An - gel, nah, nah - ha - ré. Fah mee - tsah
An - dre - na - na - ha re Fa mi - ja -

rum-bow rumbow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

- lee lah - yé. Zah - ah - too - yé.
- ly la - hye! Zahay - a - toy e!

rum - bow rum - bow Whoa rum - bow rum - bow Whoa

for ending go to

Fah - ren - djé - ke.
Fa - ren - dre - ke.

rum - bow

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Refrain: Embrace us, Lord, Embrace us otherwise we are lost.

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Sending Song

I Am Singing
Stevie Wonder, arr. Scott Stroman

Guest choirs

Dismissal

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You to Our Guest Choirs!

A big word of thanks to Universal Voices (based here in Switzerland), Eclectic Voices (based in London), and Scott Stroman for joining us today and sharing some of Stevie Wonder's powerful and uplifting music. What a gift to worship with you all!

Congregational Assembly – Today Following Worship

After today's worship service, our congregation will hold its annual spring assembly. This is a time to celebrate the past year of ministry, elect new members to our Congregation Council, and look ahead to the year to come. We will also be voting on whether or not to renew Andy Willis's contract for an additional three-year term.

The assembly has been planned as an in-person meeting; for those unable to be physically present, there is the possibility to join remotely, via Zoom. We will open the Zoom call around 12h35. Here's the link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85488895718> [Meeting ID: 854 8889 5718]

A quorum of 51 members is required for us to conduct this important business of our community—members, please plan to attend!

June, July, and August – Worship at 11h00 Every Sunday

During the months of June, July, and August, our congregation will worship at 11h00 every Sunday (including the first Sunday of each month). So please note that on 1 June, 6 July, and 3 August, worship will take place at 11h00, not in the evening.

Children's Choir – 7, 21 and 22 June

On two Saturdays 7 and 21 June, 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 22 June. Kids of all ages are welcome! Contact Katharina with any questions: katharina@genevalutheran.ch

Harvest Festival Update – Thank You!

A big thanks to all who contributed to this year's Harvest Festival—planning, preparing, offering gifts, and making financial contributions. While we are still awaiting a final result, it is clear that we raised close to Chf 10,000, all of which will be split between this year's two projects—fighting hunger in Sudan and providing relief to victims of the earthquake in Myanmar. Thank you for your generosity!

Picnic on Ascension Day – Thursday 29 May

On Ascension Day, Thursday 29 May, our congregation will hold a picnic at 'Parc de la Grange' in Eaux Vives, starting at 11h30. Bring food and drink, maybe something to put on the ground, or a folding chair. Terry will bring the church's parachute. After eating we will take a moment to hear the Ascension story and sing a couple of Alleluias. The park is easy to reach by public transportation, or parking is available in the garage under the Gare des Eaux Vives. We will try to be on the upper end of the park, not too far from the children's sand box area. We might do a procession in praise of plants to give thanks for the rose garden and trees in the park. If it is pouring rain, we'll plan to cancel.

God Only Knows What We Would Be Without ... MUSIC!

Saturday, June 14, 20:00h at the church – ELCG Quiz Night: NAME THAT TUNE! Bach or Bacharach? Genesis or The End?

Mercedes Sosa or The Cars?

- nail-biting team rivalry
- dazzling disco lights
- ruthless jury
- special appearance DJs Gareth and Geoffrey
- live connection with Japanese hip-hop star
- sips and snacks



Sign up NOW (so we can plan ... thank you!) and stay TUNED!

Your ELCG Music Quiz Team

Prayer Service for Peace in the Middle East – 27 May

Holy Trinity Anglican Church and Emmanuel Episcopal Church are holding a prayer service for peace in the Middle East this coming Tuesday, 27 May, at 19h30 at Emmanuel Church (Rue de Monthoux 3, Geneva). All are welcome to attend.

Ignatian Way – Daylong Retreat on 14 June

An Ignatian Way Day offers a chance to 'catch one's spiritual breath' in today's hectic world, a pause to open to silence, with time for personal reflection on one's life in the light of scripture and group sharing on related questions.

When: Saturday 14 June, 9h00-17h00

Where: Ecumenical Institute - Chateau de Bossey, 1298 Céligny

Cost: CHF 55 (includes lunch and a mid-morning coffee/tea with croissant)

Registration: Contact Patricia Laurie: vervel10@gmail.com / +33 6 85 39 15 66

Creative Writing Group – Tuesday, 27 May at 19h00

Everyone who loves to write is invited to join a new creative writing group, meeting in the Gemeinderaum at the church, once a month on Tuesday evening, 19h00 - 20h30. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 27 May at 19h00. Bites will be provided. All welcome! Please contact Cynthia Wilbers or the church office for further info.

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: **14 June, 12 July**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers, Gladys Yegon, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler or the office for more information.

Looking for Musicians in Worship this Summer

Warm up your voices and tune your instruments! As the choir takes a break during the summer holidays, you are invited to sing or play one of your preferred pieces of music during the offertory in worship. If you'd like to play on one of the Sundays, between 29 June to 7 September, please put your name on the sign up sheet or contact Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg.

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:

1 June – Group D

8 June – Group E

15 June – Group A

22 June – Group B

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

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This Week’s Schedule:

Tue, 27 May	19h00	Creative writing group
Thurs, 29 May	11h30	Ascension Day picnic at Parc de la Grange
Sun, 1 June	11h00	Worship and church school
<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:



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- 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

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Comments _____

New to Geneva? Y/N _____ Date _____