

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

SEASON OF CREATION
LAND SUNDAY



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION
WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00
13 SEPTEMBER 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: Adam Talsma

Reader: Clare Duran

Altar care: Mee Ji, Seng Ra Marit

Assisting ministers: Vivien Liu, Maritza Vitela, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi,
Maarten Wilbers

Ushers: Grace George, Ana Villanueva

Offering counters: Sam Mungure, Tom Taylor

Flowers: German-Speaking congregation

Refreshments: Neighborhood Group A

Videographer: Gareth Kit, Breanna Ndwiga, Ray Woodcock

*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@genevalutheran.ch office@genevalutheran.ch
www.genevalutheran.church
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis
Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Season of Creation: Land Sunday
Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Ghana, Nigeria

Musical Preparation

Welcome

Greeting (*rise*)

Psalm 24

The earth is the LORD's
and all that is in it,
the world,
and those who live in it,
for he has founded it on the seas
and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.
They will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from the God of their salvation.
Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!
Who is the King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!
 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Hymn

Jesus, we want to meet

Yoruba: A. T. Olajida Olude, Translation by Biodun Adebisin

English paraphrase by Austin C. Lovelace

A. T. Olajida Olude: Nigeria



1. Je - su, a fé pa - dé o L'ò - jò Rẹ t'a - jò mí - mó.
1. Je - sus, we want to meet on this thy ho - ly day;
2. We kneel in awe and fear
3. Thy bless - ing, Lord, we seek,
4. Our minds we ded - i - cate



A si yi 'te Rẹ ka o L'ò - jò Rẹ t'a - jò mí - mó.
 we gath - er round thy throne on this thy ho - ly day.
 pray God to teach us here
 give joy of thy vic - to - ry
 heart and soul con - se - crate



I - wọ ọ rẹ wa ọ - run A - du - rà wa
 Thou art our heaven - ly Friend, hear our prayers as
 Save us and cleanse our hearts; lead and guide our
 Through grace a - lone are we saved; in thy flock may
 Ho - ly Spir - it make us whole; bless com - mun - ion



mbọ wa o, Bo - 'ju - wo e - mi
 they as - cend; look in - to our hearts and
 acts of praise; let our faith from seed to
 we be found; let the mind of Christ a -
 in this place; and as we go,



English © 1964 by Abingdon Press.

Call to Prayer (*sit*)

Litany for the Healing of Creation

Susan Briehl

John D. Becker

Leader adapted from *Litany of the Saints*

For the heal - ing of cre - a - tion, we
pray to you, O God.
All For the heal - ing of cre -
There are a variety of petitions to which the congregation responds:
a - tion, we pray to you, O God. God re - new,

English, Susan Briehl © 2009 Augsburg Fortress.

Music, John D. Becker adapted from *Litany of the Saints* © 1987 John D. Becker. Published by OCP Publications.

1. Sun and moon, **God renew**,
spinning planet, **God renew**,
star and comet, **God renew**,
things seen and unseen, cloud and wind, lightning and thunder,
atmosphere and ozone, flames of fire.

The waters of the earth, polar cap and glacier, aquifer and river,
lake and ocean.

Antiphon

2. Desert and forest, coral reef and coastline, prairie and tundra,
wilderness and wetland, mountain and foothill, mesa and meadow,
valley and volcano, floodplain and delta.
The trees of the field, fir and cedar, baobab and banyan,
oak and cypress.

Antiphon

3. Birds of the air, condor and pelican, eagle and heron,
hawk and sparrow, creatures of the wild, mountain goat and badger,
elephant and lion, grizzly bear and panda.
The fish of the sea, trout and salmon, whale and stingray,
anemone and algae.

Antiphon

4. Herds and flocks, buffalo and llama, goats sheep and cattle,
guinea pigs and honeybees, seedtime and harvest,
vineyard and orchard, grove and garden, field and paddy.
The face of the earth, human community,
in rest and labor, by your Spirit.

Antiphon

Hymn of Praise (*rise*)

We are not alone

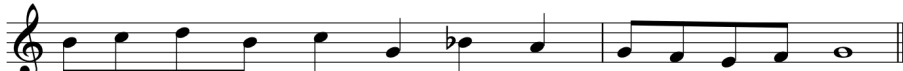
Brian Wren: USA



1. We are not our own, earth forms us,
2. We are not a lone. Earth names us;
3. Through a hu - man life God finds us;
4. There - fore let us make thanks - giv - ing,
5. And if love's en - coun - ters lead us
6. Let us be a house of wel - come,



hu - man leaves on na - ture's grow - ing vine,
 past and pres - ent, peo - ples near and far,
 dy - ing, liv - ing, love is ful - ly known,
 and with jus - tice, will - ing and a - ware,
 on a way un - cer - tain and un - known,
 liv - ing stone up - hold - ing liv - ing stone,



fruit of man - y gen - er - a - tions, seeds of life di - vine.
 fam - i - ly and friends and strang - ers show us who we are.
 and in bread and wine re - minds us: we are not our own.
 give to earth, and all things liv - ing lit - ur - gies of care.
 all the saints with prayer sur - round us: we are not a - lone.
 glad - ly show - ing all our neigh - bors we are not our own!

English and music Brian Wren © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Spring, IL. USA.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Old Testament Reading (*sit*)

Leviticus 25:1-7

The LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a Sabbath for the LORD. Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in their yield, but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of complete rest for the land, a Sabbath for the LORD: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your unpruned vine: it shall be a year of complete rest for the land. You may eat what the land yields during its Sabbath—you, your male and female slaves, your hired and your bound laborers who live with you, for your livestock also, and for the wild animals in your land all its yield shall be for food.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (*rise*)

Alleluia Y'in Oluwa

Traditional Yoruba

as taught by Emmanuel Badejo: Nigeria

$\text{♩} = 126$

A - le - lu - ya Y'in O - lu - wa A - le - lu - ya
Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia,

Y'in O - lu - wa O seun, o seun, o seun,
praise the Lord. Prais - es, high prais - es, now

o seun ba - ba A - le - lu - ya Y'in O - lu - wa
bring to the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 19:24-30

The gospel according to Matthew, chapter 19.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated

on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my name's sake will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Alleluia Y'in Oluwa

Traditional Yoruba

as taught by Emmanuel Badejo: Nigeria

$\text{♩} = 126$

A - le - lu - ya Y'in O - lu - wa A - le - lu - ya
Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia,

Y'in O - lu - wa O seun, o seun, o seun,
praise the Lord. Prais - es, high prais - es, now

o seun ba - ba A - le - lu - ya Y'in O - lu - wa
bring to the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord.

Sermon (*sit*)

Andy Willis

Hymn (*rise*)

As rivers flow from a distant spring

David Bjorlin

William Beckstrand: USA



1. As riv - ers flow from a dis - tant spring
2. As trees rise up from the for - est floor
3. As woods make shel - ter with - in its shade
4. So let us praise you, Cre - a - tor God



to quench our thirst and feed the earth,
 by roots that feed each limb a - bove,
 for beasts to feed and birds to nest,
 for worlds that wit - ness to your care,



so let our lives flow from you, our Source,
 so let our lives rise in praise to you
 so let our lives be a shel - tered space,
 that show your pres - ence in ev - ery place,



to coun - ter death and nur - ture birth.
 from hearts we root in your deep love.
 a ref - uge for the worn to rest.
 your glo - ry shin - ing ev - ery-where.

English, David Bjorlin © 2020 GIA Publications Inc. Music, HÖKELUND, William Beckstrand © 2020 Augsburg Fortress.
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*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 (*sit*)

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Passing of the Peace

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

Gathering of Gifts

No roto

Antonio Temaurioraa: Tahiti



No ro to -mai au I te fe - nu - a Te fa -

ra - a mai te ao nei. E fe - ti - i au

i te fe - nu - a Vai - ra -

a ho - i no to o o - ra.

*I come from the land
I am part of the land
It is from the land that I receive my life.*

*Je suis né(e) de la terre
Je fais partie de la terre
C'est de la terre que je reçois la vie.*

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Offertory (*rise*)

Ezi Chukwu

Obieli Udoka, Ibo

Obieli Udoka

hard G

An - yi ar - io Gi, na - ra' - ja' - nyi

O Chi - ni - ke - Nna

E - zi Chu - kwu, E - zi Chu - kwu na - ba - ta

ya. we - re ya, go - zie ya, me - kwaa ya

kwe - si,
Nna, k'o - di mma, n'I - ga' - nara ya.

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We ask you, we pray you, good God, receive our gifts.

Take them, bless them, make them, Lord, to be good,

worthy to be received by you.

This has an ongoing beat on the eighth note.

We offer you the sacrifices from the proceeds of the soil.

We cannot repay your goodness.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Samba
Part 1

♩ = 88

Per Harling: Sweden



Du är he - lig, Du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer,
You are ho - ly. You are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, Du är nä - ra än-då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re Du, som - kom-mer hit just nu,
Bless-ed are you com-ing near. Bless-ed are you com-ing here



väl - sig - nan-de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, Du är hel - het, Du är när - het,
You are ho - ly. You are whole-ness. You are pre - sent,



He - la kos - mos lo - var Dig! Ho - si - an - na!
let the cos - mos praise you, Lord! Sing Ho - san - na



Ho-si - an - na! Ho - si - an - na! Ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
in the high-est. Sing Ho - san - na. Sing Ho - san - na to God.

Swedish, English and Music © Per Harling, Sweden.

First time unison. Second time women start at the beginning while the men start at Part 2.

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

*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.*

Matti Rantatalo: Finland

$\text{♩} = 120$

Gm Dm⁷ E^b B^b/D E^b B^b/D Cm⁷ Dm E^b

Oi, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa, jo - ka pois o - tat maa - il - man
 O, Lamb of God, given for us, all the sin of the world you are

F/A F⁷ B^b F/A Gm⁷ F

syn - nin, ar - mah - da mei - tä, ar - mah - da mei - tä.
 bear - ing. Grant us your mer - cy, grant us your mer - cy.

Gm Dm⁷ E^b B^b/D E^b B^b/D

Oi Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa, io - ka pois o - tat
 O, Lamb of God, given for us, all the sin of the

Cm⁷ Dm E^b F/A F/B^b B^b

maa il - man syn - nin, an - na meil - le
 world you are bear - ing. Peace, we ask you,

B^b/D Cm F⁷ B^b

rau - ha - si ja siu - na - uk - se - si.
 peace and jus - tice. Grant us your own true peace.

© 1992 Matti Rantatalo, Rautkallionkatu 12 A 14, FI-01360 Vantaa, Finland. English Terry MacArthur.

Songs during Communion

We are coming, Lord, to the table

F-11

Sierra Leone

arranged by Greg Scheer

We are com - ing, Lord, to the ta - ble. We are com - ing, Lord,

to the ta - ble. 1. With the gift of bread, we are com-ing, Lord.
2. To re-ceive the bread, we are com-ing, Lord.

Leader
Oh, sing it o - ver.
With the gift of wine, we are com-ing, Lord. Oh,
To re-ceive the wine, we are com-ing, Lord.

1. We of - fer you the gift of bread. We
2. We're com-ing to re-ceive the bread. We're
we are com - ing, Lord. Oh, we are com-ing,

of - fer you the gift of wine.
com - ing to re - ceive the wine.

Lord. Oh, we are com - ing,

Oh, sing it o - ver.

Lord. Oh, we are com - ing, Lord.

Arrangement © 2008 Greg Scheer.

Bénissez le Seigneur

Jacques Bertier

Vivace



1. All you works of the Lord

Bé-nis - sez le Sei - gneur!

2. All you heavens

3. All you angels of the Lord,

4. Sun and moon

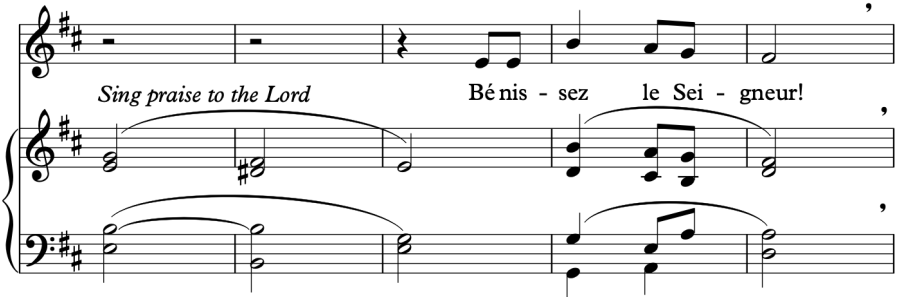
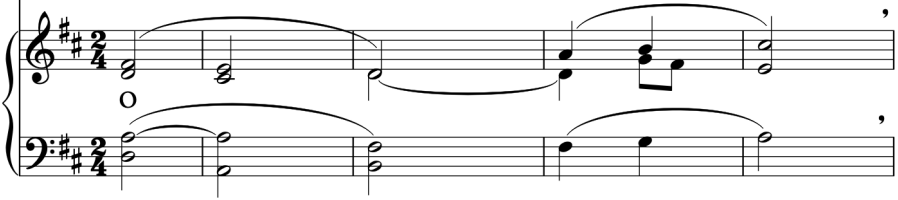
5. Rain, dew and all winds,

6. Winter cold and summer heat,

7 Mountains and hills

8. All beasts and cattle,

9. All you servants of the Lord.



Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, F-71250 Taizé-Communauté

Bless the Lord.

What we need is here

Wendell Berry

Amy McCreath: USA

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in 2/2 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "What we need is here." The melody for both parts is identical. The Soprano part begins with a half note G3, followed by a half note F3, then a dotted half note E3, and ends with a whole note D3. The Bass part begins with a half note G2, followed by a half note F2, then a dotted half note E2, and ends with a whole note D2. The lyrics are placed below the notes: "What" under G, "we" under F, "need" under E, "is" under D, and "here." under the final D.

What we need is here.

What we need is here.

English from "The Wild Goose" in *Selected Poems of Wendell Berry*, © 1998 Wendell Berry.
Music, Amy McCreath © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.

Sending forth (*rise*)

Benediction

Dismissal

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

Congregational Retreat – Next Weekend

This year's all-congregation retreat will take place 18-19 September (Friday-Saturday) at Le 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!

Registration closed on 6 September, and overnight accommodations at Monteret are full. If you haven't yet signed up and would like to join for the day on Saturday, please contact the church office.

Worship this September – Celebrating the Season of Creation

This September, our congregation is joining Christians throughout the world in celebrating the Season of Creation. Worship this month will be centered on the gift of the natural world and on our calling to serve and protect it. We join all the earth's creatures in singing praise and thanks to God.

Church School Starts Next Sunday, 20 September

After a pause for the summer months, church school will resume on Sunday 20 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.

Confirmation Class Beginning Shortly

During the academic year, our congregation offers confirmation classes for young people—an opportunity to study key topics of the Bible and Christian faith and to begin claiming the faith as one's own. Students typically begin classes at around 13 or 14 years old, though there is room for some flexibility when it comes to ages. This year's classes will be beginning shortly—if your son or daughter is interested in joining this year, please contact Andy Willis now at pastor@genevalutheran.ch or 079 544 70 12.

Choir Practice on Thursday Evenings

After a break for the summer, regular choir rehearsals have now resumed. 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. Contact Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg with any questions. Come and sing!

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: **17 October, 21 November**. Please contact Marit Bauer-Moore, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, or the office for more information.

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).

Serving at the Soup Kitchen – 26 September

Our congregation will be serving at the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, 26 September. 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.

Looking for an Additional Nursery Attendant

Our congregation offers nursery care on Sunday mornings for children under the age of three. We are looking for an additional nursery attendant to begin shortly. Candidates should be comfortable in English and have experience working with young children. Applicants should send a message and CV to the church office: office@genevalutheran.ch.

Please share this information with anyone you think might be a good fit (age 18 and up). We hope to interview potential candidates during September.

Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

Our congregation holds a simple coffee hour after worship each Sunday.

Preparation for coffee hour is by neighborhood groups:

20 September – Group B

27 September – Group C

4 October – Group D

11 October – Group E

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

cover image:
Photo by [Gabriel Jimenez](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Upcoming Events:

Thurs, 17 Sep	19h30	Choir practice
Fri-Sat, 18-19		Congregational retreat
Sun, 20 Sep	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. Thank you for your support! There are four 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 TWINT: QR code inside this bulletin
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 _____