

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00

26 JULY 2026

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: Jonathan Mtata

Reader: Elysia Kit

Altar care: Asha Simpson, Joanita Kalibala

Assisting ministers: Gladys Kiptum, May Chin Long, Jelimo Yegon, Yetich Yegon

Ushers: Sabrina Xu, Xena Xu

Offering counters: May Chin Long, Ana Villanueva

Flowers: Maryssa Camaddo

Refreshments: Neighborhood Group D

Videographers: Gareth Kit, Breanna Ndwiga, Ray Woodcock

Photo by [Duncan Kidd](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva

English-Speaking Congregation

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www.genevalutheran.church

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis

Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost + 26 July 2026, 11h00

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda*

Guest Presider and Preacher: Rev. Prof. Dirk Lange

Guest Organist: Dr. Bernice Elger

Welcome

Prelude

Bernice Elger

Greeting (*rise*)

Love, like a priceless pearl,

love, like a bit of yeast making the whole loaf rise,

love, like a mustard seed growing into a tree,

love, like a treasure, for which we would trade all that we have,

the love of God draws us together here,

nearer to our center, our aim, our source:

Jesus Christ, who frees us from fears and sadness,

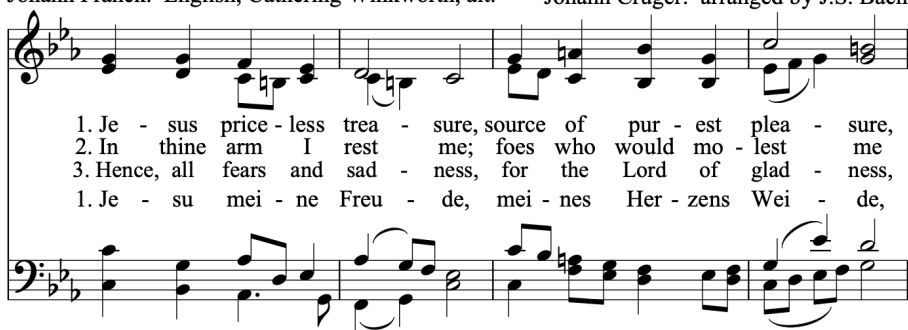
so loving becomes our joy,

and our lives become treasured in the praise of the Blessed Trinity,

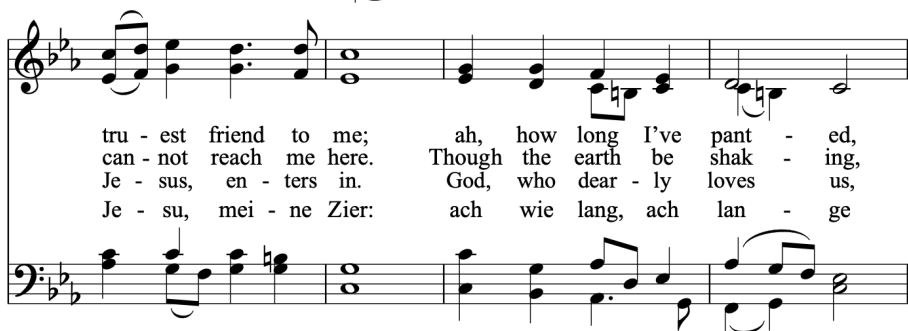
one God now and ever.

Hymn (*rise*)

Jesus, priceless treasure



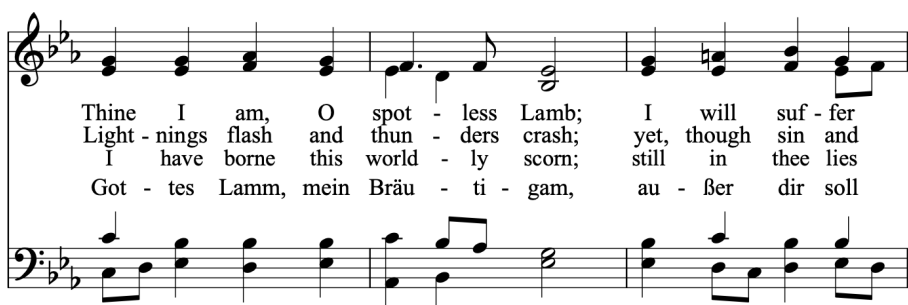
1. Je - sus price - less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
 2. In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
 3. Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,
 1. Je - su mei - ne Freu - de, mei - nes Her - zens Wei - de,



tru - est friend to me; ah, how long I've pant - ed,
 can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear - ly loves us,
 Je - su, mei - ne Zier: ach wie lang, ach lan - ge



and my heart has faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee!
 ev - ery heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear;
 from all tri - al saves us, gives sweet peace with - in;
 ist dem Her - zen ban - ge und ver - langt nach dir!



Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb; I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash and thun - ders crash; yet, though sin and
 I have borne this world - ly scorn; still in thee lies
 Got - tes Lamm, mein Bräu - ti - gam, au - ßer dir soll



Psalm 119:129-136

Your decrees are wonderful;
Therefore, my soul keeps them.
 The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.

With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.
 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom toward those who love your name.

Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
 Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.
 Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

Thanksgiving for Baptism: (*sit*)

using Romans 8:26-39

Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness;
 for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes
 with sighs too deep for words.

And God, who searches the heart,
 knows what is the mind of the Spirit,
 because the Spirit intercedes for the saints
 according to the will of God.

Prayer

Spirit of Love,
*thank you for searching our hearts,
for understanding us better than we know ourselves,
for turning us to the paths that lead to life.
Thank you for washing us
so we see with clear eyes the presence of Jesus Christ with us.*

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom [God] foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Prayer

God of goodness and love,
*thank you for making us yours,
for washing away what holds us back,
for restoring in us your image,
so we might be conformed to your Beloved, Jesus Christ,
our calling, our justification, our glory.*

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Prayer

We thank you Christ Jesus,
*for the gift of your love,
poured over us with a grace we cannot fathom.
Renew us
so each seed of goodness blossoms into a harvest of kindness,
and each smile of hospitality
grows like a tree sheltering an ever-expanding family,
rejoicing in following you.*

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things

we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death,

nor life,

nor angels,

nor rulers,

nor things present,

nor things to come,

nor powers,

nor height,

nor depth,

nor anything else in all creation,

will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hymn of Praise

Yesu ni Wangu

as taught by George Arende

Leader

1. Ye - su ni Wa-ngu wa_u - zi - ma wa mi - le - le
2. A - na - tu - pe - nda
3. Tu - na - m - pe - nda

People

1. Ye - su ni Wa-ngu
2. A - na - tu - pe - nda
3. Tu - na - m - pe - nda

wa_u - zi - ma
wa mi - le - le, wa mi - le - le,

wa_u - zi - ma wa_u - zi - ma wa_u - zi - ma.
wa mi - le - le, wa mi - le - le, wa mi - le - le

1. Christ is in me forever and ever.
2. He loves us forever and ever.
3. We love him forever and ever.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As taught by Beatrice Mukhtar Mamuzi: South Sudan

Leader

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

All

A - men. A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

C D

men. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

G

men. A - men. A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. (Al - le - lu - ia A - men.)

C D G

men. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men. (A -

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 13.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes

a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

As taught by Beatrice Mukhtar Mamuzi: South Sudan

Leader

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

All G
A - men. A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

C D
men. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men.

G
men. A - men. A -

Al - le - lu - ia A - men. (Al - le - lu - ia A - men.)

C D G
men. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia A - men. (A -

Sermon (*sit*)

Rev. Dr. Dirk Lange

Hymn (*rise*)

May this church be like a tree

G-5

Spanish Pablo Sosa. English Andrew Donaldson

Pablo Sosa: Argentina



1. May this church be like a tree, be - hind your house, there in your
 2. May this church be like a tree, there in the street or in the
 3. May this church be like a tree, O God, that thrives where you have



gar - den, meet - ing - place for joy, and feast, and sim - ple
 pla - za, for the birds a nest - ing - branch, for pass - ers -
 plant - ed; may it stand to show the way, your way of



prayer be - neath its branch - es. With its roots in earth so fer - tile,
 by, a wel - come shel - ter. May it stand as if it's watch - ing,
 lov - ing and self - giv - ing, offer - ing shade, and fruit for shar - ing,



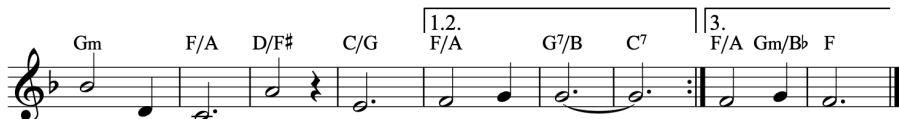
and its arms raised high to hea - ven, may this church bear fruits of
 near my house, just round the cor - ner, wait - ing for this wear - y
 giv - ing up its wood for burn - ing, may this liv - ing church that



jus - tice, acts of lov - ing and com - pas - sion.
 pil - grim with its arms wide to em - brace me.
 names you be a tree of life e - ter - nal.

Refrain

"Ár - bol plan - ta - do jun - to a las a - guas de
 Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter, run -



vi - da e - ter - na de nues - tro Dios." nues - tro Dios."
 ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from God. - ing from God.

*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 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.

Passing of the Peace

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

Gathering of Gifts

*Sophia Sigwart, Violin. Christine Sigwart, piano
'Czardas', by V. Monti-Czerwonky*

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Offertory (*rise*)

Dada withu

D-4

When the table is prepared, we skip to the last verse.

Leader

1. Da - da wi - thu, ti - za pan -ntha - zi pi - nu:
 1. Hum - bly in your sight we come to - geth - er, Lord.

All

Mu - ku - ma - ne na i - se, Fu - mu - i - thu.
 Grant us now the bless - ing of Your pres - ence here.

English Tom Colvin © 1967 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL USA.

2. Iyi mitima yithu nayo njinu;
 Muyisukiske, muyirongosore.

3. Na maso ghithu agha nagho nginu;
 Ghalawisike vinthu vyinu pera.

4. Na mawoko ghithu naghoso nginu;
 Ghetewetenge mu milimo yinu.

5. Na malundi ghithu naghoso nginu;
 Ghachimbirire mu milimo yinu.

6. Na milomo yithu nayoso njinu;
 Yipharazge mazgu ghinu ku wose.

7. Na makutu ghithu naghoso nginu;
 Ghategherezge kwinu Fumu yithu.

8. Tikujipa kose-kose kwa Imwe,
 kuti tiwenge wanthu winu pera.

2. These, our hearts, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 purify our love to make it like your own.

3. These, our eyes, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 may we always see your world
 as with your sight.

4. These, our hands, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 give them strength and skill
 to do our work for you.

5. These, our feet, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 may we walk along
 the path of life with you.

6. These, our tongues, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 may we speak your healing words
 of life and truth.

7. These, our ears, are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 open them to hear the Gospel as from you.

8. Our whole selves are yours,
 we give them to you, Lord,
 take us now and keep us yours forevermore.

Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

Sanctus

Omuyapuki Kalunga

E-20

Traditional Dhimba melody: Namibia

Arranged by Sakari Löytty

♩ = 138

Leader

1. Omu - ya - pu - ki Ka - lu - nga Omu-
 2. Ka - lu - nga Omu - wa
 3. Ho - sian - na ho - sian - na
 4. Ngu te ya Ngu te ya Mo - Mo -

ya - pu - ki na ha - mbe - le - lwe. Omu-
 Ka - lu - nga Omu - wa
 kom - ba - nda - na ha - mbe - le - lwe.
 kom - ba - nda - na ha - mbe - le - lwe.

ya - pu - ki Ka - lu - nga Omu-
 E - gu - lu ne - vi Ol -
 Ho - sian - na ho - sian - na Mo -
 Ngu te ya Ngu te ya Mo -

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

. 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*

A-3

Most often 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

E-18

Itonde Kakoma

A qui to - lis pe - ca - ta mun - di

Ag - nus De - i

mi - se - re - re no - bis mi - se - re - re no - bis

Ag - nus De - i qui to - lis pe - ca - ta mun - di.

A

Second time sopranoes sing the words on Bb

mi - se - re - re no - bis mi - se - re - re no - bis

Pa - cem, Pa - cem, Pa - cem,

Ag - nus De - i don - na no - bis pa - cem.

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome for communion. Come and take any empty space around the platform and the altar. You will receive the bread. Then choose a cup: a dark cup for wine, a lighter cup for grape juice. Place the used cup on the next tray.

The Kingdom of God

F-7

Taizé Community: France

$\text{♩} = 74$

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly

Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom.

Music I. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé-Communauté, France.

O Love that wilt not let me go

George Matheson: Scotland

Albert L. Peace: England



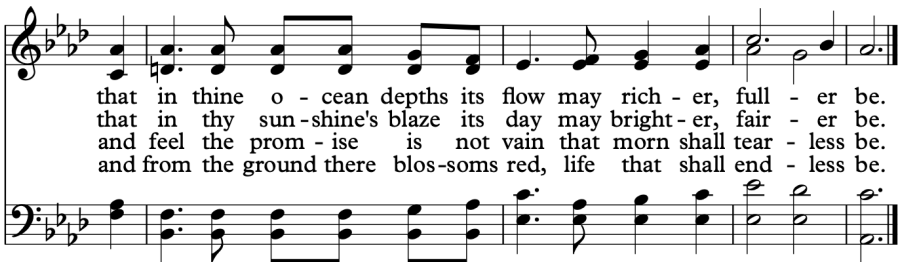
1. O Love that wilt not let me go.
 2. O Light that fol - lowest all my way,
 3. O Joy that seek - est me through pain,
 4. O Cross that lift - est up my head,



I rest my wea - ry soul in thee;
 I yield my flick - ering torch to thee;
 I can - not close my heart to thee;
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;



I give thee back the life I owe,
 my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray,
 I trace the rain - bow through the rain,
 I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead,



that in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 that in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 and feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 and from the ground there blos - soms red, life that shall end - less be.

Amina lele

Democratic Republic of the Congo: arranged Patrick Matsikenyiri

English translation Umadjela Ahondju

Leader

1. A - mi - na le - le
2. Nza - mbi - ya ma - la - mu
3. Mo - te - a na - nga

People 1. 2. A - mi - na le - le A - mi - na
3. E - to - nde na po - sa na - ye mo - te - ma.

A - mi na le - le
Nza mbi ya ma - la - mu
Mo - te - a na - nga

1. 2. A - mi - na le - le A - mi - na.
3. E - to - nde na po - sa na - ye mo - te - ma.

English translation and arrangement © 2000 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115. All rights reserved.

1. Amen. Amen.

2. God on high you are God. God on high you are God.

3. How my heart needs God. How my heart needs God.

Nita mwimbiya Bwana

Asata Choir: Democratic Republic of the Congo

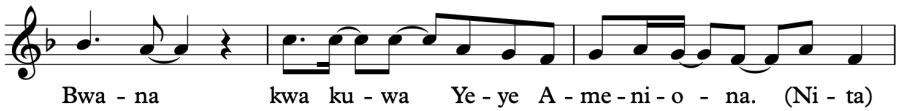
Leader



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.)

me - ni - o - na. (A)

1. *I will sing to the Lord because he cares for me.*
2. Ni-ta mwi-mpi-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-mpi-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 (*rise*)

Benediction

Introduction of Visitors and Announcements

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*As you leave, please return songbooks to the cart in the entryway
or hand them to an usher.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Concerts at the ELCG - From now until 8 August, there will be a concert at the ELCG every day (excluding Sundays) from 12h30 to 13h30. These concerts are organized by Musique et Vie, a local charitable organization. All are free and open to the public, and this year's freewill offering will be given to Al Kamandjâti, an association providing musical education for Palestinian children in the Qalandia refugee camp. The full schedule of the concerts is available online: www.musique-vie.ch

Save the Date – All-Congregation Retreat 18-19 September

This year's all-congregation retreat will take place 18-19 September (Friday-Saturday) at Domaine de Monteret, a retreat center located near St-Cergue, where we have often spent time as a community before. It will be a time for sharing conversation, worship, laughter, and good food in beautiful natural surroundings. All ages are welcome! Mark your calendars now—registration will open in mid-August.

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—alternate weeks working in the nursery from 11h00 to 13h00. Children are always welcome in worship, but for families who wish, this option is available. Contact the church office with any questions.

Attention: Nursery care will NOT be available next week, 2 August.

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).

Women's Circle - 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: **22 August, 12 September**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, or the office for more information.

Andy Willis on Vacation - Andy Willis will be on vacation from 13 July until 6 August. For pastoral concerns during this time, please contact Rev. Terry MacArthur: 079 652 32 96. For administrative matters, please contact the church office.

Riza Le Geyt on Vacation – Riza Le Geyt is currently away and will be back in the office on Thursday, 6 August 2026. Office email and voice mail will be monitored, but responses may be slower during Riza's absence, and the office will only be open by appointment.

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour - Our congregation holds a simple coffee hour after worship each Sunday. Preparation for coffee hour is by neighborhood groups:

2 August – Group E

9 August – Group A

16 August – Group B

23 August – Group C

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

Upcoming Events:

Mon-Sat 12h30

Daily summer concerts

Sun, 2 August

11h00

Worship, Rev. Dr. Ireneusz Lukas
preaching and presiding

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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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”.

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 _____