

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 17H30

7 SEPTEMBER 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 evening:

Prayer leader: Kiki Lawal

Reader: Maureen Gumbe

Altar care: Hellen Msemo

Assisting ministers: Elisabeth Benn, Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti,

Stephen Larson, Ana Villanueva

Ushers: Miriam & Ralei Deffenbaugh

Offering counter: Sam Mungure, Tom Taylor

Flowers: German-Speaking Congregation

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.church

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost + 7 September 2025, 17h30

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Benin, Ivory Coast, Togo*

Prelude

Evening prayer
Evita Rudžionytė; Text: Psalm 4

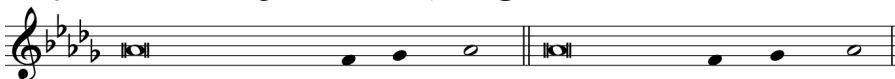
Choir

*Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
You have given me relief when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer.
O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?
But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself.
The Lord hears when I call to him.
In peace I will both lie down and sleep for you alone,
O Lord, make me dwell in safety. Answer me, O God.*

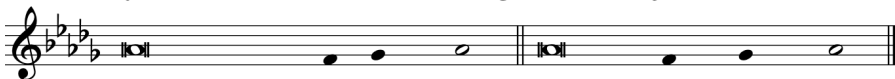
Greeting



Jesus Christ is the light of the world, ***the light no darkness can o-ver - come.***



Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, ***and the day is al-most over.***



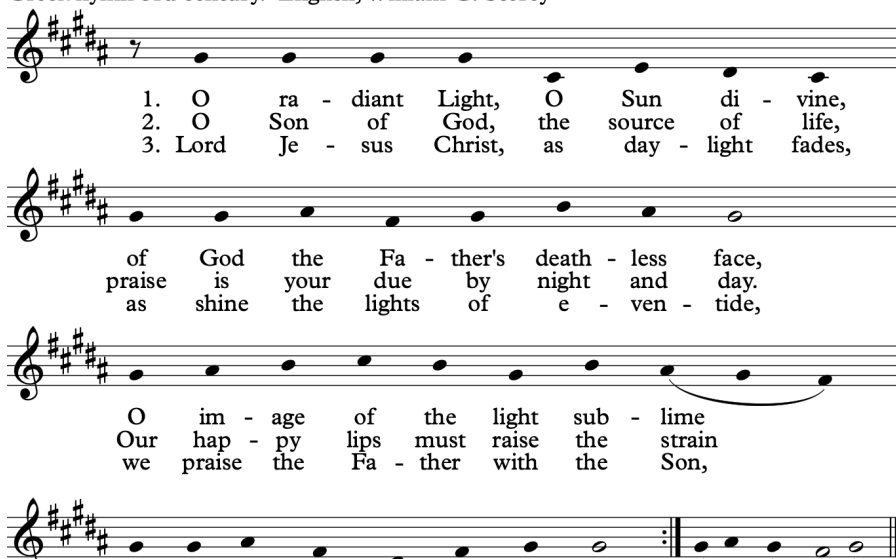
Let your light scat-ter the darkness, ***and illu-mine your church.***

Hymn of Light

O radiant Light

Jesu dulcis memoria, Plainsong mode 1

Greek hymn 3rd century. English, William G. Storey



1. O ra - diant Light, O Sun di - vine,
 2. O Son of God, the source of life,
 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, as day - light fades,

of God the Fa - ther's death - less face,
 praise is your due by night and day,
 as shine the lights of e - ven - tide,

O im - age of the light sub - lime
 Our hap - py lips must raise the strain
 we praise the Fa - ther with the Son,

that fills the heaven - ly dwell - ing place.
 of your es - teemed and splen - did name.
 the Spir - it blest and with them one. A - men.

English © William G. Storey.

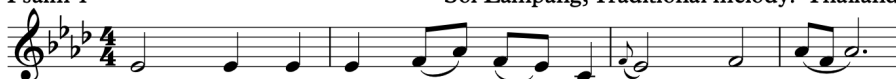
Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

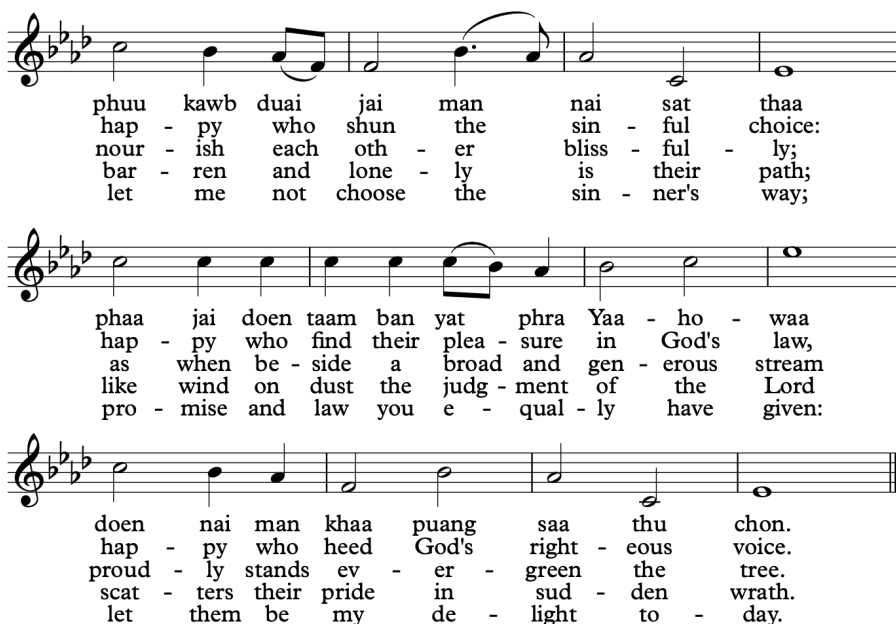
Psalm 1

Psalm 1

Soi Lampang, Traditional melody: Thailand



1. Khwaam suk yeun yong khong maa suu phuu tham chop,
 1. Hap - py the ones who walk in God's wise way,
 2. Theirs is the life where du - ty and de - light
 3. Fret - ful and anx - ious are the sin - ners' days,
 4. Lord, in your mer - cy spare me, keep me still,



phuu kawb duai jai man nai sat thaa
hap - py who shun the sin - ful choice:
nour - ish each oth - er bliss - ful - ly;
bar - ren and lone - ly is their path;
let me not choose the sin - ner's way;

phaa jai doen taam ban yat phra Yaa - ho - waa
hap - py who find their plea - sure in God's law,
as when be - side a broad and gen - erous stream
like wind on dust the judg - ment of the Lord
pro - mise and law you e - qual - ly have given:

doen nai man khaa puang saa thu chon.
hap - py who heed God's right - eous voice.
proud - ly stands ev - er - green the tree.
scat - ters their pride in sud - den wrath.
let them be my de - light to - day.

Words and music © Church of Christ in Thailand. English © Erik Routley

Reading

Luke 14:25-33

The Gospel according to Luke chapter 14.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus]; and he turned and said to them, ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

Take, O take me as I am

John L. Bell and Graham Maule

John Bell: Iona Community, Scotland

$\text{♩} = 69$

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall
be. Set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Word and Music © 1995 by WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland.

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

Ave Maria

Giuglio Caccini

Jayne Cruickshank-Magistris, soprano & Peter Jeffes, piano

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



Offering

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

English, Donald Wetherick

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sursum corda

Pastor The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

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

Preface

For the whole of creation

thanks.

For the breath of your Spirit, inviting our humanity,

thanks.

For the freedom from slavery and the gift of your Word,

thanks.

For the promise of a new world of justice and peace,

thanks.

For your Beloved, Jesus Christ, your presence in our midst,
the way, the truth, the life.

thanks.

So with all your saints of every time and place, we sing your praise.

Sanctus

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Do - mi - nus
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord

De - us Sa - ba - oth, De - us Sa - ba - oth.
God of hosts, God of hosts.

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

Eucharistic Prayer

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is Jesus Christ,
who in the evening went off to pray,
who in the night walked on the Sea of Galilee to his disciples,
who on the cross, in the day with no light,
gave up his Spirit into your hands.

Words of Institution

Remembering

Remembering Christ,
his life, his teaching, his presence with us,
we share this bread, his body, and this wine, his blood.
We proclaim the mystery of our faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Lord's Prayer

in our many languages

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.***

Agnus Dei

as sung by Hena Mwana Mberere: Tumbuka hymn: Malawi

1. He - na Mwa-na wa mbe - re - re. Wa - ku - ye - gha za
 2. Wa - ka - ye - gha M'thu - pi la - ke Wa - ka - wu - ra ku-
 3. A la - bi - ska Pa - mphi - nji - ka U - mo I - yo wa-

Refrain

kwa - na - nga zi - thu zo - se. (Wa-) Mwa - na Mbe - re - re
 zgo - ra - ko Pa - ku - mko - ma.
 ka - su - zgi - ki - ra i - se.

To verse 3 and refrain

Wa - ti - ye - ghe - ra Za kwa - na - nga Zi - thu zo - se.

1. Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away all our sins,

2. He took it away through his death,

Refrain: The Lamb of God, has taken away all our sins.

3. In his blood, all our sins are washed away

Communion

Paschal Jordan: Guyana/Trinidad and Tobago

Dark-ness now en-folds us. Day-light is at end.
Now all-power-ful Mas-ter, let your ser-vants go. Ac-
Come, O Shin-ing Pre-sence, Spir-it, be our friend.
cord-ing to your pro-mise, let us go in peace.
Ho-ver o'er the wa-ter, sleep with-in our breasts.
We have seen your sal-va-tion given to all the world: the
Calm the waves with-in us. Lead us now to rest.
Light for all the na-tions. Glo-ry to you, Lord.

© 1997 Paschal Jordan, P.O. Box 28, Bartica, Essequibo River, Guyana.

Sending Forth

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Retreat – 20 September

Our congregation has the tradition of holding an annual retreat in the fall—a chance to reconnect, worship, and enjoy one another's company. This year we plan to visit the Oujon ruins, remains of a 12th century monastery located between St-Cergue and Arzier. Members and friends of all ages are welcome to join.

What will we do?

We'll base ourselves at a picnic ground near the ruins—there will be time for conversation, singing, lunch, worship, and of course a visit to the ruins.

How do I get there?

There are at least three options:

- You can drive to the picnic ground and park there.
- You can take the train to either St-Cergue or Arzier and walk to the picnic ground (around 40 minutes).
- You can take the train to Arzier and request a ride (you can indicate if you need a ride on the registration form below). We'll try to arrange cars for those who need a lift from this station to the retreat.

When will the retreat take place?

Saturday 20 September. At the moment, we plan to begin at the picnic ground at 10h30, and we should finish by 16h.

How do I register?

You can sign up using the link in the email newsletter, via the QR code at the right, or by filling out a paper form available after the service.



Church School Starts Next Sunday

After a pause for the summer months, church school will resume on Sunday 14 September! We'll meet each Sunday during the school year (except on the first of each month, when worship is in the evening, and during school vacations). There will be two classes—one for ages 3-8, and one for 9 through confirmation age—both meeting in the top floor classrooms. Children begin the worship service with their families and return to the sanctuary in time for Communion. Questions? Contact the church office.

Women's Circle Invitation – Saturday, 13 September

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, 11 October, 8 November**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler or the office for more information.

Choir Rehearsals – Thursday Evenings

The choir of the English-Speaking Congregation is open to anyone—we meet on Thursday evenings from 19h30 until 21h00 to learn the music for the upcoming Sunday worship service and work on additional pieces. The rehearsals will be led by our music director, Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg. Come and sing! *Please note: there is no rehearsal on 11 September, on account of the Jéline Genevois holiday.*

Being With Course – Starting in October

The Being With course, developed by St Martin-in-the-Fields church in London, is an invitation into Christian life—for those who are new to the faith, and for those who wish to continue their journey. Unlike many introduction to Christianity classes, this one is not much focused on doctrine or Bible study—instead, it's "an immersive experience of learning how to be with ourselves, with others and the world around us, and learning how to be with God."



Fulata Moyo and Andy Willis will be offering the course in our congregation this October-December. More information and details on how to sign up will follow shortly.

Invitation to Join the German-Speaking Congregation's Retreat

The German-Speaking Congregation will be holding a day-long retreat on Saturday 13 September, visiting the glass museum in Romont and having lunch at the Alimentarium in Vevey, with freetime to enjoy the lakeshore afterward. The group will travel by coach bus. German language is not essential for the trip, though knowledge of French would help for the tour of the museum. The cost is Chf 100 per person, with a 50 percent reduction for those age 12-15; children under 12 are free. Contact the German-Speaking Congregation office to register: sekretariat@luther-genf.ch.

Creative Writing Group – Tuesday, 9 September 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, 26 August at 19h00. Bites will be provided. All welcome! Please contact Cynthia Wilbers or the church office for further info.

Serving at the Soup Kitchen

Our congregation will be serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 27 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:

14 September – Group D

21 September – Group E

28 September – Group A

5 October – Group B

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

Cover Image:

Interior view of Yuriria Convent, founded in 1550, Yuriria, Guanajuato, Mexico, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55661>

This Week's Schedule:

Tue, 9 Sept.	19h00	Creative writing group
Thurs, 11 Sept.		<i>No choir rehearsal (Jeûne Genevois holiday)</i>
Sat, 13 Sept.	10h00	Women's circle
Sun, 14 Sept.	11h00	Worship and church school

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 _____