EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GENEVA

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ENGLISH-SPEAKING CONGREGATION
WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11H00
8 NOVEMBER 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: Melissa Christensen
Reader: Clare Duran
Altar care: Clément Puech, Bethany Rosenkrans
Assisting ministers: Elisabeth Benn, Nyambura Njoroge, Njoroge Njuguna, Jelimo Yegon
Ushers: Filipa and Marc de Chassey
Offering counters: May Chin Long, Sam Mungure
Church School: Tim Fieldsend, Gladys Kiptum, Ewan Kit
Flowers: Nyambura Njoroge, Njoroge Njuguna
Refreshments: Neighborhood Group D
Videographers: Gareth Kit, 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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English-Speaking Congregation
20, rue Verdaine CH1204 Geneva, Switzerland
Telephone: 022 310 50 89
pastor@genevalutheran.ch office@genevalutheran.ch
www.genevalutheran.church
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis
Music Director: Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost + 8 November 2026

Thy Kingdom Come: Stewardship for 2027

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:
Oceania: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia (Maohi Nui), Kanaky, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Welcome

Prelude Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg
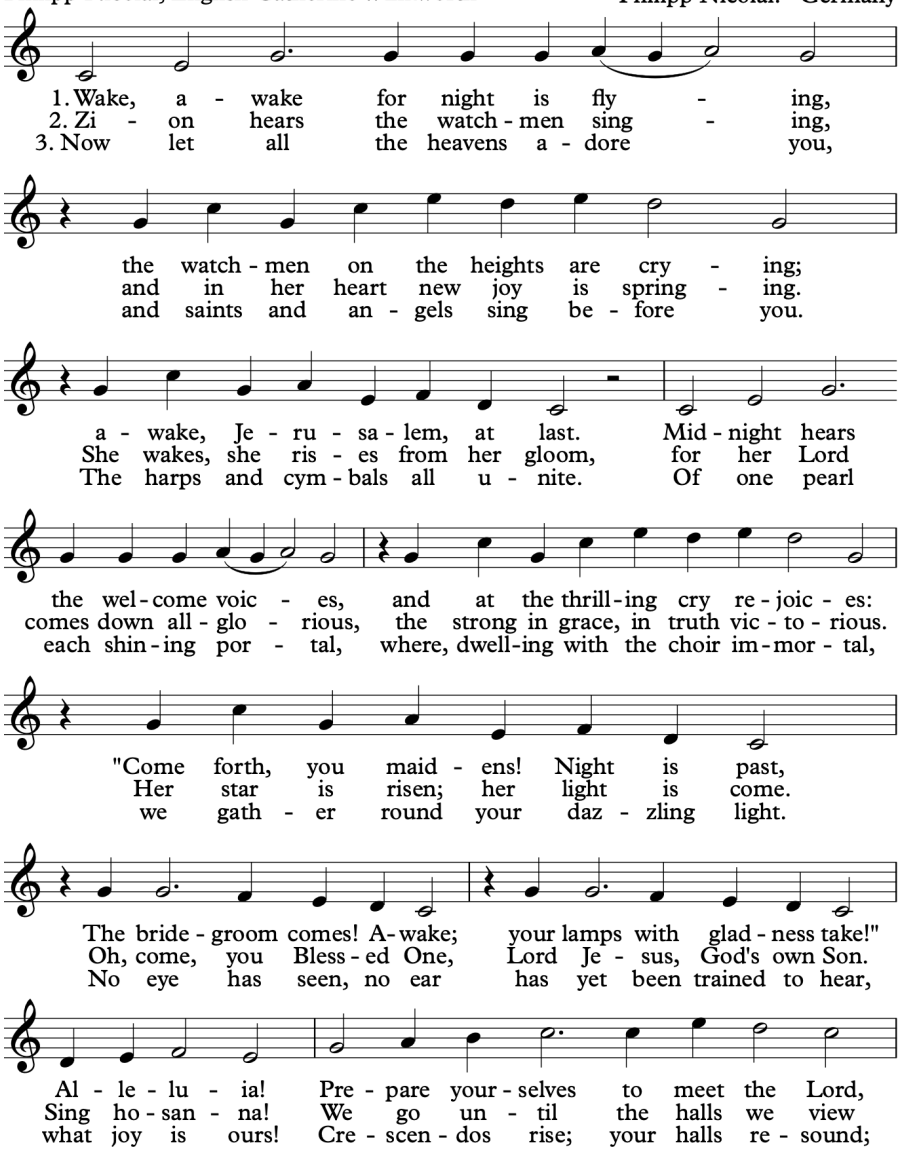
Greeting *(rise)*
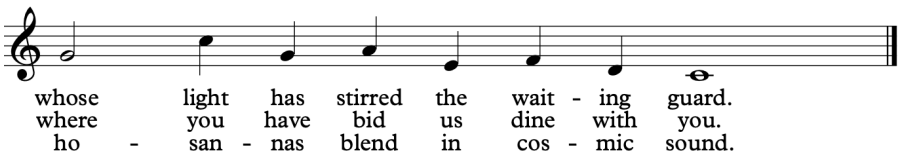
Gathering, praying, singing, enjoying each other,
staying attentive to God's word,
we practice a readiness
that sees ahead to the light to come
by taking stock of where we are
according to the lights we already have been given.
Awaiting, expecting, preparing,
loved into loving,
we awaken anew to the coming day,
when all will be alive in praise of the Blessed Trinity,
one God, now and ever.

Hymn

Wake, awake for night is flying

Philipp Nicolai, English Catherine Winkworth — Philipp Nicolai: Germany





Gospel *(sit)* Matthew 25:1-7

The gospel according to Matthew, chapter 25.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps."

Anthem *This little light of mine* Children's Choir
African-American Spiritual, arranged by Mark Patterson

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.

Call to Prayer *(sit)* Matthew 25:8-13

"The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."
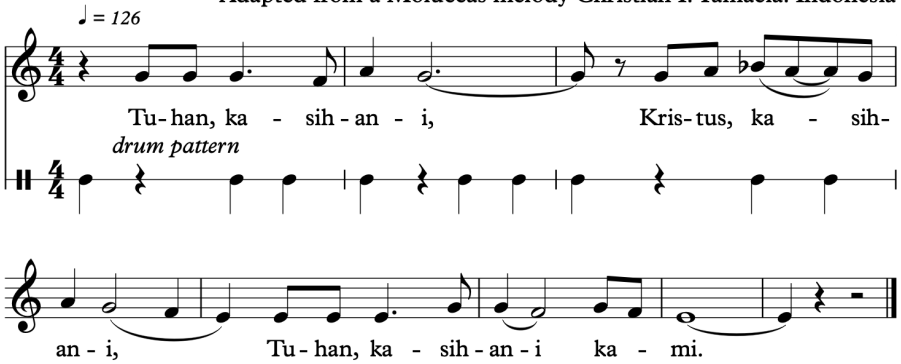
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer of Confession

What if being prepared meant bringing along enough to share, gracious God?
What if having extra were a way of helping others get through the door with us?
What if the celebration cannot really be a celebration if our neighbors, although foolish, don't get in?
Forgive us when pride leaves little room for compassion,
when division serves our sense of status, while others are kept outside.
Forgive us when we presume we are in,
casting haughty stares at those we think should have known better.
Forgive us when we take your grace for granted,
and lack the oil of love that burns with your light.

Kyrie **Tuhan, kasihani** **B-22**

Adapted from a Moluccas melody Christian I. Tamaela: Indonesia
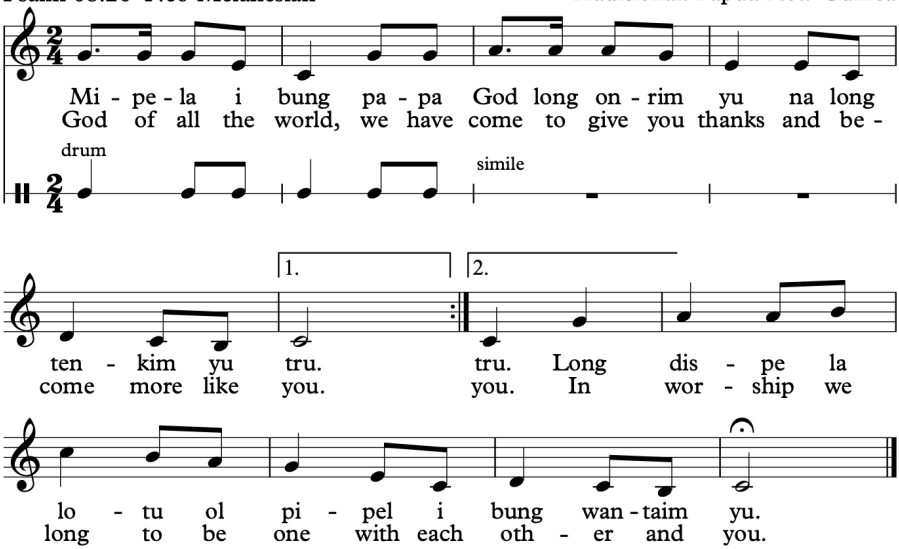


Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Words of Grace

Hymn of Praise *(rise)* **Mi pela i bung** **B-17**

Psalm 68:26 Neo-Melanesian Traditional: Papua New Guinea



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English © Fred Kaan, © Stainer & Bell, P.O. Box 110, Victoria House, 23 Gruneisen Road, Finchley, London N3 1DZ, England.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Old Testament Reading Amos 5:18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

Second Reading Acts 4:32-37

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

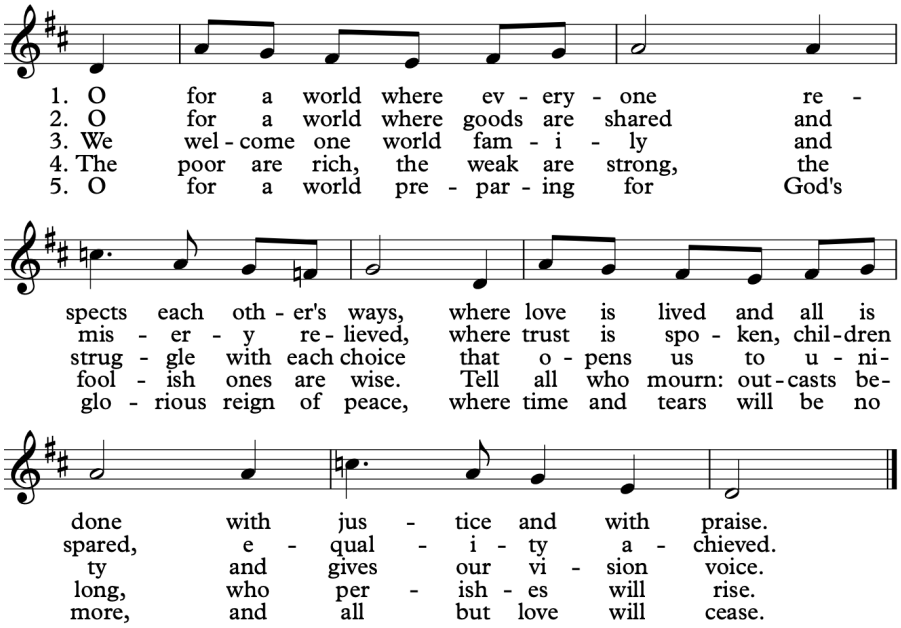
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *(sit)* Andy Willis

Hymn *(rise)*

O for a world

Miriam Therese Winter — Celene Welch: USA



English English, Miriam Therese Winter © 1987 Medical Mission Sisters.
Music © 1992 by Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Apostles' Creed **A-1**

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)*

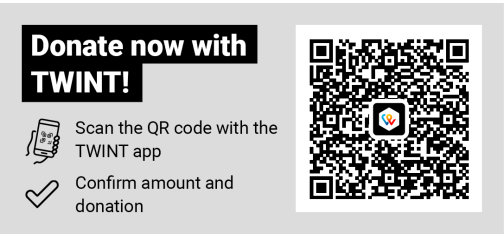
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
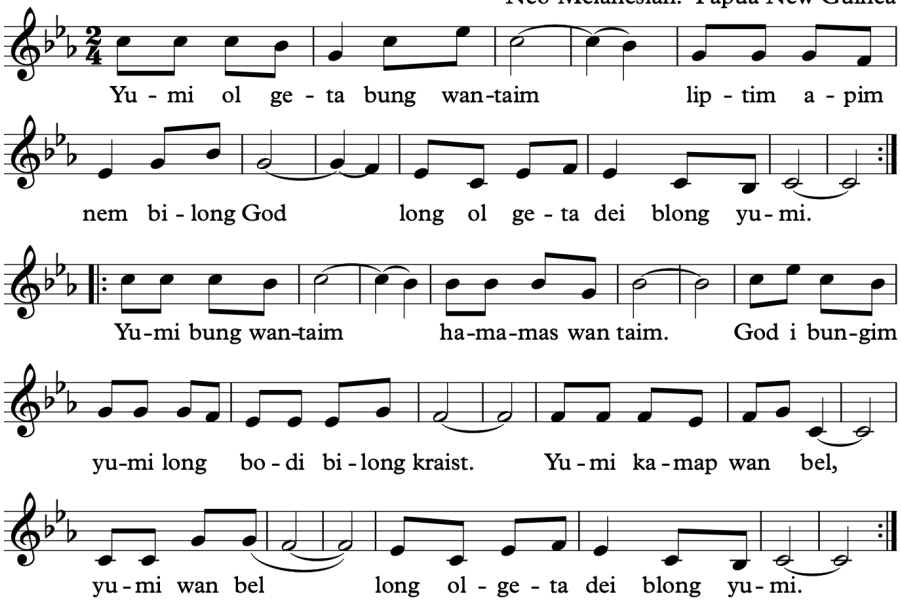
Gathering of Gifts *(sit)* Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg

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.



Offertory *(rise)* **Yumi Olgeta**

Neo-Melanesian: Papua New Guinea

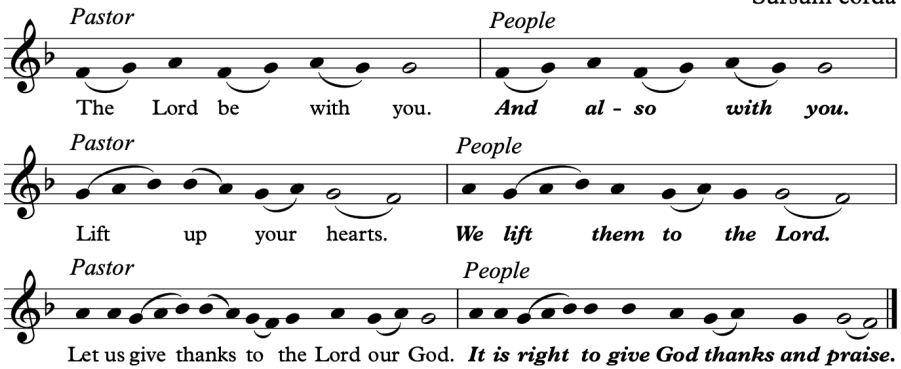


Let us all gather together
Lifting up God's name
In every day of our lives
Coming together

Rejoicing together
God brings us together in the body of Christ
Coming together in peace
In every day of our lives

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
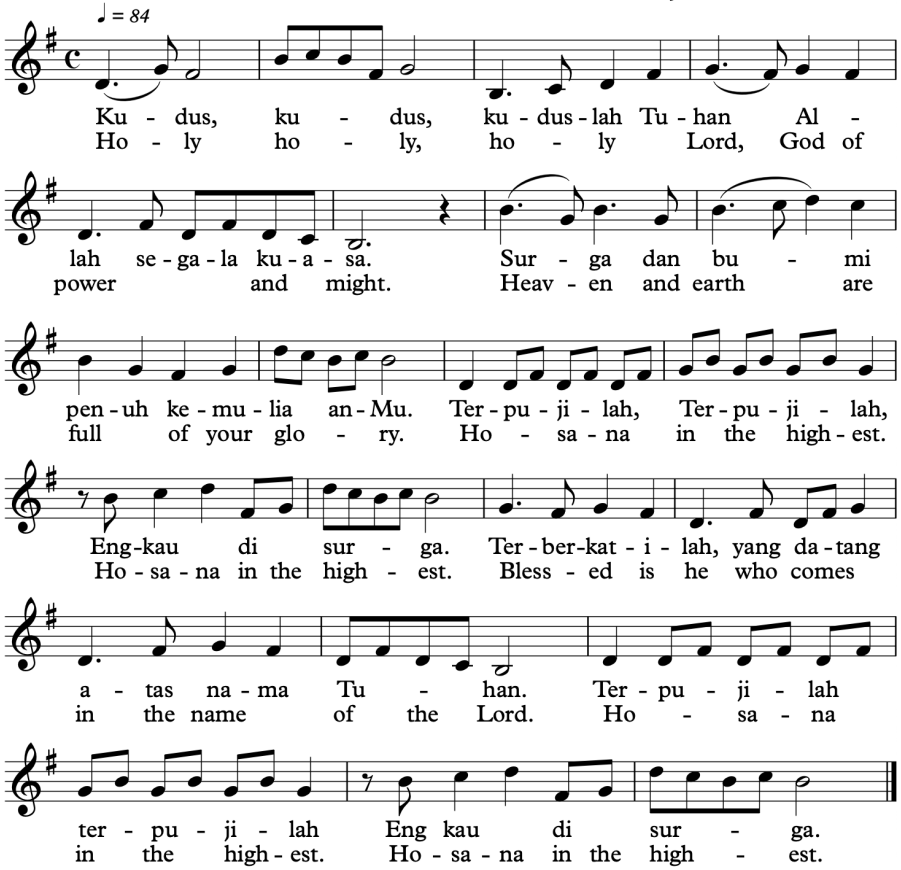
Sursum corda



Preface

Sanctus **Kudus, kudus, kuduslah Tuhan** **E-7**

from Misa Sunda, Sakamato: Indonesia



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Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Remembering

. . . We proclaim the mystery of our faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

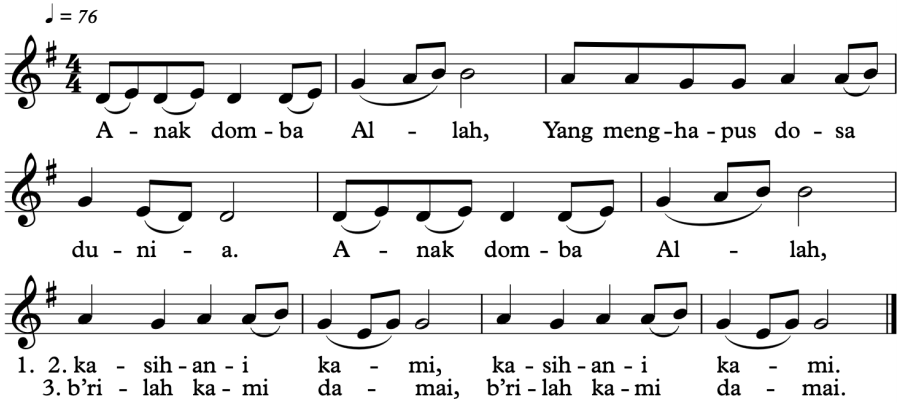
Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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.

Agnus Dei **Anak domba Allah** **E-8**

M. Karatem: Indonesia



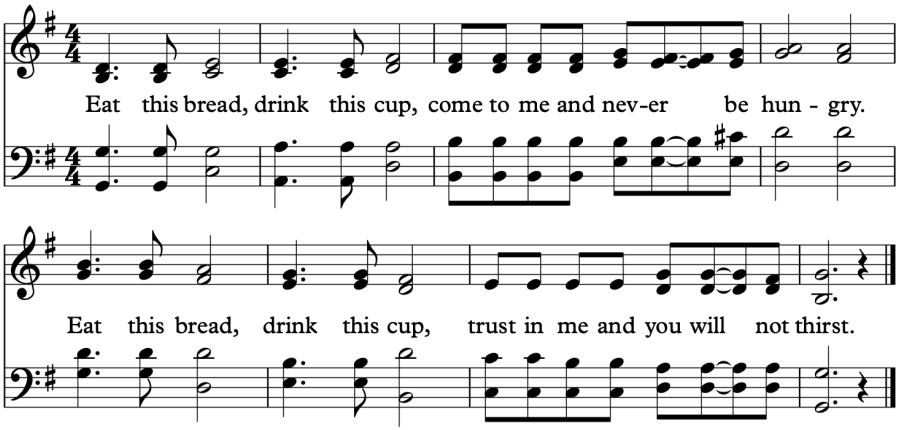
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
3rd time: Grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome for communion. Come and take any empty space around 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.

Eat this bread, drink this cup F-1
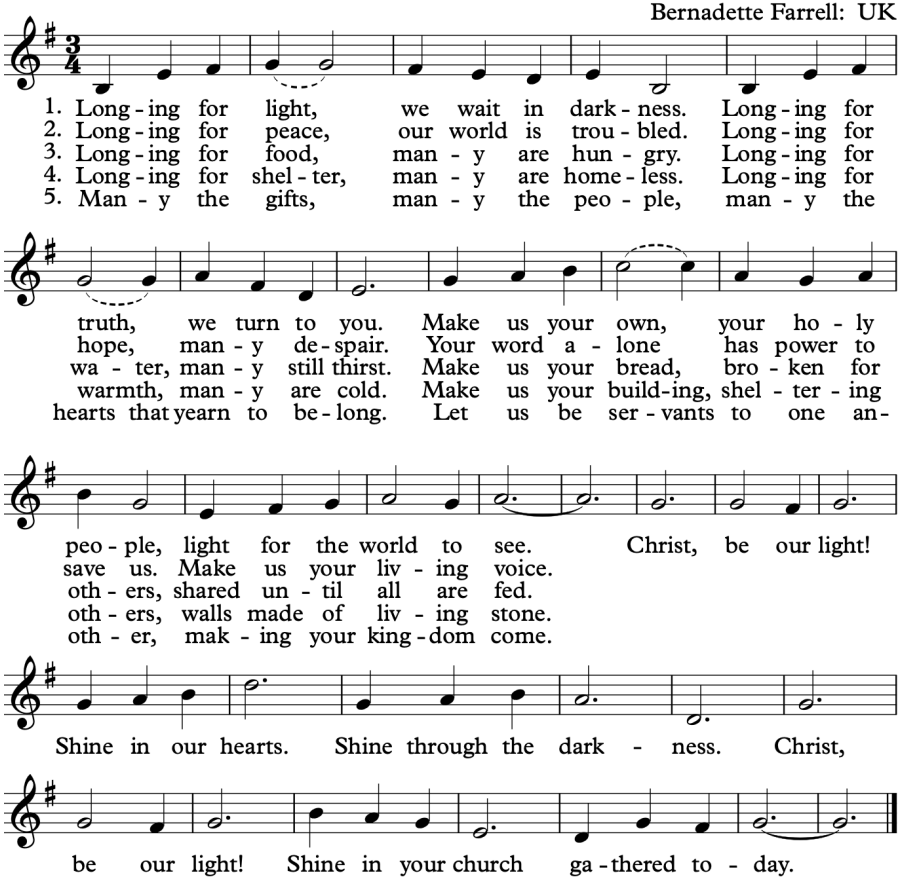
Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France



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

Christ be our light

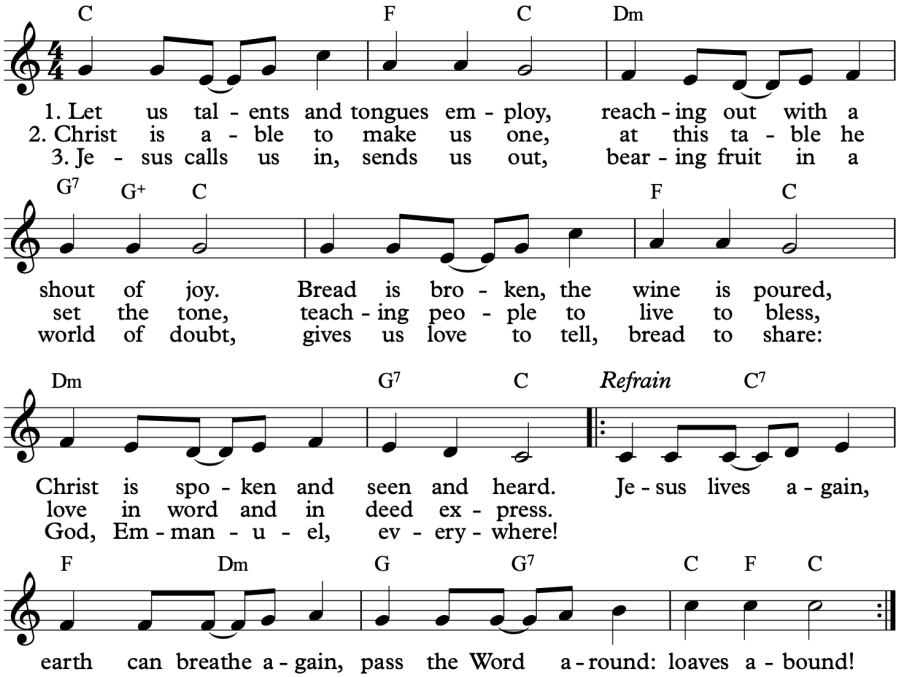
Bernadette Farrell: UK



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Let us talents and tongues employ F-22

Fred Kaan: UK Jamaican folk song adapted by Doreen Potter



English Fred Kaan © Stainer & Bell, P.O. Box 110, Victoria House, 23 Gruneisen Road, Finchley, London N3 1DZ, England. Melody adaptation Doreen Potter © Philip Potter, Frankfurt, Germany.

Sending Forth *(rise)*

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

Stewardship for 2027: *Thy Kingdom Come…*

Every fall, our congregation sets aside some weeks for reflection around giving. We think together about what this community means to us and about the ways we might each be called to help support its ongoing ministry; we share in worship, conversation, and prayer; finally, we offer estimates of giving for the coming year, indicating how we plan to contribute our time, talents, and money.

Our giving season this year will take place over three Sundays—8, 15, and 22 November. How are we helping build God's kingdom right here, through our participation in and support of our beloved church community? How will we each be part of that important calling in the year to come? Readings from the book of Acts and testimonies from members of the congregation will help with our reflection.

Join the conversation this month as we look ahead to new year of ministry. *Thy kingdom come!*

Women's Circle – Saturday 14 November

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: **14 November, Friday 4 December (Christmas dinner 18h-22h).** Please contact, Cynthia Wilbers-Muturi, Margaret Kehoe-Winkler, Kim Avafia, or the office for more information.

ELCG-FUN(D) SALE – Sunday 22 November

Some members of the congregation will hold a sale to raise funds for our congregation's ministry. This is not an auction, nor is it serving food on the spot. We will be selling things, like a shop, that we each hand-make. For example, artwork, handmade sewn decor, food, cakes, spices, etc. We plan to take online orders, too. This sale will take place in the church after worship on Sunday 22 November. Please mark your calendars. You are very welcome to bring your non-church friends. Details will follow.

Church School Now In Session!

We 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 are 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.

Choir Practice - 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. Contact Katharina Mainberger-Dellweg with any questions. Come and sing!

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).

Visiting Iona in 2027?

Iona, an island in the inner Hebrides, off the western coast of Scotland, is a special place, with dramatic landscapes, more cows than people, and a long history of prayer and Christian pilgrimage. The Iona Community--"a dispersed Christian ecumenical community working for peace and social justice, rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship"--offers programs and retreats on Iona, and our congregation is exploring the possibility of a group attending one in 2027. There will be a brief informational meeting after worship today for anyone who is interested in learning more. If you're interested but can't attend the meeting, please contact Dorine van Teeseling (dvantees@gmail.com) or Andy Willis.

Creative Writing Group

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, **17 November** at 19h00. Bites will be provided. All welcome! Please contact Cynthia Wilbers or the church office for further info.

Young Adults' Group

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Serving Weekly Coffee Hour

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

15 November – Group E	22 November – Group A
29 November – Group B	6 December – Group C

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

cover image:
Photo by jyothi kumar on Unsplash

Upcoming Events:

Thurs, 12 Nov	**19h30**	Choir rehearsal
Sat, 14 Nov	**10h00**	Women's circle
Sun, 15 Nov	**9h45**	Confirmation class
	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 _____