

NOVEMBER 15, 2020



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11931 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 424-4346
www.genevapotomac.org

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

Geneva Presbyterian Church

November 15, 2020

10:30am

The Gathering

(Welcome to Virtual Church with Geneva Presbyterian Church! We are honored to worship together with you today and grateful we can gather in this way as the Body of Christ. There will be opportunities for responsive readings and sharing prayer requests during worship; please mute and unmute yourself as directed by the worship leaders. The same goes for singing hymns: your microphone will be turned off, so make a joyful noise and sing with all your heart!)

Prelude

Welcome to the Worship of God

Silence and Introit

Call to Worship

One Voice: Lift up your eyes to the Lord -- the Exalted One who is enthroned in the heavens.

Many Voices: Seeking compassion, seeking grace, we look to the Lord, the giver of mercy.

One Voice: Pour into God's temple; draw near to the King of Creation.

Many Voices: Come, stand in our maker's presence.

One Voice: Sing praises and give thanks, for God is in the midst of our worship.

Many Voices: We worship the Lord of heaven and earth!

Opening Hymn

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.

Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(below in unison, then silent personal prayers)*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear. You know, Lord. You know.

Holy One, set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and in the image of Jesus Christ. In the power of his name we pray aloud and now also in the silence of our own hearts...

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response

“Gloria Patri”

#734

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

(The Virtual Church recording is turned off during this portion of the service for privacy. We will resume recording after the Lord's Prayer.)

Prayers of the People; The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination *(in unison)*

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own so that, hearing, we many also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 25:1-10

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

New Testament Reading

1 Kings 17:7-24

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

Sermon **“...And God's Ministry Needed The Widow of Zarephath”**

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

Affirmation of Faith /The Apostles' Creed *(in unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic* Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

*(*meaning all of God's churches)*

The Thanksgiving

The Offering

Music Offering

“What have I to do with Thee”

from Elijah by Mendelssohn

Melissa Wimbish, Soprano Ben Shaver, Baritone, Aaron Thacker, piano

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

"Bless the Lord"

(sung multiple times)

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude



A bout the music...

The opening hymn text is on stewardship. It was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia (*Beach Spring*). Our closing hymn is a refrain based on Psalm 103:1 and is meant for repeated singing. To "bless God's holy name" is a reminder to be grateful even for what we cannot comprehend, trusting that God's providence will show us "the path of life" (Psalm 16:11).

Our special musical offering today features Melissa Wimbish, soprano, Ben Shaver, baritone, and Aaron Thacker, pianist. The scene comes from the oratorio *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn. An oratorio is a dramatic musical setting of biblical text. It is often referred to as liturgical opera, but it is not staged. This particular work, first premiered in 1846 at the Birmingham Festival, depicts events in the life of the prophet Elijah as told in 1 Kings and 2 Kings in the Old Testament. You will note that this particular scene is a musical setting of our Old Testament scripture reading today.



Melissa Wimbish

Aaron Thacker

In the world-premiere of *Josephine* by Tom Cipullo, The Washington Post gushed, "... the afternoon belonged to Melissa Wimbish, who was creating the role of Josephine Baker in this world-premiere of *Josephine*. Beautifully prepared, vocally stunning, and theatrically riveting, Wimbish effortlessly held the audience in her hand throughout this one-woman show."

Praised by The New York Times for "stylish singing" and by The Boulder Daily Camera as "simply incredible ... the highlight of the entire evening," she is consistently recognized for her artistry, technical prowess, and captivating stage presence. Career highlights include her Carnegie Hall solo recital debut with a program of works by American composers, György Ligeti's *Mysteries of the Macabre* with Baltimore Symphony, *Carmina Burana* at the Kennedy Center with Washington Ballet, *Candide* with Baltimore Symphony, and Mozart's *Requiem* with Richmond Symphony.

She will sing the role of Pamina with IN Series and make her BSO subscription series debut as Anna in Kurt Weill's *Seven Deadly Sins* in 2021. Melissa enjoys an active career performing traditional and contemporary opera, song recitals, and as one of the front women in the award-winning band, Outcalls. You can watch her latest performance as Alberto Gonzales in Melissa Dunphy's *Gonzales Cantata* at inseries.org.

Aaron Thacker is an accomplished pianist, who has performed extensively in the realm of Opera. He has served as rehearsal pianist for North Carolina Opera, Baltimore Lyric Opera, Peabody Conservatory, and TheFord's Theatre. He has appeared on NPR with famous tenor Noah Stewart and played for many other of the greatest and most sought after opera singers in the country, including Christine Goerke, Anthony DeanGriffey, Nathan Gunn, Solomon Howard, Denyce Graves, and Steven LaBrie. He currently is full-time faculty at specialty high school, George Washington Carver Center for the Arts and Technology, in Towson, MD. He is also the pianist for Springfield Presbyterian Church in Sykesville, MD.



Names in bold are new prayer list additions.

The work, worship, pastor and leadership of Geneva and of Iglesia de Dios El Nuevo Pacto

Comfort for the Family and Friends of

Bev Davis;

Henry Haller;

Rodger Lusby;

Susan Burbage, friend of Rhonda and Bob Ricci

Doris Williamson;

Bill Richards, cousin of Sara Torrence;

Brian, friend of Kyla Lupo;

Janelle Connevey Morris, Mother of Janelle Thibau;

Josephine Kom, Mother of Flore Kom-Liapoe;

Julie Lynn Zabucky, daughter of Nancy and Norm Rawson;

Healing and Comfort for

Maria Lenahan, health concerns;

Carole Haller, health concerns;

Norm Rawson, health concerns;

Daniel Ricci, prayers for job search;

George Ehler, relative of friend of Ken Sprinkle, health concerns;

Letitia Denaburg, knee surgery;

Scott Brown, health concerns;

Betty Halls, health concerns;

Ruth Irene Harris, mother of Jim Harris;

Alicia, friend of Rhonda Ricci receiving cancer treatment;

Nancy Morse, health concerns;

Lorraine Leicht, Renee Moloznik's mother, health issues;

Dinah Paffrath, aunt of Renee Moloznik, receiving cancer treatments;

Beth, friend of Sara Torrence, metastatic breast cancer;

Carl Perthel, health concerns;

Jeffrey Remer, brother of Robin Kough, health concerns;

Isabelle Schuessler, friend of Scott Brown, health concerns;

Joanne Elder, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, cancer;

Adeline Siaka, widow of Emmanuel Siaka;

Mary Bird, aunt of Renee Moloznik, health concerns;

Linda Hanson, friend of Geneva, health concerns;

Justin Pack, nephew of PJ Davis, diagnosed with ALS;

Daniel Adkins, nephew of Kyla and Vince Lupo, health concerns;

Donald Schuessler, friend of Scott Brown, health concerns;

Ellie Alexander, health concerns;

Emilia Monte, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, recurring cancer;

Jeff Leicht, Renee Moloznik's brother;

Judith Sadler, mother to Tom Sadler, mental illness and PG County guardianship care;

Leland Perthel, recovering from concussion;

Madeleine Schinosi, friend of Gretchen Winch, recurring cancer.

Ray Johnson, father of Katie Harris;

Samuel Kuate, Flora Kom Liapoe's brother-in-law, recovering from an ischemic stroke;

Sandy Kichefski, sister of Sheri Sankey, health concerns;

Sue, friend of Maria Lenahan, health issues;

Yvonne Bean, mother of Debbie Dunne;

Zoë, friend of Bob and Rhonda Ricci, health concerns;

Prayers for Peace

Daniel Kough, son of Jack and Robin Kough, home from Afghanistan.

Walter Sprinkle, son of Ken and Nan Sprinkle, US Army Special Training

WELCOME TO GENEVA! We welcome you to this church and want you to feel at home. We want you to feel accepted here, and also challenged, even as we invite you to accept and challenge us. If you are new to this community or do not have a church home, we invite you to join us. Please contact a staff member using any of the emails on the back of today's bulletin.



Birthdays: Jim Harris (11/3); Jason Denaburg (11/9); Scott Harris (11/11); Patrick McElwaine (11/13); Ginny Wilson (11/15); Ruth Allenspach (11/16); Mark Allen (11/16); Fiona Galliani (11/18); Robin Kough (11/19); Mae Lin Cheong (11/21); Fred Allenspach (11/26); Amy He (11/28); Liam Parker Levine (11/30).

This Week at Geneva

Wednesday, November 11	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Saturday, November 14	1:00pm	Socially Distanced Fellowship Event
Sunday, November 15	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, November 18	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Sunday, November 22	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, November 25	7:00pm	No Virtual Bible Study – Happy Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 29	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church

“Everyone Together” our 2021 Stewardship Campaign

Stewardship letters and 2021 pledge cards for this year’s stewardship campaign, “Everyone Together”, were mailed out this past week.



In the coming few weeks, we invite you to consider your financial contribution to God’s ministry through Geneva Presbyterian Church this year. We will be collecting physical pledge cards via mail to the church through Stewardship Sunday on November 22nd.

This year we also have the option to make financial commitments electronically using this [link](#). This is how Allyson and I are returning our pledge information during this stewardship campaign. This secure and confidential form will allow you to return your pledge intentions using your computer, tablet, or smartphone. The electronic form allows you to provide the same information as the traditional printed card and goes directly to the church office.

Not everyone will choose to make a pledge this year. Many faithful and consistent Genevans choose to make donations throughout the year. Whether through a pre-planned pledge or donations made in other ways, we celebrate and appreciate all gifts made to support our ministry through Geneva Presbyterian Church. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

2020 has been a year unlike any other we've experienced, and it's going to take Everyone Together to make the plans God has in store for us in 2021 become reality. Thank you for your generous giving that enables our Gospel witness at Geneva Presbyterian Church -- every gift of every size matters and we can do amazing things with Everyone Together.

- **We Miss Seeing You!**

Let's get together for a glass of cider, a cup of coffee and a piece of cake. We will remain socially distant. We will all wear masks. And the food and drink will be served by two people who will be wearing gloves. We will take every precaution we can to keep everyone safe while still allowing us time to visit with each other. The church building will remain locked; there will be no access to the church.



Pastor Patrick's birthday is November 13. Stop by to wish him a Happy Birthday and enjoy a piece of birthday cake. We will get together in front of the church on Saturday, November 14 from 1:00 – 2:00. Our rain date will be November 21.

We will also be collecting food for the Manna Food Center. If you are able, please bring two canned food items so we can help our neighbors in need.

If you have any questions, please reach out to either Elaine Winch or Rhonda Ricci. (rhondaricci@aol.com or elainewinch@gmail.com)

- **Online Giving with the GivePlus (Give+) App**

You can now support God's ministry through Geneva Presbyterian Church with your smartphone, tablet, or computer! Search for and download "GivePlus" (Give+) from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store to get started.



You'll create an account, choose Geneva Presbyterian Church (in Potomac) as your home church, and then you're ready to give in a secure and convenient way!

Here are two resources to help you get set up:

YouTube Video with Instructions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk>

GivePlus Website with a FAQ and "How To"

<https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/>

I'm excited to expand our opportunities to give and invite you to explore if Online Giving is the right choice for you. No matter how you choose to give, thank you for your financial generosity -- your support is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and transforming lives every day.

- **Virtual Church with Geneva Presbyterian: Sundays @ 10:30am**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/2SL4E76>

Meeting ID: 668 560 374

Password: 240543

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,668560374# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,668560374# US (New York)

- **Virtual Bible Study: Wednesdays @ 7:00pm**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/3c3kscZ>

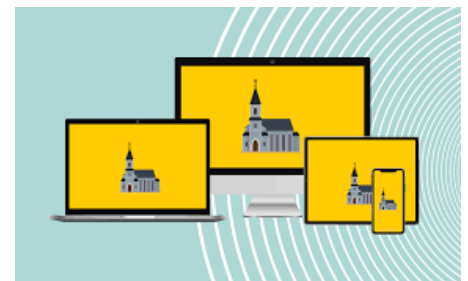
Meeting ID: 273 879 363

Password: 978348

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,273879363#,1#,978348# US (Germantown)

+16465588656,,273879363#,1#,978348# US (New York)



- **Geneva Worship Videos**

Did you know that Geneva Virtual Church videos are recorded and online? Missed a service? Want to share with a friend? A full recording of worship is just a click away!

[Click HERE to watch our past Virtual Worship services!](#)



Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor; Ben Shaver, Musician;

Mark Adler, Lector; Tom Sadler, Zoom Host.

Church Elders

Jane Campbell, Jack Kough, Carl Perthel,
Tom Sadler, Sheri Sankey,
Janelle Thibau, Elaine Winch

Church Deacons

Ludivine Kom-Liapoe, Bobbie Maxwell,
Renee Moloznik, Rosie Perthel,
Rhonda Ricci

If you have any ideas, suggestions or concerns, please share them with our officers.



Geneva warmly welcomes all our guests joining us today



Geneva Staff:

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor, pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com
Ben Shaver, Music Director, music.genevapotomac@gmail.com
Melissa Cutler, Office Administrator, melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com

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Potomac, MD 20854

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