

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021**



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

**GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

11931 Seven Locks Road  
Potomac, MD 20854  
(301) 424-4346  
[www.genevapotomac.org](http://www.genevapotomac.org)

**Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor**

# Geneva Presbyterian Church

November 28, 2021

10:30am

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## 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. In person worshippers have the option to sing during worship since we are all wearing masks.*

*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**

### **Welcome to the Worship of God**

### **We Light the First Candle of Advent**

### **Wreath Lighting Response**

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, teach us to lay down our weapons and love our neighbors as you do.

**People: Come, Prince of Peace, open your gates of righteousness unto us and lead us into your kingdom.**

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

105 People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more  
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the  
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more  
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crow - ning of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to  
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are  
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y  
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look

a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.  
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.  
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.  
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

east and sing to - day:

Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 Love, the Bird, is on the way.  
 Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)

## Call to Confession

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

God Of The Present Future, you are coming to be for us the way and the truth and the life. We confess that we have not truly expected your kingdom to be arriving. We accept lies as truth, exploit our neighbors, and are too often the enemies of justice and peace.

God With Us, Emmanuel, have mercy and forgive us of our sinfulness. Awaken our hearts to the ways you are already among us in the "ordinary" stuff of daily life. Show us your grace as we approach you in silent prayer...

## Assurance of Pardon

## Congregational Response

SERVICE MUSIC

### 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
F B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
C7 F F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

**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 Lord, you hold nothing back from your beloved children. We approach your living Word in scripture seeking a measure of your wisdom, grace, and joy. Speak to us through your Holy Spirit and open our hearts to receive what you desire to share today. Amen.

### **First Scripture Reading**

**Genesis 28:1-5, 10-22**

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Scripture Reading**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

**"Striving Toward the Gate of Heaven"**     *Rev. Patrick McElwaine*

# The Thanksgiving

## The Offering



## Music Offering

## Prayer of Dedication

# The Sending

Closing Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

#82

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening “Come,” this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = “coming”). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744  
MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

HYFRYDOL  
8.7.8.7.D  
(alternate tune: STUTTIGART, 83)

## Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

#### *About the Music...*

*People Look East* was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

With its opening "Come," *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.





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

Ruth Harris, mother of Jim Harris

Derrick Brown, family of Scott Brown

**Healing and Comfort for**

**Bill Bryan, father of Letitia Denaburg, health concerns;**

**Barbara and Paul Prosswimmer, health concerns;**

**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;

**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.



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 24	7:00pm	<b>No Bible Study – Happy Thanksgiving!</b>
Sunday, November 28	10:30am	<b>Worship</b> – In-Person and Online
Wed, December 1	7:00pm	<b>Bible Study</b>
Thursday, December 2	7:00pm	<b>Meeting</b> – Day School Board
Saturday, December 4	11:00am	<b>Playdate</b> – Disability Ministry Team
Sunday, December 5	10:30am	<b>Worship</b> – In-Person and Online
Sunday, December 5	12:00pm	<b>Advent Event</b>

- **Updated COVID Guidelines!**

Session has approved an updated set of COVID Guidelines for Geneva Presbyterian that are in line with changing pandemic guidelines and the needs specific to our congregation. Please review and abide by these guidelines to keep our community safe if you come to Geneva in person.

**Update Approved Nov. 22, 2021**

1. Masks will be worn inside the church building and social distancing will be practiced. If a person is unable or unwilling to wear a mask, they may join us online for worship at this time.
2. The Pastor and Liturgist may remove their masks while leading worship in the chancel area.
3. The sanctuary will open for worshippers at 10:15.
4. Please enter through the main glass doors on the Seven Locks Rd. side of the building.
5. Check in procedure: all worshippers will provide their name for contact tracing, answer the standard "COVID questions," and have their temperature checked upon arrival. Hand sanitizing stations and masks will be available.
6. 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.
7. Greeters will help with check in and questions. Ushers will guide worshippers to their seats in the sanctuary.
8. Child care is being offered in a downstairs school classroom. Masks are encouraged if a child is able to wear one. An Usher can help guide caregivers and children to the child care space.
9. Individually sealed communion cups will be provided upon arrival for services when we celebrate the Lord's Supper.
10. Offerings and donations may be made online or in the physical offering plate located next to the sanctuary doors.
11. The congregation may sing with masks on.
12. Geneva Day School areas are strictly off limits to maintain safety for students and staff (with the exception of child care during worship).
13. Please obey all posted signs and do your part to keep our community safe!
14. These guidelines apply to everyone equally, regardless of vaccination status.

- **Stewardship Season Focus: Open Hearts, Open Minds**

Thank you to everyone who has returned their pledge information for the 2022 "Open Hearts, Open Minds" stewardship campaign. Every financial contribution of every size toward God's ministry in our midst is appreciated and important. Your gifts are sharing the Gospel and changing lives in our congregation, community, and world -- and we are looking forward to all that God has in store for the year ahead!



**STEWARDSHIP 2022**

If you would like to make this faith-led commitment to giving and have not yet done so, we invite you to submit your pledge information [online through the church website](#) (no personal financial information is gathered), via mail at the church, or by directly contacting Office Administrator Melissa Cutler at [melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com).



## *Geneva Presbyterian Church's Blessing Bags*

THE GENEVA DEACONS ARE ORGANIZING BLESSING BAGS FOR THE 35 WOMEN AND THE 35 MEN LIVING IN THE INTERFAITH CENTERS LOCATED IN ROCKVILLE. WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS FOR THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW OR MONETARY DONATIONS SO WE CAN BUY THE ITEMS REQUESTED. THE BLESSING BAGS WILL BE ASSEMBLED ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, SO PLEASE HAVE ALL DONATED ITEMS DELIVERED TO GENEVA BY THAT DATE. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DELIVER YOUR DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH, PLEASE CONTACT RENEE MOLOZNIK (RMOLOZ@HOT MAIL.COM) FOR DONATION PICKUP. YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO HELP US ASSEMBLE THE BLESSING BAGS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 12:00 PM AT GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 11931 SEVEN LOCKS RD, POTOMAC, MD 20854.

### Wish List

#### Women's Center Wish List:

Chapstick  
Scarf  
Winter Hat  
Pens  
Make up Bag  
Hair ties

Nail Polish  
Gloves  
Coloring Book  
Color Pencils  
Blanket  
Barrettes

Nail File  
Socks  
Activity Book  
Reusable water bottle  
Hair Products  
Card games

#### Men's Center Wish List:

Socks  
Wash cloths

Razors  
Soap

Shaving Cream  
Lotion

#### Year-Round Wish List

Shampoo/Conditioner  
Hairbrushes  
Hand Sanitizer  
Sleeping Masks  
Bleach

Body Wash  
Floss  
Lysol Wipes  
Hand Soap  
Comet

Deodorant  
Tissues  
Lysol Spray  
Socks  
Windex

**Please contact Allyson McElwaine ([asmcelwaine@gmail.com](mailto:asmcelwaine@gmail.com)) if you have any questions.**

**CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS**

**GENEVA FAMILY ADVENT EVENT**

Christmas Advent Craft Event

Crafts for all ages and abilities!

Make Blessing Bags to be delivered to shelters



**Fun Holiday Crafts**

Sunday, December 5th  
12 – 1:30 PM

Geneva Presbyterian Church  
11931 Seven Locks Rd.  
Potomac, MD

- **SAVE THE DATE - Geneva Christmas Soup/Chili/Singalong - Sunday, December 12 at 12:00 PM.**

Come feast on assorted soups and chili(s) before our Geneva Singalong with Ben. It will be held after our Sunday service at 12:00 PM. If you are unable to attend in person, we will have a Zoom set up shortly.

Topic: Geneva Christmas Singalong Zoom Meeting  
Time: Dec 12, 2021 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)





- **Worship Flowers**

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 [SignUp Genius](#) (online payment available) or contact Melissa in the church office at [Melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com](mailto:Melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com) or (301) 424-4346.

- **Advent Devotional: Advent In Plain Sight by Jill J. Duffield**

This year Geneva will be getting a lot of mileage out of one particularly excellent resource, Jill Duffield's new Advent devotional, "[Advent In Plain Sight: A Devotion Through Ten Objects](#)." 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

- **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!



Virtual Bible Study: Wednesdays @ 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/3c3kscZ>

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.



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**

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;  
Mark Allen, Lector; Kyla Lupo, 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.*

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by the entire Geneva Presbyterian family.



**Geneva warmly welcomes all our guests joining us today**



### **Geneva Staff:**

**Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor,** [pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com)  
**Ben Shaver, Music Director,** [music.genevapotomac@gmail.com](mailto:music.genevapotomac@gmail.com)  
**Melissa Cutler, Office Administrator,** [melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com)

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