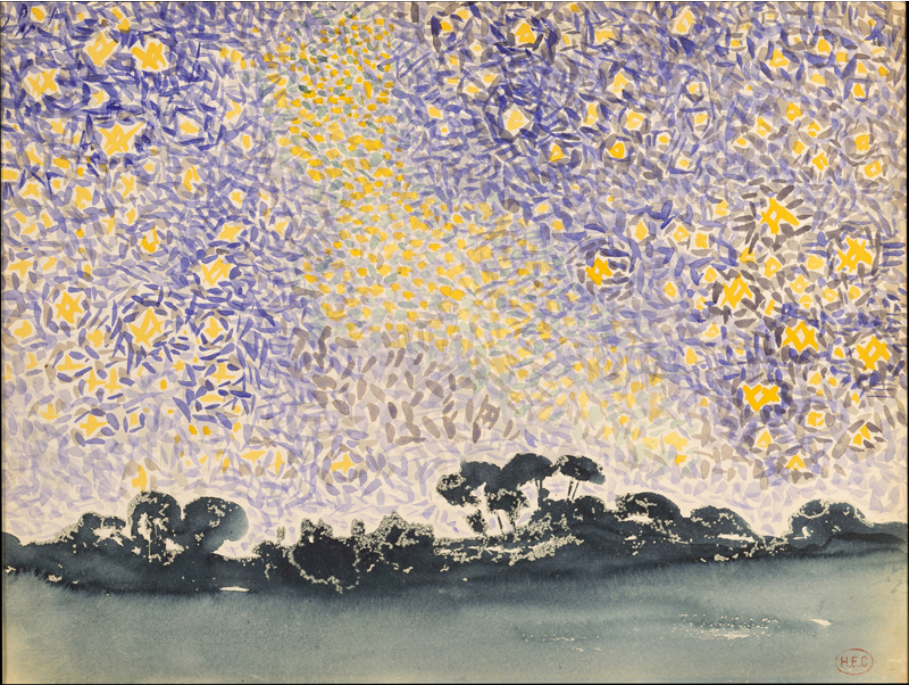


EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

10 AUGUST 2025

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

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:

Guest Preacher and Presider: Rev. Sarah Stephens

Soloist: Laura Poetzel

Violinist: Yanis Eberhart

Prayer leader: Maureen Gumbe

Reader: Sivin Kit

Altar care: Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti

Assisting ministers: Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi,
Maarten Wilbers

Ushers: Grace George, Valerie Marinoni

Offering counter: Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti, Fulata Moyo

Flowers: Maryssa Mapanao-Camaddo

Videographers: Ray Woodcock, Breanna Ndwiga

*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: 022 310 50 89

pastor@genevalutheran.ch office@genevalutheran.ch
www.genevalutheran.ch

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost + 10 August 2025, 11h00

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:
Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea

Guest Presider and Preacher: Rev. Sarah Stephens

Welcome

Prelude

Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Greeting

Blessings more numerous than the stars,
more luminous than the new galaxies
seen through the Vera C. Rubin Observatory,
blessings given away as if they were the whole realm of God,
so full of promise they become pure gift,
so full of giving they renew the promise,
blessings, like dreams of a new world
leading us forward to the light,
blessings that abound in peace
and the righteousness that cares for our neighbors,
blessings surround us as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.
What we do not yet see keeps on drawing us into its mystery,
that city where love reigns,
so fear disappears,
and all becomes praise of the blessed Trinity,
one God, now and ever.

Hymn

Bless now, O God, the journey

Sylvia G. Dunstan

Llangloffan: Welsh tune



1. Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2. Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3. Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of pro - mise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads a - cross the wa - ters on roads where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the roads where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

English Sylvia G. Dunstan, © 1991 G.I.A. Publications, Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Psalms 33:12-22

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom God has chosen as God's heritage.

The Lord looks down from heaven;
and sees all humankind.

From where God sits enthroned
God watches all the inhabitants of the earth—

God who fashions the hearts of them all,
observes all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear God,
on those who hope in God's steadfast love,
to deliver their soul from death,

and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord;

God is our help and shield.

Our heart is glad in God,

because we trust in God's holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

even as we hope in you.

Call to Prayer

Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Response

Both Sides now

by Joni Mitchell

Laura Poetzel, soprano. Yanis Eberhart, violin

*Rows and flocs of angel hair, and ice cream castles in the air
and feather canyons everywhere, I've looked at clouds that way.
But now they only block the sun, they rain and snow on everyone.
so many things I would have done, but clouds got in my way.
I've looked at clouds from both sides now from up and down, and still somehow,
it's cloud illusions I recall. I really don't know clouds at all.*

*Moons and Junes and Ferris wheels, the dizzy dancing way you feel
as every fairy tale comes real. I've looked at love that way.
But now it's just another show. You leave 'em laughing when you go.
And if you care, don't let them know. Don't give yourself away.
I've looked at love from both sides now, from give and take, and still somehow,
it's love's illusions I recall. I really don't know love at all.*

*Tears and fears and feeling proud, to say "I love you" right out loud,
dreams and schemes and circus crowds, I've looked at life that way.*

*But now old friends are acting strange.
 They shake their heads, they say I've changed.
 Well something's lost, but something's gained in living every day.
 I've looked at life from both sides now, from win and lose and still somehow,
 it's life's illusions I recall. I really don't know life at all.*

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray:

We really don't know love at all, compassionate God.

*We know more hurt and trespass,
 than grace and giving.*

*For every turning from love forgive us
 and re-turn us to the love known through you in Jesus.*

Sung Response

Jamée ma

verse 1

as taught by Marie-Catherine Ngoa Azombo: Cameroon



1. Ja - mée	ma.	Ja - mée	ma.	Ja - mée	ma	A - ta - to
2. Voo - lo	ma.	Voo - lo	ma.	Voo - lo	ma	A - ta - to
3. Voo - lo	bia.	Voo - lo	bia.	Voo - lo	bia	A - ta - to



ja - mée	ma.	E	E	E	E
voo - lo	ma.				
voo - lo	bia.				



Ja - mée	ma.	Ta - me	ja - mée	ma.
Voo - lo	ma.	Ta - me	voo - lo	ma.
Voo - lo	bia.	Ta - me	voo - lo	bia.

1. Forgive me. Lord, forgive me. 2. Save me. Lord, save me. 3. Save us. Lord, save us.
 I need your forgiveness. I need your help. We need your help.

We really don't know life at all, God of wisdom and justice,
*we know more of push and pull, of force and fear,
 than the rising spirit that comes from a smile,
 or the satisfaction of doing good that lifts us like a shimmering rainbow.
 For every turning from life forgive us,
 and re-turn us to the life offered by you as your gift in Jesus Christ.*

We really don't know you at all, God our maker.

*It is said your promises are just illusions,
like clouds that never produce rain.*

*Grant us the courage of your wisdom to imagine your realm
where goodness is stronger than evil,
where the hungry are filled with rich things,
and the rich are sent away empty,
where faith claims us and leads us toward your light in Jesus Christ.*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Hymn of Praise

It is well with my soul

Horatio G. Spafford

Philip P. Bliss: USA

1. When peace like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, when
2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - su - rance con trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my

taught me to say It is well, it is well, with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well, It is well, With my soul, with my

soul. It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

Alleluia

Dinah Reindorf: Ghana

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

© Dinah Reindorf, P.O. Box 13060, Accra, Ghana.

Gospel reading

Luke 12:32-40

The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 12.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

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

Alleluia

Hymn

Faith, while trees are still in blossom

Anders Frostenson, trans. by Fred Kaan

V. Earle Copes: USA



1. Faith, while trees are still in blossom, plans the
 2. Long be - fore the dawn is break - ing, faith an -
 3. Long be - fore the rains were com - ing, No - ah
 4. Faith, up - lift - ed, tamed the wa - ter of the
 5. Faith be - lieves that God is faith - ful: God will

pick - ing of the fruit; faith can feel the thrill of
 tic - i - pates the sun. Faith is ea - ger for the
 went and built an ark. A - bra - ham, the lone - ly
 un - di - vid - ed sea, and the peo - ple of the
 be what God will be! Faith ac - cepts the call, re -

har - vest when the buds be - gin to sprout.
 day - light, for the work that must be done.
 mi - grant, saw the light be - yond the dark.
 He - brews found the path that made them free.
 spond - ing, "I am will - ing, Lord, send me."

Words, Anders Frostenson © 1960, Ansgar Film and Bokproduction. English, Fred Kaan © 1976 Hope Publishing Co.
 Music, V. Earl Copes © 1960 renewed 1988 Hope Publishing Co.

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.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Gathering of Gifts **God of Abraham, lead us**

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



Solo

1. God of A - bra - ham, lead us, Lead us to your king - dom.

In to fruit - ful - ness, lead us. Lead us to - geth - er,

Final time

lead us to free - dom. Lead us to free - dom now.

English and Music: Bernadette Farrell © 1990 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

2. God of Sarah be with us, through our laughter and labor,
3. God of Moses and Aaron Out of slavery, lead us.
4. God of Miriam lead us, Into songs of hope, lead us.
5. God of Naomi lead us, Into love and care lead us.
6. God of Samuel, lead us. Into listening lead us.
7. God of Mary be with us, Into trusting you lead us.
8. God of Jesus Christ, lead us, Into your new creation.
9. By the waters of healing, Into life everlasting.
10. Through the word that is spoken, Through the bread that is broken.
11. God of all living people, Into unity lead us,
12. Lead us now and forever, Give us now a new future.

Offertory

Tout est fait pour la gloire de Dieu

Abel Nkuinki: Cameroon



1. Tout est fait pour la gloire de Dieu. A - men. A - men.
2. La vie c'est pour la gloire de Dieu. A - men.
3. Le culte est pour la gloire de Dieu. A - men.



Tout dépend de ce que tu en fais. A - men. A -



men. A-men. A - men. A - men.



1. Tout est fait pour la gloire de Dieu, A - men. A - men.
2. La vie c'est
3. Le culte est

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Sanctus

Santo, santo, santo

Argentina

Flowing $\text{♩} = 64$

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! ¡Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e res Se - ñor!
heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

We eat at this table until Christ comes. Here we eat the bread that becomes for us his body and we drink the wine that becomes for us 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

English adaptation Rev. Judith Bangsund

Traditional Maasai cry for help

Prayerfully (free meter)

Tune: Engoipapayai Enanu

Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the sin of the world,



have mer-cy up-on us. Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. Je - sus, O Lamb of God,
who takes a - way the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

© Tumaini University Makumira

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome for communion.

We gather around the table. Take any empty space. You will receive the bread.

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

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

Songs during communion **Don't be afraid**

Wild Goose Worship Group, Iona Community: Scotland



Don't be a-fraid. My love is strong-er, my love is strong-er than your
fear. Don't be a-fraid. My love is strong-er and
I have prom - ised, prom-ised to be al - ways near.

© 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Glasgow G51 3UU, Scotland.

Nada te turbe

♩ = 72

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te,
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en,

quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou ble,

na - da te es - pan - te, só - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en, God a - lone fills us.

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

Mungo de

Hausa: Cameroon

Mun go - de, Ba - ba mun go - de, Ba - ba
mun go - de, Al - lah sar - ki.

Soloist Al - lah Al - lah

Thank you, Father. Thank you, Father, God, the King.

Comment ne te pas louer

Cameroon traditional
English adaptation, Andrew Donaldson

Com-ment ne pas te lou-er, com-ment ne pas te lou-er?
How can we not praise your name, how can we not praise your name?

er? name? Com-ment ne pas te lou-er,
How can we not praise your name,

Fine
Sei-gneur Jé-sus? Quand je re-garde au-tour de
Je-sus our Lord? Quand je re-garde au-tour de
I look a-round me and I

moi, je vois mes soeurs. A-lors je dis mer-ci, Sei-
moi, je vois mes frères. A-lors je dis mer-ci, Sei-
see all gath-ered here; we heard your call, and we came

gneur. Com-ment ne pas te lou-er,
gneur. Com-ment ne pas te lou-er,
near. How can we not praise your name,

Leader: *D.S.*
Sei-gneur Jé-sus?
Sei-gneur Jé-sus? (Com-ment et pour-quoi?)
Je-sus our Lord?

Nita mwimbiya Bwana

Asata Choir: Democratic Republic of the Congo

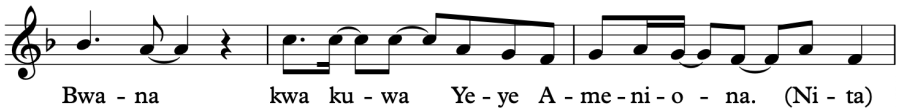
Leader



All



Leader



All



A-me-ni-o - na. A-me-ni-o - na.

me-ni-o - na. A-me-ni-o - na. A-

A-me-ni-o - na. A-me-ni-o - na.

me-ni-o - na. A-me-ni-o - na. A-

(A-me-ni-o - na.)

me - ni - o - na. (A)

1. *I will sing to the Lord because he cares for me.*
2. Ni-ta mwi-mbi-ya Bwa-na kwa ku-wa Ye-ye a-na ni pen-da. (Ni-ta)
2. *I will sing to the Lord because he loves me.*
3. Ni-ta mwi-mbi-ya Bwa-na kwa ku-wa Ye-ye a-na ni ju-wa. (Ni-ta)
3. *I will sing to the Lord because he knows me.*

Sending Forth and Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Remember Your Giving this Summer

Our congregation relies entirely on the contributions of our members to sustain our ministry, so please remember to give generously this summer. Will you be traveling? Consider setting up a regular monthly payment by bank transfer so your giving remains consistent even when you're away. Details are on our website: <https://genevalutheran.church/giving/>

SAVE THE DATE - Congregational Retreat on Saturday, 27 September

On Saturday 27 September, our congregation will gather for a day-retreat to visit the ruins of the 12th century Carthusian monastery of Oujon. The ruins are located near Arzier (not far from St-Cergue). The day will involve group time at a picnic and playground area, plus a walk through the ruins. Mark your calendar and plan to join—all ages welcome!

Looking for a Nursery Attendant this Fall

The English-Speaking Congregation is seeking a nursery attendant to care for young children on Sundays from 10h45 to 13h15. Candidates should be comfortable in English and have experience working with young children. The start date is September 2025, and the pay is Chf 25/hour. To apply, please send a message and CV to the church office: office@genevalutheran.ch. Please share this information with anyone you think might be a good fit.

Evening Worship on the First Sunday of the Month begins Sept. 7

We will re-start having services on the first Sunday of the month at 17h30 on September 7.

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: **13 September**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler or the office for more information.

Andy Willis away on vacation

Andy Willis will be away on vacation until 13 August. For administrative questions during this time, please contact the church office (office@genevalutheran.ch), and for pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Terry MacArthur (079 652 32 96).

Journée Interreligious in Lyon

On Sunday, 7 September in Lyon, there will be a day organized with guided visits to the Basilica, the Grand Synagogue and the Grand Mosque in Lyon. The day comes at the invitation of Père Christian Delorme, a long-time advocate concerning racism and inequality. The cost is CHF 30 for bus and lunch. CHF 10 for those under 25. More information can be found at the web-site, info@interreligieux.ch. The bus leaves at 8h00 and return around 19h00.

Registration at <https://forms.gle/TcqAN9e4bAy1e5mi7>, is open only until August 19, and is required. The day will be in French.

Serving at the Soup Kitchen – 6 September

Our congregation will be serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 6 September 2025. It takes place from **8h00** 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.

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

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

17 August – Group E

24 August – Group A

31 August – Group B

7 September – Group C

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

Cover Image:

Cross, Henri Edmond, 1856-1910. Landscape with Stars, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57008>

This Week's Schedule:

Sun, 17 August

11h00

Worship

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

Name

Phone

Email

Comments

New to Geneva? Y/N

Date