

JANUARY 17, 2021



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

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

Adapted from "Letter from Birmingham Jail" Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963, and Psalm 46

Come, believers,
God-beloved,
Christ-redeemed,
Spirit-infused!

What is our call?

We are called to stand against injustice, inequality, and oppression,
as our Lord and Savior did,
for injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

We are called to examine the actions of our nation:
its military might, economic relations, political institutions, and cultural patterns,
for whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.

We are called to be weavers of the kingdom, makers of peace,
**for we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny.**

Come, believers, come to worship God—
**The God of heaven and earth is with us.
The God of peace is our refuge.**

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Call to Confession

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

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you teach us to love our neighbors, but we build dividing walls of hostility. You show us how to love one another as siblings, but we hide ourselves from our own human family. You ask us to seek out the stranger and welcome the guest, but we lock ourselves up inside our own fear. You want us to share your abundant gifts with the poor, but we cling tightly to our possessions and our privilege.

Have mercy on us, loving God. Forgive our sin, open our hearts, change our lives, make us holy and whole -- united with you and our fellow Children of God. In this moment we add our personal silent prayers to those we share aloud...

Assurance of Pardon

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)*

A Prayer by Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

Lord, open unto me.
 Open unto me – **light for my darkness.**
 Open unto me – **courage for my fear.**
 Open unto me – **hope for my despair.**
 Open unto me – **peace for my turmoil.**
 Open unto me – **joy for my sorrow.**
 Open unto me – **strength for my weakness.**
 Open unto me – **wisdom for my confusion.**
 Open unto me – **forgiveness for my sins.**
 Open unto me – **love for my hates.**
 Open unto me – **thy Self for my self.**
 Lord, Lord, open unto me! **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10
 This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 3:11-20
 This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "None of Your Words Shall Fall To The Ground" Rev. Patrick McElwaine

Affirmation of Faith *(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

"I Choose Love"

arr. Mark A. Miller

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

"We Shall Overcome"

#512

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday!

Refrain:

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall overcome someday!

We'll walk hand in hand. **Refrain**

The truth will make us free. **Refrain**

We shall live in peace. **Refrain**

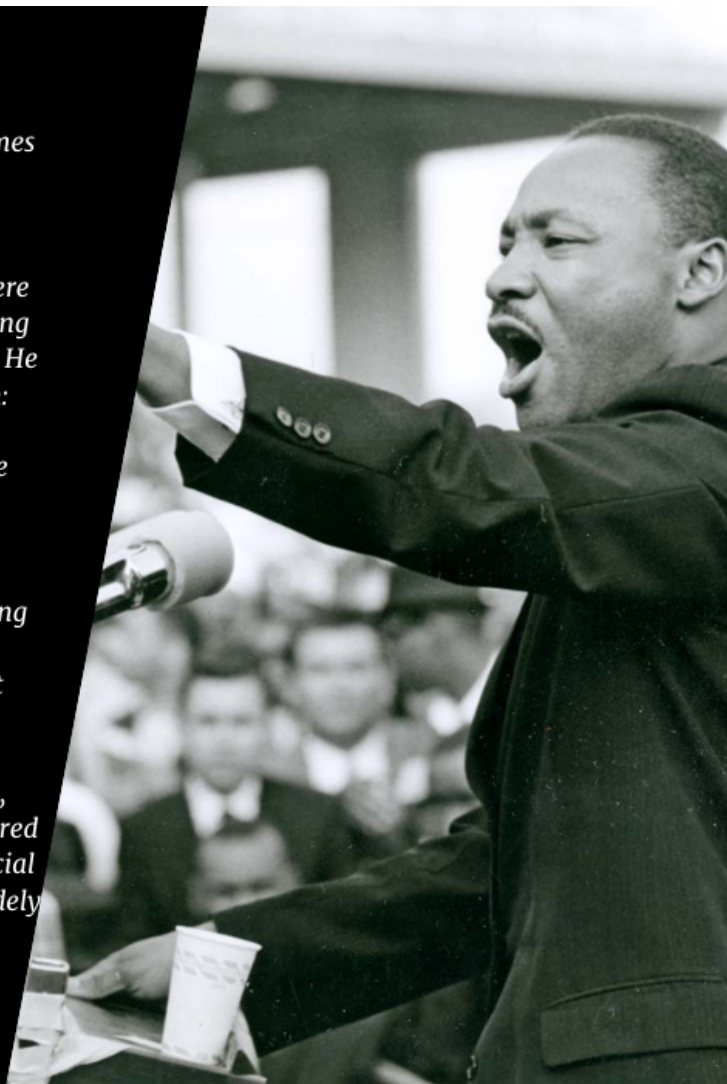
Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“

About the Music...

In 1899, a young poet and school principal named James Weldon Johnson was asked to address a crowd in Jacksonville, Fla., for the coming anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Just two decades had passed since the Reconstruction era, and lynchings were on the rise in the segregated South. Instead of preparing an ordinary speech, Johnson decided to write a poem. He began with a simple but powerful line, a call to action: "Lift ev'ry voice and sing." As he wrote the words, evoking the struggle and resilience of his ancestors, he began to weep. "I could not keep back the tears, and made no effort to do so," Johnson recounted. The following year, a chorus of 500 schoolchildren performed the song at the Lincoln celebration. The song quickly took off, becoming a rallying cry for black communities in the South, or as one observer noted at the time, "a collective prayer." It was embraced as a hymn in churches and performed at graduation ceremonies and in school assemblies. Within 20 years, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People adopted "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," as its official song. For generations to come, it would be known widely as the "black national anthem."



January 17, 2020

Martin Luther King Jr.

About the Music... (cont'd)



We Shall Overcome...

Though now associated primarily with the Civil Rights Movement or the mid-20th century, this spiritual most likely dates from the days of the slave trade; and similarities with the tune SICILIAN MARINERS suggest that it might have been a working aboard slave ships.

I choose Love...

In the midst of pain, of war, of brokenness... we choose love. We choose community. What better way to share this message than through powerful song? This anthem, written in response to the tragic events that occurred at Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina in 2015, is a testament to the power of forgiveness and peace.



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

Jeffrey Remer, brother of Robin Kough;

Maria Lenahan;

Norm Rawson;

Bev Davis;

Henry Haller;

Rodger Lusby;

Susan Burbage, friend of Rhonda and Bob Ricci

Doris Williamson;

Brian, friend of Kyla Lupo;

Josephine Kom, Mother of Flore Kom-Liapoe;

Healing and Comfort for

Janelle Thibau, recovering from COVID-19 at home;

Briana Cochran, cousin of Thibau Family, health concerns;

Rosalie Ruff, health concerns;

Carole Haller, health concerns;

Kristin, a friend in need of prayer

Ellie Croft, friend of Gretchen Winch, health concerns;

Rosie Perthel, health concerns;

Jim Stiles, recovering from COVID-19;

Scott Brown, health concerns;

Daniel Ricci, prayers for job search;

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

Letitia Denaburg, knee surgery;

Betty Halls, health concerns;

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;

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;

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: *Sheena Galliani (1/5); Bob Ricci (1/6); Jacquelyn Kough (1/6); Rosalie Ruff (1/8); Allyson McElwaine (1/14); Sara Torrence (1/17); Amanda White (1/18); Terry Shima (1/20); Malachi McElwaine (1/23); Carole Haller (1/25); Eric Winchenbach (1/26); Ruth Nunn (1/28)*

This Week at Geneva

Sunday, January 17	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, January 20	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Sunday, January 24	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, January 27	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study

- **Support the Geneva Deacon Fund**

Under the onslaught of the COVID pandemic, the Deacons are challenged to sustain and expand our goals and missions. Deacons are the "servants" or "caregivers" of the congregation. People have all kinds of needs - they are recovering from surgery, grieving, lonely, ill, or otherwise in a time where they welcome the ministry of care from our congregation. In a very real way, Deacons are the hands and heart of the Church in our ministry of caring.



The Deacon Funds are used to support individual or families in financial crisis in terms of monetary donations, purchasing food, helping pay medical or household bills. The funds are also used for the items in the goody bags that have been delivered to our members, blessing bags for our homeless neighbors, gift cards to students during final exams, hosting memorial services, hosting Lenten dinners, sending cards and gift baskets to members needing support, and also the supplies needed for our seasonal craft activities.

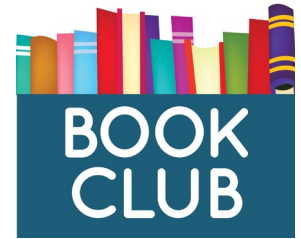
Our Deacon Fund has been used a great deal during this pandemic and is getting extremely low. Since we have not been in the Sanctuary the past year, there have been limited donations to his fund compared to normal. Therefore, I am asking for your generosity to make a tax-deductible donation to the Geneva Deacons Fund, so our Deacons can continue to support our Geneva family. Your gift in any amount will be greatly appreciated to help our church make a brighter future for our members.

Please go to Online Giving with the GivePlus app to donate, or mail your check to Geneva Presbyterian Church, 11931 Seven Locks Rd. Potomac, MD 20854 (designate your check for Deacon Fund). Thank you in advance for your help and support.

Sincerely,
Renee Molochnik

- **Geneva Book Club**

Geneva Book Club will **NOT** meet in the month of January but will restart on February 4th studying "[For All Who Hunger](#)" by Emily M.D. Scott on Fridays @ 7:00pm.



Church members, guests, and friends are all welcome -- please feel free to share this invitation with anyone you know who is ready to engage in this work of reflection and learning.

Here is the Zoom link (we will use the same for each sessions):

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9506334929?pwd=dy83RFdTUTliZWJ3MFEOSR1ZCtTZz09>

Meeting ID: 950 633 4929

Passcode: 12345

- **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>

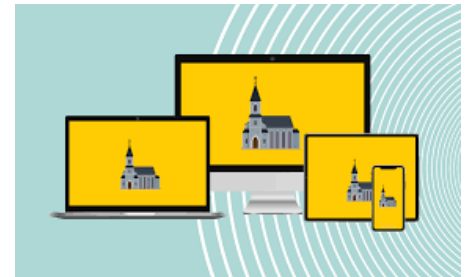
Meeting ID: 273 879 363

Password: 978348

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+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, Music Director;
Alice Franks, 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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