

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

CHRISTMAS DAY



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

25 DECEMBER 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:

Readers: Breidy Family

Prayer leader: Clarissa Balan

Altar care: Marian Frerichs

Assisting ministers: Gladys Kiptum, Fulata Moyo,
Jonathan Mtata, Sarah Stephens

Ushers: Antoinette Djamen, Sarah Fröhling, Abigail Muros

Offering counters: Fulata Moyo, Tom Taylor

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/>*

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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Christmas Day + 25 December 2025

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:

China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan

Baptism of Christian Breidy

Welcome

Prelude

Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Greeting (*rise*)

On Christmas Day, we sing peace
*and rejoice that messengers keep announcing
the good news of God's reign.*

On Christmas Day, we discover the Word, from oldest times,
*still crying like a baby in need,
and warning like a wild prophet.*

From our beginnings this word has not only spoken
*but lives in us with truth and grace,
as vibrant as a tune that won't let go,
as subtle as an unexpected smile.*

On Christmas Day, we come joyful and triumphant,
practicing what it means to worship and adore Christ the Lord.

Hymn

O come, all ye faithful

*1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold, born the king of angels:*

Refrain: O come let us adore him, (3x) Christ the Lord.

*2. The highest, most holy, light of life Eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!*

**3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God—in—the—highest!**

**4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the father, now in flesh appearing!**

Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for God has done marvelous things.
God's right hand and holy arm have given God the victory.
The LORD has made known God's victory;
and has revealed God's vindication in the sight of the nations.
God has remembered having steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the Ruler, the LORD.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD,
for God is coming to judge the earth.

God will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Litany

Adapted by Terry MacArthur

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*For the peace from above and for
our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.*



*For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

*For this holy house, and for all who
offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.*



*For this parish and city, for every city and
country, and for the faithful who live in them,
let us pray to the Lord.*

*For travelers by land, sea, and air,
for the sick, the suffering, the captives,
let us pray to the Lord.*



*For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger,
and distress, let us pray to the Lord.*

*Help, save, comfort,
and defend us gracious Lord.*

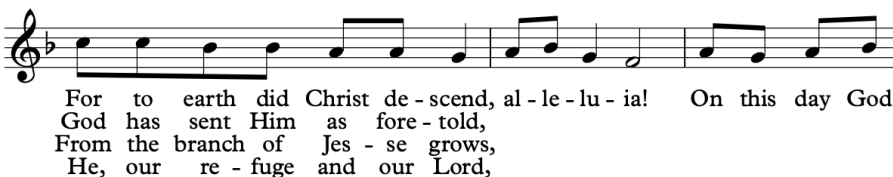


Hymn of Praise

Let our gladness have no end

Verses 1 and 2

Bohemian carol



Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise

Let our gladness have no end

Verses 3 and 4

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

Adapted by Terry MacArthur

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has two staves: a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The melody begins with a half note 'hm' and then continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second system also has two staves. The treble staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le' and the bass staff provides accompaniment. The third system continues the melody and accompaniment with the lyrics 'lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu.' The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4.

Gospel

John 1:1-14

The Gospel according to John, chapter 1.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Adapted by Terry MacArthur from a Polish Christmas carol

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu.

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

Love has come

Ken Bible

Un flambeau F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*

1. Love has come - a light in the dark - ness! Love shines
2. Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is
3. Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is
forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has
God now a - sleep in the hay. See the glow in the
life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with -

come to pro-claim it; hear how their song of joy a -
eyes of his mo - ther; what is the name her heart is
in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our hearts are

ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
Christ - mas; Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

English © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna Music

Baptism of Christian Breidy

Presentation

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father?

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

***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 to judge the living and the dead.*

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
*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*

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Baptism

Welcome

Sung Response

Gloria in excelsis Deo

French carol

Glo

in ex-cel-sis De - o. Glo

ria



Prayers of Intercession (*sit*)

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Peace (*rise*)

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

Gathering of Gifts (*sit*) *Healing Light: A Celtic prayer*
by Karl Jenkins

Choir

*Deep piece of the running wave to you,
deep peace of the flowing air to you,
deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Amen.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
deep peace of the gentle night to you,
moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Amen.
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world, to you,
deep peace of Christ to you,
deep peace of Christ, the light of the world, to you. Amen*

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.*

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Offertory (rise)

What child is this

vs. 3

William C. Dix

English ballad

So bring Christ in - cense, gold and myrrh; come peas - ant, king, to
own him. The King of Kings sal - va - tion brings; let
lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the song on high, the
vir - gin sings her lul - la - by; joy, joy, for
Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y.

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Mabel Wu: Hong Kong

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Blest is He who comes in the name of the
Lord our God. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Melody, Mabel Wu © 1994 Taosheng Publishing House, Hong Kong.

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

At this table we remember Jesus Christ, and all his gifts to us.

With this bread he offers us his body.

With this cup we drink his salvation.

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.***

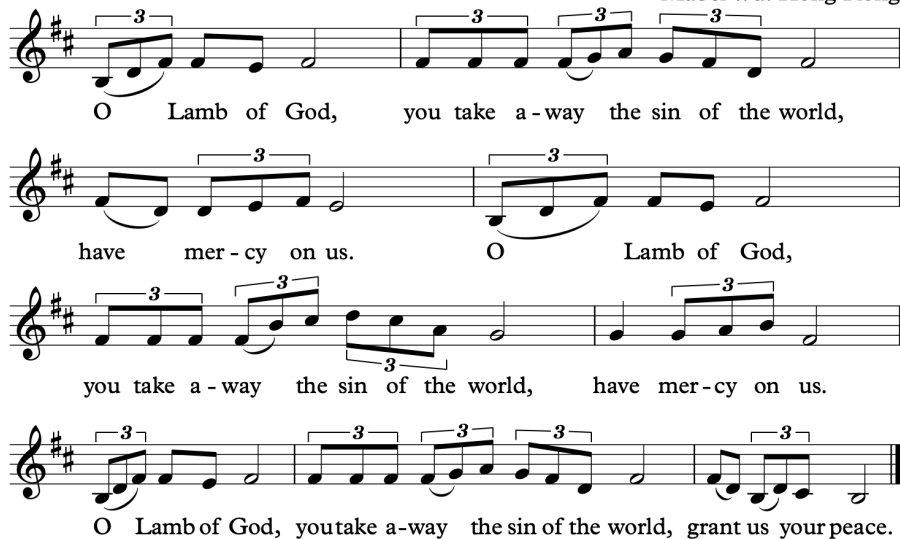
***Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.***

*For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.*

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God

Mabel Wu: Hong Kong



O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,
have mer-cy on us. O Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.
O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Melody, Mabel Wu © 1994 Taosheng Publishing House, Hong Kong.

Communion

All are welcome for communion. You are invited to walk past the creche and then to the place of distribution. After receiving the bread, pick up a cup.

The dark-colored pitcher has wine, the lighter one has grape juice.

After drinking, place the cup on the tray and return to your seat.

We begin with the choir and then move across the room toward the side door.

After the main floor, the people in the balconies come.

Songs during Communion

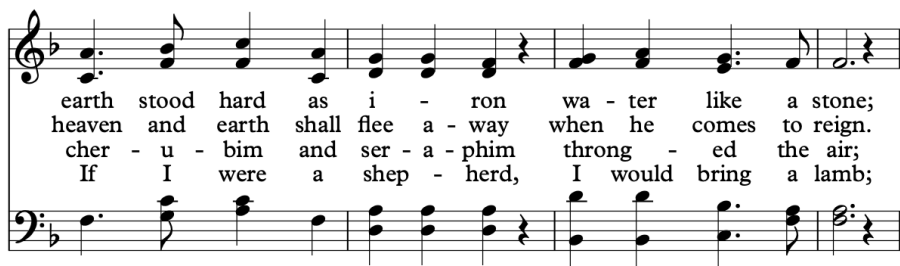
In the bleak midwinter

Christina G. Rossetti

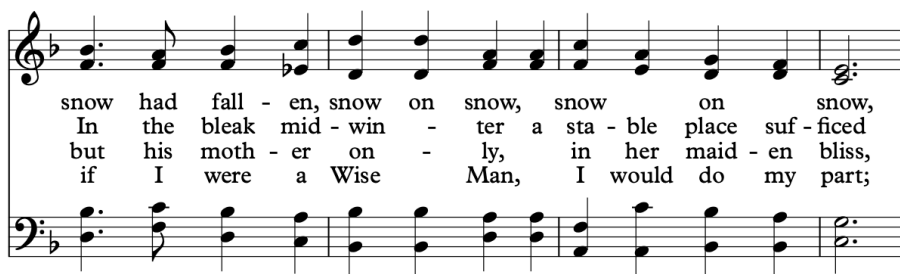
Gustav Holst: England




1. In the bleak mid-win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4. What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim throng - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;



in the bleak mid-win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord God Al-might - y Je - susChrist.
 wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Amezaliwa Bwana

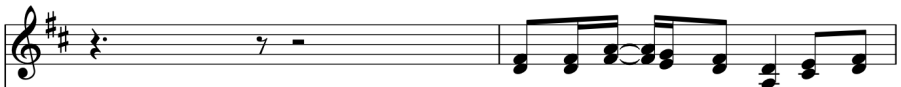
Edwardi Kabuka: Tanzania



1. A - me - za - li - wa Bwa - na a - me - za - li - wa Ye - su
 2. Ye - su mwa - na wa Mun - gu Ye - su mwa - na wa Mun - gu
 3. U - le u - ku - ta sa - sa U - le u - ku - ta sa - sa



a - me - za - li - wa. a - me - za - li - wa.
 a - me - ji - to - a, a - me - ji - to - a,
 a - me - bo - mo - a, a - me - bo - mo - a,



a - me - za - li - wa. a - me - za - li - wa. Bwa - na wa Ma - bwa - na a - me -
 a - me - ji - to - a, a - me - ji - to - a, A - me - ku - ja ku - tu - ko - mbo -
 a - me - bo - mo - a, a - me - bo - mo - a, Ye - su ni u - pa - ta - ni - sho

tenor only

bass only



za - li - wa le - o sa - sa na tu - pi - ge vi - ge - le - ge - le
 a we - nye dha - mbi.
 we - tu na Mun - gu.



na tu - pi - ge ma - ko - fi ma - ra ta - tu.





1. *The Lord is born. Jesus is born. The Lord of Lords is born.*

Refrain: Let us now trill (special sound produced with the tongue in a half-closed mouth.) and clap our hands three times. Let's adore the Lord our Savior.

2. *Jesus, the Son of God, has dedicated himself. He has come to redeem sinners.*

3. *The wall now has been destroyed. Jesus is our reconciliation with God.*

Jesus, Jesus, what a wonderful child

African-American spiritual

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful

The first system of the musical score is in 12/8 time, key of D major. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note A, and a quarter rest. This pattern repeats for the first two measures. In the third measure, the melody moves to a half note G, followed by a half note F# (marked with a flat), then a half note E, and a half note D. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

child. Je - sus, Je - sus, so

The second system continues the melody. The treble staff has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The second measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The third measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The fourth measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment.

ho - ly, meek, and mild; new life, new hope the

The third system continues the melody. The treble staff has a whole note chord in the first measure, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The second measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The third measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The fourth measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment.

Child will bring. Lis - ten to the an - gels sing,

The fourth system continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note G, followed by a half note F# (marked with a flat), then a half note E, and a half note D. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment.

"Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

The fifth system concludes the melody. The treble staff has a whole note chord in the first measure, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The second measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The third measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The fourth measure has a quarter note G, a quarter rest, and a quarter note A. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment.

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

Christmas Worship Continues – 28 December

Our celebration of Jesus's birth continues with worship this Sunday, 28 December at 11h00. All are welcome!

Administrative Assistant on Vacation

Riza Le Geyt will be on vacation until 6 January. The office will be closed during this time, but emails and phone messages will be checked regularly. For any urgent matters, please contact Pastor Andy directly at 079 544 70 12.

Correcting Hymns for the New Song Collection

The final section of our new song collection awaits a corrective singing. These are favorite hymns that our congregation uses again and again, and we find mistakes as we sing. You can come for the pleasure of singing together, this Saturday, 27 December, 10h00 until noon in the church. In honor of the Christmas season, we will add in a carol or two.

Consider a Year-End Gift to the Congregation

For many, Christmas is a time for giving thanks and expressing generosity. Please consider a gift to the congregation as the year comes to a close, perhaps in thanks for the role it has played in your life or your family's life this year. It is possible to give via bank or post transfer, PayPal, TWINT, or in cash during an upcoming worship service. All the details are on our website, and any gift is meaningful and a great help: <https://genevalutheran.church/giving/>

Thank you for generosity and your part in our community's life

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This Week's Schedule:

Sat, 27 Dec	10h00	Song collection corrective singing
Sun, 28 Dec	11h00	Worship, Rev. Sarah Stephens preaching
<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. Thank you for your support! 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”.

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

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