

# EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 17H30

4 JANUARY 2026

# 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](http://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:

*Reader:* Nina Kiderlin

*Prayer leader:* Vivienne Talsma

*Altar care:* Marian Frerichs

*Assisting ministers:* Elisabeth Benn, Fulata Moyo

*Ushers:* Asha Simpson, Fulata Moyo

*Coffee Hour:* Neighborhood Group E

*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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***English-Speaking Congregation***  
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[www.genevalutheran.ch](http://www.genevalutheran.ch)

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Second Sunday after Christmas + 4 January, 2026

In anticipation of Epiphany

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine*

Guest Preacher and Presider: Rev. Terry MacArthur

Quieting

Koko Taylor, Oud

Greeting (*rise*)



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 heav - 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 (*sit*)

The Lord be with you  
*and also with you.*

## From Psalm 72

### Antiphon

Psalm 72:7

*Cantor*

Itonde Kahoma



In his days, may righteousness flourish,



*and peace a - bound until the moon is no more.*

Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the king's son,  
that he may rule your people righteously,  
and your poor with justice;  
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,  
and the hills in righteousness.

### Sung Antiphon

Let him defend the needy among the people,  
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

### Sung Antiphon

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.  
Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,  
like the showers that water the earth.

### Sung Antiphon

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,  
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.  
May all kings bow down before him, and all nations do him service.  
For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,  
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.  
He has compassion on the lowly and poor,  
and preserves the lives of the needy.  
From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,  
and precious is their blood in his sight.

### Sung Antiphon

Gospel Reading (*rise*)

Matthew 2:1-12

The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 2.  
***Glory to you, O Lord.***

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;

and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.'

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sermon (*sit*)

Terry MacArthur

Hymn (*rise*)

**When heaven's bright with mystery**

Rob Johns

Sussex Carol



1. When heav - en's bright with mys - ter - y and
2. When Her - od bar - ters power and lives and
3. When fra - gile faith, like de - sert wind, blows
4. When hea - ven's bright with mys - ter - y and



sci - ence search - es na - ture's art, when all cre - a - tion  
 Ra - chel's weep - ing fills the night, when suf - fering's mask marks  
 dry and emp - ty, hope e - rased, when with - ered grass and  
 stars still lead an un - known way, when love still lights a

years for peace and hope sinks deep in  
 ev - ery face, and Love's a ref - u -  
 fad - ing flower pro - claim a - gain our  
 gen - tle path where courts of power can

hu - man hearts, ap - pear to us, O Ho - ly  
 gee in flight, re - veal to us your word of  
 day's brief space, breathe on the clay of our de -  
 hold no sway, there with the Ma - gi, let us

Light; lift from our eyes the shades of night.  
 grace, and make us wit - ness to your peace.  
 spair and work a new cre - a - tion there.  
 kneel, our gifts to share, God's world to heal.

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*)      *Go light your world*      *Bismark Sitorus*  
*English and Music by Chris Rice*

1. *There is a candle in every soul. some brightly burning, some dark and cold.  
 There is a spirit who brings a fire, ignites a candle and makes his home.*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness.*

*Seek out the helpless, confused and torn. Hold out your candle for all to see it.*

*Take your candle, and go light your world. (2x)*

2. *Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to light his own candle some other way.*

*See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to,  
 still holds a candle without a flame.*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness.*

*Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn.*

*Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle, and go light your world. (2x)*

3. *'Cause we are a family whose hearts are blazing  
so let's raise our candles and light up the sky,  
praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus make us a beacon in darkest times.*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness.  
Seek out the helpless, deceived and poor. Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle, and go light your world. (2x)*

*Carry your candle, run to the darkness.  
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn. Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle, and go light your world. (3x)*

***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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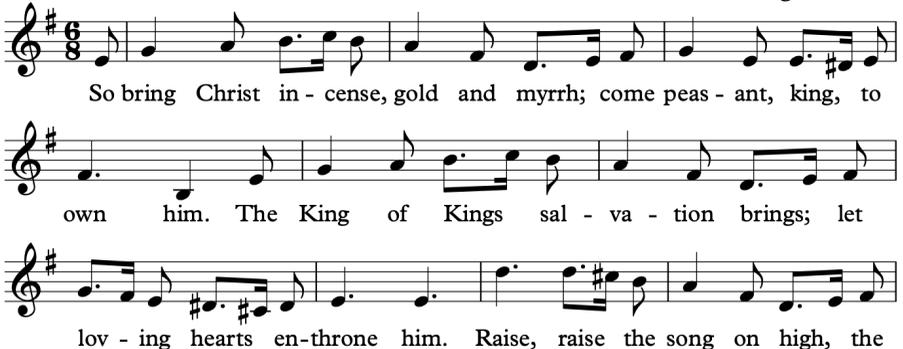
Offertory (*rise*)

**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

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

From the Mass of the Holy Family

Yusuf Khill: Palestine



Qu - du - son qu - du - son qu - du - so - ni - Ra - bul - qa  
Most Ho - ly, Most Ho - ly, Most Ho - ly Lord God of



wi - yu I - la - hu - sa - ba - 'ot a - sa -  
power and might, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth. All of



ma - 'u - wal - 'ar - du mam lu - 'a - 'ta - ni min maj - di - ka Hu -  
hea - ven and all of the earth are full of your ma - jes - ty. Ho -



sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a - li, hu - sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a - li, hu sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a -  
sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high



li, Mu - ba - ra - kon al - 'a - ti mu -  
est. Most bless - ed is the one who comes, the



ba - ra kon - al - 'a - ti bis - mi - Rab. Hu - sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a - li, hu -  
one who comes to us in our Lord's name. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho -



sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a - li, hu - sha' - na fil - 'a - 'a - li.  
sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Music © Yusuf Khill. English paraphrase by Maggie Hamilton © 1999 Counterpoint.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### 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

Ya hamalaLah

From the Mass of the Holy Family

Yusuf Khill: Palestine

Ya ha - ma - la - Lah al - ha - mel kha - ta - yal -  
 O Lamb of God, you take a - way the

'a - lam Ir - ham - na. Ya ha - ma - la - Lah al -  
 sins of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Lamb of God, you

ha - mel kha - ta - yal - 'a - lam im -  
 take a - way the sins of the world, grant

nah - na - sa - lam, im - nah - na - sa - lam, im - nah - na - sa - lam.  
 us your peace, grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Music ©Yusuf Khill.

## Communion

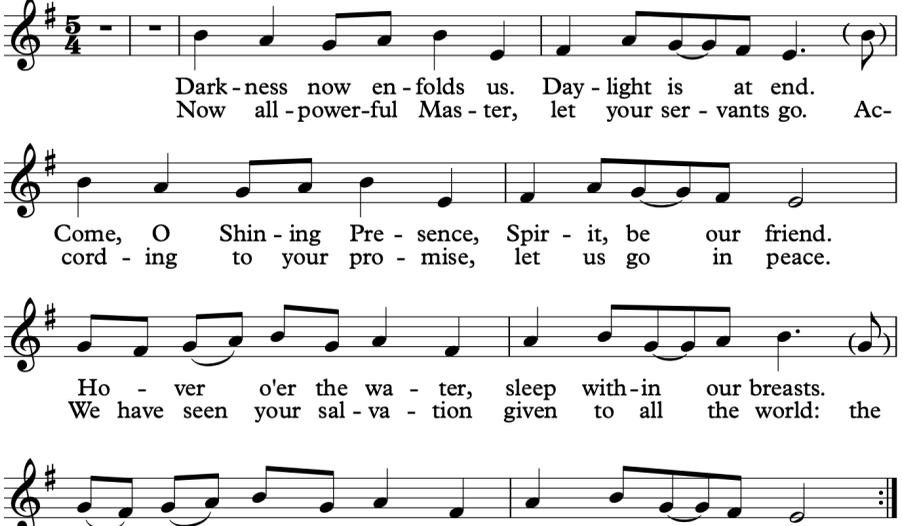
*All are welcome for communion. We gather around the table. Take any empty space. You will receive the bread. Then choose a cup: a dark cup for receiving wine, a lighter cup for grape juice. When you have drunk, place the used cup on the next tray. Sisters and brothers, come, let us receive the gifts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

## Hymn at the end of Communion

### Darkness now enfolds us

Paschal Jordan: Trinidad and Tobago

$\text{♩} = 84$



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 Mount St. Benedict Abby, Trinidad.

## 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

## **Next Sunday – 11 January, 11h00**

We return to the morning time for worship to celebrate the Baptism of Christ, the traditional reading for the First Sunday after Epiphany. Rev. Andy Willis will preside and preach.

## **Church School**

Church school restarts next Sunday during the worship service. Children begin the worship service with their families and return to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

At every baptism we promise as a community to support the baptized in their growth in the the Christian faith. Church school is one way we do that. At the start of this New Year, you could help our community keep its commitment by becoming part of the team of teachers who minister to the children who come. If you are interested contact the church office.

## **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).

## **New Year's Concert & Apéro – 12 January 2026 at 18:00**

The start of a new year is a perfect moment to pause, reflect, and share something beautiful together. Music has a special way of inviting introspection and setting the tone for what's to come. We warmly invite you to spend the evening of Monday, January 12, with Yanis Eberhart and friends, enjoying an hour of captivating music by Matteis, Biber, Telemann, and Leclair. After the concert, please stay for an apéro with crêpes, and take time to chat, reconnect, and celebrate the new year together. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

*Free entrance — offerings gratefully accepted*

### **Singing favorite hymns--Saturday, 10 January, 10h30-12h30 Sanctuary**

The final section of our new hymn collection still needs a sing-through. As we sing, we find mistakes (often) in both the music and the words. We need some who are proficient with red pencils. But others, less eagle-eyed, can also come and enjoy singing. Help us finish this project.

### **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!

Between music lessons and choir, Katharina has supper. You can bring some food and join her at 18h45.

### **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: **17 January, 21 February, 14 March, 18 April**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, or the office 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:

11 January – Group A

18 January – Group B

25 January – Group C

1 February – Group D

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

Cover image:

Villeneuve-sur-Lot Chapelle Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-et-de-Toute-Joie (chapelle du Bout du Pont),

Photographer: Mossot

from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55313>

**Upcoming Events:**

<b>Thurs, 8 Jan</b>	<b>19h30</b>	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
<b>Sat, 10 Jan</b>	<b>10h30</b>	Hymn corrections, Sanctuary
<b>Sun, 11 Jan</b>	<b>11h00</b>	Worship and church school, Rev. Andy Willis

*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. 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”.

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**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.*

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New to Geneva? Y/N _____	Date _____