

MAY 16, 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 “Hail Thee Festival Day”

Refrain: Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

He who was nailed to the cross, is ruler and Lord of all people.
All things created on earth sing to the glory of God: **Refrain**

Daily the loveliness grows adorned with the glory of blossom;
heaven its gates now unbars, flinging its increase of light: **Refrain**

Call to Worship

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples!

People: God has gone up with a shout of joy.

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ has risen to reign;

People: his is the name above all names.

Leader: We are witnesses: the Lord is risen!

People: Christ has ascended to reign on high.

Opening Hymn “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

O worship the King, all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.

Call to Confession

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

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have withheld our love from him and the world. We have worshipped idols of our own making instead of acknowledging Christ’s rule in our lives.

Forgive us and raise us from sin, so that we may be your faithful people who live and trust in your promises. We lift now the silent personal prayers of our 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)*

God Most High, reigning in glory, stir up your Spirit of wisdom in our midst. Speak to us your words of life so that we may worship you with joy and continually bless your name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 47

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

New Testament Reading

Luke 24:44-53

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

Sermon

"Leaving With A Blessing"

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

Affirmation of Faith /from A Brief Statement of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (USA) *(in unison)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Thanksgiving

The Offering

Music Offering

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;

his craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
thro' him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude



About the Music...

I would dare say that many of us are not personally acquainted with persons of noble birth or the practices associated with a royal court. That was not so for the lyricist of our opening hymn. Robert Grant served the King of England and was accustomed to pomp and pageantry. His text reflects that of the power of God's glory, similar to that of his Divine King; the second verse references royal regalia: robe, canopy, and chariot. This free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve.

You will notice that our introit is a hymn we've sung recently. This particular hymn has specific verses that are to be used for specific services: Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost.

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.



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

Carl Alexander, father of Jeff Alexander

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

Tomoko Alexander, mother of Jeff Alexander, recovering from a fall and hip surgery

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

Sunday, May 16	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, May 19	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Sunday, May 23	10:30am	In-Person and Online Worship
Sunday, May 23	4:00pm	Zoom Paint Party

• 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

- **Zoom Painting Party**

Geneva is having an online Zoom painting party **May 23 @ 4:00** and the proceeds will go to support our Disability Ministry Team's work. Flex your creative side, fellowship with Geneva, and all for a good cause? Count me in! People of all skill levels will be able to enjoy this event. Seriously, you don't need to consider yourself an artist.

[Here's the link to register](#) -- the hard deadline is this Sunday, 5/16, so sign up soon!

Our party will be led by fabulous local artist [Kellie Sansone](#). She will use multiple cameras to guide us through painting Geneva's beloved circular stained glass window above the choir loft (featured in our church logo).

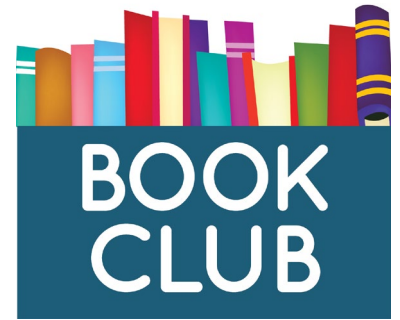
Here's the best part: she can literally mail everything you need to your home!!! Paint, brushes, canvas – everything. All you need is a heart ready for fun and your favorite beverage.

Please contact Pastor Patrick or your Deacon if you need help with a scholarship. For all other questions, please contact event host Kyla Lupo (kylalupo@gmail.com).



- **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/>



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;
Mark Allen, 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:

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