JUNE 6, 2021



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

<u>Get Prepared For Virtual Communion</u> <u>This Sunday In Worship!</u>

This Sunday we will be sharing the sacrament of The Lord's Supper digitally during Virtual Church. Here's how it will work and here is how you can prepare:

- Gather your own communion elements from around your home ahead of worship Sunday morning. Jesus chose common foods of his day for the first communion: bread and "fruit of the vine". What common starch do you have available? In countries around the world, the commonly available starch is tortillas and rice, so those are used. What beverage feels right for you to use? Not everyone has juice in the home, so we might need to be creative.

- Please: in preparing for communion and choosing your elements, do so thoughtfully and with reverence for the sacrament we will share.

-Since we are gathered for worship as a community in the way that is possible for us right now, our liturgy in the sanctuary will serve as a blessing for all of our elements.

It's a joy to share to share the Lord's Supper together – let us gather at Jesus' table!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Patrick

June 6, 2021

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 (Psalm 138):

Leader: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

People: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Leader: They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

People: For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Leader: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

People: The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

All: Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise: Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend: come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success: Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour: thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence, evermore! Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore!

Call to Confession

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

Heavenly God, you call us like a good parent to you to guide and protect us, to nourish and lead us.

Brother Jesus, you call us like a caring elder brother to serve us and help us, to cheer us and invite us.

Healing Spirit, you call us and move us ever closer into fellowship with you and each other.

Yet like unruly children we strain at your guidance, we try to break away and do it ourselves. We feel our strength and imagine to be all powerful. We rejoice in our life and imagine ourselves to be immortal. We know our talents and want to be independent rather than depend on you. Before we know it we are in the grip of other powers, leading us away from your loving ways into the slavery of selfish greed, adoring false gods of youth-fullness, materialism and power.

Lord, forgive us and free us. Open our eyes to how your wisdom knows true leadership to be service. Open our hearts that we may learn that neither race or tribe, culture or religion are barriers to separate us but that we are all one family in your love. So open our hearts and minds to learn again to live your love as we celebrate and worship you here together. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response



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)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Psalm Reading	Psalm 8 This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God.	
Old Testament Reading	Numbers 6:22-27 This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	"May the Lord…"	

Sara Sadler

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

Deep River

arr. Mark Hayes

Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.And also with you.Lift up your hearts.We lift them to the Lord.Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the people

Communion Prayer

The Sending

Closing Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"

#66

To God be the glory, great things he hath done; so loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.

> Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. **[Refrain]**

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **[Refrain]**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

In his first letter to Timothy, the apostle Paul warns him that the Christian life is a constant war against evil. He commands Timothy to "Fight the good fight of the faith" (I Timothy 6:12, ESV). A few verses later, Paul describes the one for whose sake we fight: "he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen" (I Timothy 6:15-16, ESV). In our opening hymn, we praise God as our King and Ruler, addressing each Person of the Trinity in turn, and end with a request that

"His Sovereign majesty May we in glory see."

The text of our closing hymn is unique from Crosby's other hymns because, rather than focus on our experience of God, the words are wholly about God and His perfect glory. In a sense, the hymn perfectly displaces us, removing us from the pedestal on which we so often place ourselves. This displacement is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian faith. It feels very natural for us to seek attention, approval, and our own glory. We like to be in control and present our own image to the world, an image we seek to improve through any means possible. On the other hand, there is great comfort in knowing that the image we try to make for ourselves doesn't matter. We are made in the image of God, which means that whatever we do has to bring Him and Him alone glory. Our lives are wrapped up in God, and so too are the mistakes we make, the wounds we inflict, and all of our shortcomings. These are the things we try to avoid while we maintain control of our lives. But what a joy and a comfort to know that though these things may happen, because God is ultimately in control, and because our own image does not matter, God is still glorified. While we should still try to live a holy and upright life, we should do so to bring God glory, not ourselves. What a beautiful

> freedom that is. 8

Thank you Patrick Merrill for filling in While Ben is away!

Patrick Merrill completed his Master's degree at Peabody in harpsichord performance in 2015 with Adam Pearl. In 2016, he won second prize at the eighth Mae and Irving Jurow International Harpsichord Competition. As a harpsichordist, he has participated in master classes with Davitt Moroney and Trevor Pinnock on antique instruments, served as accompanist at the Amherst Early Music Winter Workshop and the Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute, and coached ensembles for Capitol Early Music. His continuo work includes appearances with Tempesta di Mare, Pennsylvania Philharmonic, the Washington Chamber Orchestra, the Bach in Baltimore series, the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra,



and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra. He also co-founded and performs with the Baltimore-based early music ensemble S'amusant. Mr. Merrill serves on the faculty of the Department of Music at The George Washington University and at Baltimore School for the Arts. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts in harpsichord performance at Peabody, for which he is a recipient of the Peabody Dean's DMA Fellowship.



 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

 Brett Williams, Friend of Ben Shaver

 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 **Robin Kough, cancer treatment** 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; **Pravers 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: Olivia Denaburg (6/2);Robyn Alexander (6/10); Nancy Morse (6/14); (6/16); Nikki Heimberg (6/22); Linda Devine (6/24); Alexander Galliani (6/25); Jose Marin (6/26); Marie Smith (6/30)

This Week at Geneva

Wednesday, June 2	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study
Friday, June 4	7:00pm	Book Club
Saturday, June 5	10:00am	Playdate – Disability Minstry
Sunday, June 6	10:30am	Worship – Virtual Church
Wednesday, May 5	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study

Geneva Is Open For In-Person Worship!

"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 inperson 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

<u>Geneva Book Club</u>

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. <u>Here is the link to purchase it</u>. We will discuss



the introduction and part one at our first meeting. Hope to see you there!

• VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY - SUMMER PLANS

Virtual Bible Study will continue meeting Wednesdays @ 7:00pm through the end of June and then take a break for the months of July and August. This is a space for learning, connection, and questions -- and everyone is invited to join in!



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 <u>https://genevapotomac.org/give/online-giving/</u>
- **By App:** download **GIVE** 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: <u>https://bit.ly/2SL4E76</u>

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; Janelle Thibau, 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, <u>pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com</u> Ben Shaver, Music Director, <u>music.genevapotomac@gmail.com</u> Melissa Cutler, Office Administrator, <u>melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com</u>

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