# **NOVEMBER 14, 2021**



# **GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

## Geneva Presbyterian Church

#### November 14, 2021

10:30am

# **The Gathering**

Welcome to worship with Geneva Presbyterian Church! Whether you're joining us online or in person, we're glad you're here and grateful to be gathered as a community united in Christ. At this time worshippers in the sanctuary will not sing out loud, but if you're online we encourage you to make a joyful noise and sing with all your heart! Everyone is invited to speak liturgies and prayers out loud where indicated in the bulletin.

We greet with open arms and open hearts guests and new church members across the full diversity of life, including differences in sex, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, range of abilities, marital status, family structure, financial means, and education.

No matter who you are, you are welcome here and we hope you will feel home at Geneva.

Prelude

"For the Beauty of the Earth" Geneva Handbell Choir arr. Brian Childers

Welcome to the Worship of God

Silence and Introit

**Call to Worship** 

Leader: Let us worship God, our source of life.

### People: God awakens us from the dust of the earth.

Leader: Let us worship God, our sovereign protector.

#### People: God is at our right hand, and we shall not be moved.

Leader: Let us worship God with hearts that are glad,

#### People: for in God's presence there is fullness of joy.

#### "Every Praise"

**Every Praise** 



## **Call to Confession**

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

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the guiding of the Holy Spirit and embolden us to live as Jesus lived. Wash us clean of the past we cannot change and invite us to live anew in this time of silence...

### 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)

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your ways discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

| Old Testament Reading | Numbers 1:48-54<br>This is the Word of the Lord!<br>Thanks be to God. |
|-----------------------|---|
| New Testament Reading | Acts 17:16-32<br>This is the Word of the Lord!<br>Thanks be to God.   |

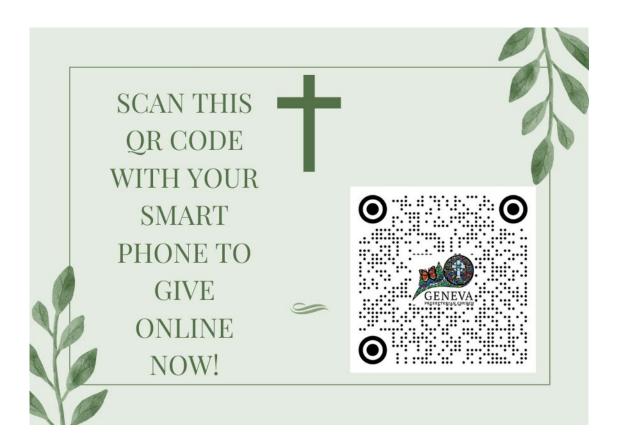
Sermon

"How To Share The Good News"

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

# **The Thanksgiving**

## The Offering



**Music Offering** 

"Swingin' with the Saints" Geneva Sanctuary Choir Mark Hayes

**Prayer of Dedication** 

**The Sending** 

**Closing Hymn** 

"There is a Place of Quiet Rest"

#824

(See next page for lyrics)

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST



A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.

TEXT and MUSIC: Cleland Boyd McAfee, 1901

MC AFEE CM with refrain

### **Charge and Benediction**

#### Postlude

"Blessed Assurance" Geneva Handbell Choir arr. Jason W. Krug

How the Music... The luminous hit song "Every Praise", which was certified Gold in December of 2019, is now certified platinum by the RIAA. After Hezekiah Walker performed "Every Praise" at the Minneapolis memorial service for George Floyd, there was a massive renewed interest from people wanting to add a dose of faith-filled inspiration to their personal playlists during one of the most challenging times of social unrest in recent history.

In the coming new year, it is my hope to have a praise band come and perform with our choir periodically. This is just a taste of what's to come.

Near to the Heart of God A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.



The work, worship, pastor and leadership of Geneva.

**Comfort for the Family and Friends of** Jim Torrence; Ray Johnson, father of Katie Harris; Nina, friend of Sara Sadler Sissy, grandmother of Ludivine Kom Liapoe's friend, Rhiley Farenthold-Carlson Bonnie Tanner, close friend of Sara and Jim Torrence Ruth Harris, mother of Jim Harris Derrick Brown, family of Scott Brown **Healing and Comfort for Rosie Perthel, health concerns; Carole Haller, health concerns;** Pepe Marin, continued treatment for cancer; Diane Skinner, Allyson McElwaine's mom, shoulder surgery Jack, friend of Kyla and Vince Lupo Scott Brown, health concerns; Nancy Rawson, hip replacement surgery Robin Kough, cancer treatment Tomoko Alexander, mother of Jeff Alexander, recovering from a fall and hip surgery Beverly Pitts Cain, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, surgery from brain tumor Rachelle, Kyla Lupo's dear friend, and those who help at the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants in Chicago; Ken Adams, father of Juliet Hiemberg, health concerns; Briana Cochran, cousin of Thibau Family, health concerns; Rosalie Ruff, health concerns; Ellie Croft, friend of Gretchen Winch, health concerns; George Ehler, relative of friend of Ken Sprinkle, health concerns; Betty Halls, 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; 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; Sandra 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.



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)

# This Week at Geneva

| Wed, November 10      | 7:00pm  | Bible Study  |
|-----------------------|---------|--|
| Thursday, November 11 |         | Veterans Day   |
| Saturday, November 13 |         | PASTOR PATRICK'S BIRTHDAY                                |
| Saturday, November 13 | 11:00am | Choir – Rehearsal  |
| Saturday, November 13 | 1:00pm  | Handbell – Rehearsal                                     |
| Monday, November 15   | 7:00pm  | Executive Committee Meeting                              |
| Sunday, November 14   | 10:30am | Worship – In-Person and Online                           |
| Wed, November 17      | 7:00pm  | Bible Study  |
| Saturday, November 20 | 11:00am | Choir – Rehearsal  |
| Saturday, November 20 | 1:00pm  | Handbell – Rehearsal                                     |
| Sunday, November 21   | 10:30am | Worship – In-Person and Online<br>Christ the King Sunday |
| Sunday, November 21   | 12:00pm | Hanging of the Greens                                    |

## Worship Flowers

Thank you to Ken and Letitia Denaburg and York Flowers for donating our worship flowers since we returned to worship in the Geneva sanctuary. We appreciate their generosity toward making our worship offering to God beautiful each week.

We are returning to our traditional practice of making the purchase of worship flowers each week available to our church family. The cost is \$35 per week and the flowers can be dedicated in honor of or memory of a loved one or for another specified reason.

To sponsor our worship flowers for the week, please use our <u>SignUp Genius</u> (online payment available) or contact Melissa in the church office at <u>Melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com</u> or (301) 424-4346.

## • Stewardship Season Focus: Open Hearts, Open Minds

This Sunday we are beginning a two week Stewardship season focus that will culminate with our dedication of pledges and intentions for financial giving in the coming year on Christ the King Sunday (11/21). Our stewardship theme this year is "Open Hearts, Open Minds" reflecting our openness to where God's Holy Spirit is leading us as a congregation. God is continuing to lead us in exciting new directions as a church family and together will forge ahead according to Christ's call in our midst -- with open hearts and open minds to perceive our call as disciples.

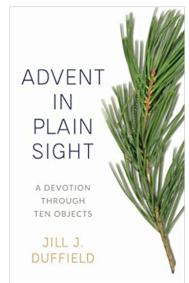


Please be in prayer about what significant and faith-led financial giving would look like for you this coming year. The type of giving that will make a tangible difference for our ministry together and the type of giving that represents taking up our own cross to follow Jesus the way he instructs us to do. This will be different person to person and household to household. That is to be expected and every gift made to God's glory is celebrated!

This year we have the option to submit pledge information <u>online through the</u> <u>church website</u> (no financial information is gathered), via mail at the church (a pledge card will be mailed soon), or by directly contacting Office Administrator Melissa Cutler at <u>melissa.genevpotomac@gmail.com</u>.

# • Advent Devotional: Advent In Plain Sight by Jill J. Duffield

Advent is beginning on Sunday, 11/28 (the Sunday after Thanksgiving). This year Geneva will be getting a lot of mileage out of one particularly excellent resource, Jill Duffield's new Advent devotional, "<u>Advent In Plain Sight: A</u> <u>Devotion Through Ten Objects</u>." We are encouraging every member of our community to purchase a copy of this devotional for personal, daily reflection as we prepare for Christmas. The link above will help you purchase a copy through Amazon; if you need or would like for the church to provide a copy, please contact Pastor Patrick or Melissa in the church office.



In addition to your own personal Advent preparations, we will also use the book as a jumping off point for Wednesday Bible Study sessions and Pastor Patrick's sermons this coming season. We commend this book to you and hope you will join the entire Geneva family as we prepare for Christ's incarnation this season.

With Blessings,

Carl Perthel, Elder for Christian Education Pastor Patrick



## • <u>Geneva Is Open For Online and In-Person Worship!</u>

If you choose to worship in person, please follow the guidelines below to keep our community safe.

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.

## • JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY!

Geneva Bible Study has resumed meeting via Zoom, weekly on Wednesdays @ 7:00pm. The first six weeks we'll cover "6 key themes you need to know from Exodus." We can't wait to see you as we dive into scripture and life together!

<u>Virtual Bible Study: Wednesdays @ 7:00pm</u> Join Zoom Meeting: <u>https://bit.ly/3c3kscZ</u> Meeting ID: 273 879 363 Password: 978348



# • Geneva is Hiring a New Director of Christian Education!

Geneva Presbyterian will soon be hiring a new staff member to increase our ministry offerings related to youth, families, Christian Education, and social media/technology. This person's official



title will be "Director of Next Generation Ministries" to reflect their emphasis on forward-looking ministries to engage with generations of future Christians and modern technologies that can strengthen our Gospel witness as a church.

Geneva's "Executive Committee," which reports to Session and provides committee support for Personnel, Finance, and Property functions, will finalize the Director of Next Generation Ministries position description. They will assist in bringing forth a suitable candidate/s for Session to interview and discern God's will as we move to hire our new staff team member.

We are excited to continue growing Geneva's ministry potential and ask that you hold Session in your prayers as they seek the right fit for our church family.



#### Three Ways to Give:

- Online using this link -<u>https://genevapotomac.org/give/online-giving/</u>
- **By App:** download **GIVE**, 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: <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

Geneva Presbyterian worship videos are available on our church website the Monday following each service. Please share worship recordings with friends and family and join us for worship later if you couldn't make it live!

Click HERE to watch our past Virtual Worship services!



# Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor; Ben Shaver, Music Director;

Alice Franks, Lector; Kyla Lupo, Zoom Host.

<u>Church Elders</u> 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.

Today's worship flowers were donated in honor of Pastor Patrick's Birthday by his Geneva Family.



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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