

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

16 NOVEMBER 2025

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION OF THE ELCG WELCOMES YOU!

*We are followers of Jesus, seeking God's justice,
peace, and grace in personal and common witness.*

Our hope each Sunday is to go out of God's house with good courage into our diverse jobs and obligations—with family, civil society, government, business and education. We pray for the peace and well-being of all peoples. The Gospel calls us wherever we are to use our time and talents for others and for the common good.

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: Yanis Eberhart

Reader: Jonathan Mtata, Belinda Mziray

Altar care: Clare Duran

Assisting ministers: Tara Brandenburger, Simran Goraya,
Jameson Kiologwe, Naomi Mungure

Ushers: Lydia Liu, Naomi Mungure

Church school: Marc de Chassey, Pia Hannewald, Kiki Lawal, Ritu Suna

Offering counters: Johnny Camaddo, Penuel Kiondo-Zanetti

Flowers: Rumiko Jaussi

Videographers: Ray Woodcock, Breanna Ndwiga

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<https://genevalutheran.church/data-privacy/>

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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis
Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost + 16 November 2025, 11h00

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:
Aoteroa / New Zealand, Australia

Welcome

Song

Not Afraid
by Maverick City Music
Sung by Olivia Anderson, Yanis Eberhart, Simran Goraya, Bryce Morrison,
Anotidashe Mtata, Jonathan Mtata, Naomi Mungure,
Nanah Naing'olah

I found a freedom worth fighting for
I have a reason to sing a song
Yeah, I got a freedom worth dying for
And that's Jesus

I'm not afraid of the dark, 'fraid of the darkness
Everywhere that I walk, I pray to God
Who would've known?
Who would've known He would talk to me?
Took the time to walk with me, opened my eyes, now I can see

Everything's gon' be alright
Joy is coming in the morning light
Oh, weeping may endure for a night

Greeting

Bryce Morrison

Hymn (*stand*) **Christ, from whom all blessings flow**

1. Christ, from whom all bless - ings flow,
 2. Join us, in one spir - it join;
 3. Move and ac - tu - ate and guide,
 4. Nev - er from thy ser - vice move,
 5. Man - y are we now, and one,
 6. Love, like death, hath all de - stroyed,

per - fect - ing the saints be - low, hear us who thy
 let us still re - ceive of thine; still for more on
 di - verse gifts to each di - vide; placed ac - cord - ing
 need - ful to each oth - er prove; use the grace on
 we who Je - sus have put on; there is neith - er
 ren - dered all dis - tinc - tions void; names and sects and

na - ture share, who thy mys - tic bod - y are.
 thee we call, thou who fill - est all in all.
 to thy will, let us all our work ful - fill.
 each be - stowed, tem - pered by the art of God.
 bond nor free, male nor fe - male, Lord, in thee.
 par - ties fall; thou, O Christ, art all in all!

Call to Prayer (*sit*)

Prayer of Confession

It would be a lot easier, gracious God,
 if we were all loving, gentle, and wise,
 whole in body, mind, and spirit,
 serving you and those you love with one heart.

*But we confess we are not free
from our own preferences,
from our own gnawing resentments,
from our own selfish wants.*

The stranger is not always welcomed.
The difficult are too often ignored.
Connections can easily fray
with hurts repeated or strengths ignored.
Lifting each other up can become a burden
with the joy draining away.

In your mercy, turn us to each other
so we embrace each other in your love,
suffering together,
rejoicing together,
falling together,
picking each other up,
laughing together in the faithful folly
of trying to follow the way of the cross of Jesus Christ,
leading to life full and free.

Kyrie

Ellison Suri: Solomon Islands

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music © 1996 Ellison Suri, Church of Melanesia, P.O. Box 19, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Lord have mercy.

Words of Forgiveness

Hymn of Praise (*stand*)

Mipela i bung

Psalm 68:26 Neo-Melanesian

Traditional: Papua New Guinea

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

1. ten - kim yu tru.
 come more like you.

2. tru. Long dis - pe la
 you. In wor - ship we

lo - tu ol pi - pel i bung wan - taim yu.
 long to be one with each oth - er and you.

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Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Epistle Reading (*sit*)

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members,
and all the members of the body, though many, are one body,
 so it is with Christ.

For in the one Spirit
we were all baptized into one body—
 Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—
and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is,

God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, ***but the members may have the same care for one another.***

If one member suffers,
all suffer together with it;
if one member is honored,
all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

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

Alleluia (*stand*)

Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker: Australia



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The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 5.

Glory to you, O Lord.

One day, while [Jesus] was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem were sitting nearby, and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a stretcher. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.” Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the one who was paralyzed—“I say to you, stand up and take your stretcher and go to your home.” Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen incredible things today.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Sermon (*sit*)

*Olivia Anderson, Yanis Eberhart, Simran Goraya,
Bryce Morrison, Anotidashe Mtata, Nanah Naing’olah*

Many are the light-beams

Olle Widestrand: Sweden

Music © Olle Widestrand, Kälkbacksgatan 1, S-554 46 Jönköping, Sweden. Swedish © AF-Foundation Hymns and Songs/Verbum, S-104 65 Stockholm, Sweden. English © Estate of David Lewis, Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7HL, England.

*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 (*sit*)

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Peace (*stand*)

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

Gathering of Gifts (*sit*)

*Knocking on your front doorstep
Music by Jonathan Mtata*

*Knocking on Your front doorstep I've
Been trying to find a way to be set but
My Lord, my soul can't take it I'll
Be running from the start to my death I
Don't know what's going on
All these times is flowing on
All these sins are growing on me*

*Refrain: But God, your faith still covers me
You've been looking like redeemer
Your love is comforting
I've been searching for some peace
I, been looking, searching, finding
Ways to be your one from ninety
To be the one you saved
And to be the one to Praise you Lord.*

*2. I know that God has been watching you
Hiding in the shadows maybe true
You gotta keep up looking for Him too
Till the day that He finds you
I don't want to waste my days
I just want to take Your ways
I just want to say I'm found
Be able to say
Mwari mati sei
(God, what did you say)*

*Almighty God
Lord of my heart
Take away the sins in path
Break away the chains I have on
I have on*

Refrain

*Remember that God is watching you
I don't want you to fall back through
Lord I need You to be my guide
I don't want you to leave my side
Remember Remember
That God is here*

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by bank transfer (details on the back of the bulletin), or by TWINT.*

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Offertory (*stand*) We raise our hands to you, O Lord

Norwegian, Svein Ellingsen. English, Hedwig T. Durnbaugh Trond Kverno: Norway

1. We raise our hands to you, O Lord, like
 2. What good and bless - ing you bes - tow is
 3. We lift our hands to you, O God, our
 4. O make our bar - ren trees to grow our

emp - ty ves - sels. Come to us, God, and
 free - ly giv - en. Your power will make the
 world up - hold - ing. Let those who suf - fer
 hands to blos - som, and let our lives bring

give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.
 weak - est strong and bar - ren branch - es start to bud.
 shel - ter find from hu - man hearts of ice and snow.
 forth such fruit that heals our neigh - bor's grief and pain.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

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

Preface

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
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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

At this the table of Jesus Christ,
we remember that as we eat this bread, we become his body.
As we drink this wine, we become his blood.
We proclaim the mystery of our faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

*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

Anakdomba 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.

Communion

All are welcome for communion. We gather around the table. Take any empty space. You will receive the bread. Then choose a cup: dark cup for receiving wine or a lighter cup for grape juice. When you have drunk, place the used cup on the next tray. Sisters and brothers, come, let us receive the gifts of God together.

Far beyond our mind's grasp

Caturog Na Nonoy, Bicol folksong: Philippines

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

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

sa	-	kit,	Sa	-	la	na	-	ming	ta	-	o
with	-	fail:	lift	-	ed	once	on	Cal	-	vary,	
yours	by	choice,	death	can	nev	-	er	snatch	us		
bread	and	wine.	Here	what	sweet	con	-	tent	-	ment	
peace	and	grace.	May	our	lives	be		al	-	tars	

nang	i -	young	a -	ku -	in	Wa -	lang	hang -
sin	and	weak -	ness	bear -	ing,	O	Lord,	how -
from	your	ho -	ly	pres -	ence,	your	prom -	ise
know	-	ing	that	you	love	We	thank	you
glow	-	ing	with	your	Spir -	to	light	the
				it				

ga - nan,	Diyos,	ang 'yong	pag - i	-	big.
won - der - ful		you call	us through	the	veil.
is for life;		we on	-	ly can	re - joice.
for this feast,		this fel	-	low - ship	di - vine.
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

This is my body

Edward Bonnemère: African American

D7(b9) Gm
 This is my bod - y giv - en up for you, this is my
 G° Fmaj7 D7(b9)
 blood poured out for you. This is my bod - y giv - en
 Gm Fmaj7 Gm/C F(add4)
 up for you, this is my blood poured out for you.
 F D7(b9) Gm G° Fmaj7
 Bod - y of Christ, A - men. Blood of Christ. A - men.
 D7(b9) Gm Fmaj7 C7 F(add4) F
 Bod - y of Christ, A - men. Blood of Christ. A - men.

Music © Amity Music Corp.

I will live for you alone

Trisha Watts: Australia

C F G C F
 I will live for you a - lone, for you a - lone I'll live.
 C G C G
 Heal me. Heal me. Heal me and let me live.

© 1992 Trisha Watts, Willow Connection Pty. Ltd., PO Box 341, Dee Why, NSW 2099 Australia.

He came singing love

Colin A Gibson: Aoteroa/New Zealand

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'He came sing - ing love and he lived sing - ing love; he died sing - ing love. He a - rose in si - lence. For the love to go on we must make it our song; you and I be the sing - ers.' A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it in the first line.

He came sing - ing love and he lived sing - ing love; he died sing - ing
love. He a - rose in si - lence. For the love to go on we must
make it our song; you and I be the sing - ers.

English and Music © 1994 Hope Publishing Company.

2. *Faith* replaces *love*.

3. *Hope* replaces *love*.

3. *Peace* replaces *love*.

Sending Forth (*stand*)

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements (*sit*)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you...

... to our congregation's young adults' group for all their work in planning, preparing, and leading today's worship service!

Congregational Assembly – Sunday 23 November

Our annual year-end assembly will take place in person following worship next Sunday, 23 November. During the meeting, we will adopt a budget for 2026 and elect a nominating committee for new members of the church council.

Assembly materials were sent to all members by email this past week. If you did not receive the message or would like a hard copy of the assembly reports sent by post, please contact the church office. For those unable to attend in person, it will be possible to attend via Zoom—a link will be sent out this coming week. Members, please plan to attend—your voice is important, and we need at least 50 members for a quorum.

Stewardship for 2026: *Sustained by One Spirit and Many Gifts*

We are currently in the midst of our annual fall stewardship campaign, reflecting on the bounty of our combined gifts and talents. In worship, we are reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians and considering the rich array of gifts in our faith community. What are the gifts that God has given to you? What are the gifts from our community that sustain you?

We are now encouraged to offer our estimates of giving for the coming year. Giving forms are available to take with you this morning; these will also be sent by email this coming week. Please take this step of participating in our ministry in an intentional way in the year ahead.

Nursery Care Available for Young Children

Nursery care is available during worship on Sunday mornings for children age 3 and under. Two paid staff—Simone Lange and Beatrice Tarimo—will alternate weeks working in the nursery from 11h00 to 13h00. Children are always welcome in worship, but for families who wish, this option will now be available. Contact the church office with any questions.

Young Adults' Group

If you're 18-30, you have a place here! Join our young adults group to grow in faith, build friendships, and walk with Christ. We'll be meeting up one Friday and one Saturday per month at church (top floor). To get connected, please text or approach Naomi (+41762146607), Olivia (+41764493137), or Ano (+41795502633).

Creative Writing Group – Tuesday, 18 November at 19h00

Everyone who loves to write is invited to join the 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, 18 November 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, 13 December 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.

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: **5 December at 6.30 pm, Christmas dinner in the gemeinderaum.** Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, or the office for more information.

More Righteous Eyes, Singing 22 November at 9h30

We are preparing a flexible hymnbook for our congregation with hymns and liturgy that we use often in our worship. This should save some photocopying costs as well as be more ecological with paper. The best way of finding mistakes is to sing through everything, with many eyes in correction mode and red pencils at hand. We will be singing songs from all over the world that have become part of our repertoire. What we lose in strained eyesight searching for a misspelled *heaven*, we gain in the joy of singing songs that continue to encourage our faith. We will do this again in the Gemeinderaum, Saturday 22 November, 9:30-11:30. Coffee will be available.

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

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

23 November – Group D

30 November – Group E

7 December – Group A

14 December – Group B

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

Cover image:

Photo by [Marlis Trio Akbar](#) on [Unsplash](#)

This Week's Schedule:

Tues, 18 Nov	19h00	Being With course
	19h00	Creative writing group
Wed, 19 Nov	12h00	Being With course
Thurs, 20 Nov	19h30	Choir rehearsal
Sat, 22 Nov	9h30	Hymnbook singing
Sun, 23 Nov	9h45	Confirmation class
	11h00	Worship and church school
	12h45	Congregational assembly
<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 _____