

MAY 9, 2021



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

Geneva Presbyterian Church

May 9, 2021

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: Sing to our God a new song.

Many Voices: God has done marvelous things!

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Many: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Many: Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

Opening Hymn

“God Is Love”

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1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace; with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind-ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heavens a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

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all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Call to Confession

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

God of Abraham and Sarah, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. God of Isaac and Rebecca, we too often forget that it is you who have led us from the captivity of sin into the promised land of forgiveness. God of Jacob and Rachel, we too easily let our faith become bland and lukewarm.

O Lord, lead us toward the wholeness, peace, and courage we can have only in you. Show us your love and hear us as we pray in this time of silence...

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)*

O God, let your Holy Spirit blow through our midst in the reading and hearing of your Word this morning. Bless us with your grace to understand and live courageously in response. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 98

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

New Testament Reading

1 John 5:1-6

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

Sermon

“Which God Do You Love?”

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

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

“We Come to You for Healing, Lord”

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LAMENT AND LONGING FOR HEALING

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

1 We come to you for healing, Lord, of
2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
4 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through
5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
reached toward those in pain, we know you come a -
nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
mong us still with power to heal a - gain.
faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

ministry of medical

Charge and Benediction

Postlude



About the music...

Our opening hymn, God is Love is an Episcopal favorite. The music, written by Cyril Vincent Taylor in 1942, progresses through harmonic variance through sophistication and elegance.

Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, the text of our closing hymn appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and physical dimensions.



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

Russ Maske, uncle of Ken Sprinkle
Yvonne Bean, mother of Debbie Dunne;
Dick Sanderson;
Crayton Brock, husband of Bobbie Maxwell's cousin, Janice Brock
Jeffrey Remer, brother of Robin Kough;
Maria Lenahan;
Norm Rawson;
Bev Davis;
Henry Haller;
Brian, friend of Kyla Lupo;

Healing and Comfort for

Nikki Heimberg, recovering from COVID in Dublin

Beverly Pitts Cain, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, surgery from brain tumor
Rachelle, Kyla Lupo's dear friend, and all who work and volunteer at the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants in
Chicago;
Jim Torrence, health concerns;
Ken Adams, father of Juliet Hiemberg, recovering from COVID-19;
Rosie Perthel, health concerns;
Briana Cochran, cousin of Thibau Family, health concerns;
Rosalie Ruff, health concerns;
Ellie Croft, friend of Gretchen Winch, health concerns;
Scott Brown, health concerns;
Daniel Ricci, prayers for job search;
George Ehler, relative of friend of Ken Sprinkle, health concerns;
Betty Halls, health concerns;
Nancy Morse, health concerns;
Lorraine Leicht, Renee Moloznik's mother, health issues;
Dinah Paffrath, aunt of Renee Moloznik, receiving cancer treatments;
Carl Perthel, health concerns;
Isabelle Schuessler, friend of Scott Brown, health concerns;
Joanne Elder, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, cancer;
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;
Sandy Kichefski, sister of Sheri Sankey, health concerns;
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: Terry Dunne (5/3); Alice Franks (5/5); Debbie Dunne (5/6); Craig Miller (5/11); Cynthia Kaufmann (5/13); Camden Miller (5/14); Andrea Austin (5/22); Katie Harris (5/30); Jeff Alexander (5/30)

This Week at Geneva

Wednesday, May 5	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Sunday, May 9	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Monday, May 10	2:00pm	Sara Sadler's Graduation
Wednesday, May 12	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study



Happy
Mother's
Day

- **Geneva Opening For In-Person Worship Starting May 23**

(Pentecost)!

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV)

Dear Geneva Presbyterian Church Faith Family,

“...not neglecting to meet...” This scripture takes on new meaning for people who have been living through a global pandemic. Geneva Presbyterian has continued to meet in a number of ways for worship, study, and service that glorify God during the COVID-19 pandemic -- and now the time is right for that to include in-person worship again.

The Geneva Reopening Team has worked closely with our Session to draft our church’s COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines, which we are excited to share with you here. Session has authorized in-person worship for our congregation and will consider other building use options in line with government mandates and suggested COVID best practices as time goes on.

All people who attend worship in-person will agree to and abide by these guidelines, which will be revised as needed:

1. Masks will be required at all times on church grounds and 6’ social distancing will be strictly observed (inside and outside). If a person is unable or unwilling to wear a mask, they may join us online for worship at this time.
2. Guests will refrain from physical contact with anyone outside their household.
3. All used spaces are routinely cleaned by church cleaning staff before and after services.
4. The sanctuary will open for worshippers at 10:15.
5. Use only the front/main glass doors -- no other building doors may be used.
6. Check in procedure: all people will sanitize their hands, provide their name and information for contact tracing, answer the standard “COVID questions,” and have their temperature checked upon arrival. Hand sanitizing stations and masks will be available.
7. If any member of a household has a temperature above 100.4 degrees the entire household will be asked to leave and worship with us virtually until safe to return. If you don’t feel well, please don’t come to church in person.
8. Greeters will help with check in and questions. Ushers will guide worshippers to their seats in the sanctuary. Ushers will seat guests by household from front to back in the sanctuary and dismiss them from back to front at the end of service.
9. Individually sealed communion cups will be provided upon check in for services when we celebrate the Lord’s Supper.
10. Paper bulletins will be provided. Pew Bibles and hymnals have been removed for now; scripture readings will be provided via bulletin and/or screen.
11. We will not be passing offering plates, but a centrally located basket will be available for those who chose to make donations in person.
12. The congregation will not be singing at this time, but safe numbers of choir members will sing on behalf of the whole congregation. Speaking the liturgies is encouraged as always.
13. Two single stall, “all gender” bathrooms with closable doors are available on the same floor as the church sanctuary.

14. Geneva Day School areas are strictly off limits to maintain safety for students and staff.
15. Child care will not be provided at this time. Children are welcome and encouraged to sit with members of their household in the sanctuary.
16. Worshippers may not enter the chancel (“stage”) area or the space designated for our Tech Team helpers.
17. Please do not linger or gather in groups inside. “Saying hi” before or after service should be done outdoors.
18. Please obey all posted signs and do your part to keep our community safe!
19. These guidelines apply to everyone equally, regardless of vaccination status.

Some will choose to attend worship in person and some will choose to attend worship online -- we celebrate each and every person who worships with Geneva and honor the choice that is right for your household. Geneva Presbyterian Church will continue all virtual offerings that we have developed during the pandemic: we have learned much during this time and these new practices are part of our shared life now.

Whether in person or from a distance with technology, it is a joy for us to continue meeting for worship. Our “Audience of One” (God) delights in our prayers, music, and proclamation and we can’t wait to worship with you soon.

With Assurance and Hope in Christ,

The Geneva Presbyterian Church Session and the Geneva Reopening Team

- **Sara's Graduation:**

Congratulations to Sara Sadler on her graduation from Wesley Theological Seminary! After much hard work, Sara has earned her Master of Divinity degree and will be joining her fellow students for the graduation ceremony on **Monday, May 10 at 2:00pm**. Graduation is being live streamed from National Cathedral and the Geneva family is invited to participate and celebrate with her using this link <https://youtu.be/ODe9IXfKo1M> Well done, Sara, we are surrounding you with joy and prayers in this time of celebration!



- **Creation Care At Geneva**

The Friends of Cabin John Creek provided and installed a rain planter in the back of the church this week. They received a grant to purchase the supplies and the installations were a Boy Scout project. This planter will help with rainwater management on the church grounds. Many

thanks to Rosie Perthel for her dedication and leadership of Geneva's creation care ministries at Geneva! The way we care for our property is a testament to God's glory and a gift we can share with our community.



- **Geneva Book Club**

Beginning Friday, June 4th at 7:00 PM, Jessie Ricci will be facilitating the Geneva Book Club on Zoom. It will be a four week-long series on *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories From the Twenty-First Century* by Alice Wong. Following the important work of Geneva's Disability Ministry Team, this is an incredible opportunity to learn from the various experiences of people with disabilities. [Here is the link to purchase it.](#) We will discuss the introduction and part one at our first meeting. Hope to see you there!



- **VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00PM EST**

Join us every Wednesday at 7:00pm as we continue our Virtual Bible study! Everyone is welcome!

If you want to know what we'll be studying, you can check it out here:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/>



- **Our Second Neurodiverse Play Date**

Geneva held our second play date for autistic and neurodiverse children and their caregivers on our playground on Saturday, 5/1 and it went great! Children and families had a wonderful time and appreciated Geneva organizing such a fun and engaging experience. So it's easy to remember, the Disability Ministry Team will continue hosting these play dates the first Saturday of each month from 10:00–12:00 (weather permitting). Spread the word if you know families of autistic or neurodiverse children who would appreciate participating!



**PLEASE SUPPORT GOD'S MINISTRY
THROUGH GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE, TABLET,
COMPUTER OR MAIL!**

Three Ways to Give:

- **Online** - using this link - <https://genevapotomac.org/give/online-giving/>
- **By App:** download **GIVE PLUS+**, create an account, and choose Geneva Presbyterian Church (in Potomac) as your home church
- **By Mail:** checks securely received at :
11931 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854

- **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)

- **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;
Rolf Winch, Lector; Tom Sadler, Zoom Host.

Church Elders

Jane Campbell, Carl Perthel, Daniel Ricci,
Tom Sadler, Sheri Sankey, Amanda White,
Elaine Winch

Church Deacons

Ludivine Kom-Liapoe, Bobbie Maxwell,
Allyson McElwaine, Renee Moloznik,
Rosie Perthel, Jessie Ricci, 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
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