

JANUARY 23, 2022



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

Geneva Presbyterian Church

January 23, 2022

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

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. 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.

Time of Preparation

“God is better understood as a physician than as a judge, just as sin is better understood as an illness than as a transgression.”

“Only do not abandon your Physician.”

St. Peter of Damaskos

(from: Philokalia—The Eastern Christian Spiritual Texts: Selections Annotated & Explained, p. 12)

Prelude

Welcome to the Worship of God

Silence and Introit

Call to Worship *(from the Iona Community)*

One Among the poor, among the proud, among the persecuted, among the privileged,
All Christ is coming to make all things new.

One In the private house, in the public space, in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,
All Christ is coming to make all things new.

One With a gentle touch, with an angry word, with a clear conscience, with burning love,
All Christ is coming to make all things new.

One That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe, that the powerful might
stumble, that the hidden might be seen,

All Christ is coming to make all things new.

One Within us, behind us, before us, in this place, in every place, for this time, for all
time,

All Christ is coming to make all things new.

Opening Hymn

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

#32

(lyrics on next page)

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.

that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.
 if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!
 and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868

Call to Reconciliation

For healing, for wholeness, for freedom, for restoration, let us pray...

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

Christ our subtle Physician, we open our hearts to you, sometimes courageous, sometimes trembling, sometimes laughing, sometimes weeping. And yet we confess, we often cannot see where we need healing. Be gentle with us, Jesus, and yet reveal to us the truth of ourselves.

When we are not loving, turn us to love. {...*silent prayer*...}

When we are fearful, stir us to be faithful. {...*silent prayer*...}

When we withhold our gifts, release us. {...*silent prayer*...}

To the cries of justice denied, to the voiceless hungry ones, to a life of grace and beauty, to abundant hope, awaken us...

Assurance of Pardon (John 8:11)

Rejoice in Jesus' words, "I do not condemn you. Go, and sin no more."

All: Thanks be to God!

Congregational Response

SERVICE MUSIC

582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b 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^b E^b B^b 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 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)*

Blessed Lord, giver of grace and mercy, transform us and renew our hearts as we approach your Word in scripture today. Reveal to us the newness you offer in Christ and lead us to offer our lives to you in humble service and love. Amen.

The Epistle Reading

James 5:13-19

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

LAMENT AND LONGING FOR HEALING

There Is a Balm in Gilead 792

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

Fine

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but
 2 Don't ev-er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend, and
 3 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can

to Refrain

then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain. There is a
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll not re-fuse to lend. There is a
 tell the love of Je-sus and say, "He died for all." There is a

This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989, alt.
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

BALM IN GILEAD
 7.6.7.6 with refrain

One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.* Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus;* but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd* in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, 'Friend,* your sins are forgiven you.' Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, 'Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?' When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven you", or to say, "Stand up and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he said to the one who was paralyzed—'I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.' Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, 'We have seen strange things today.'

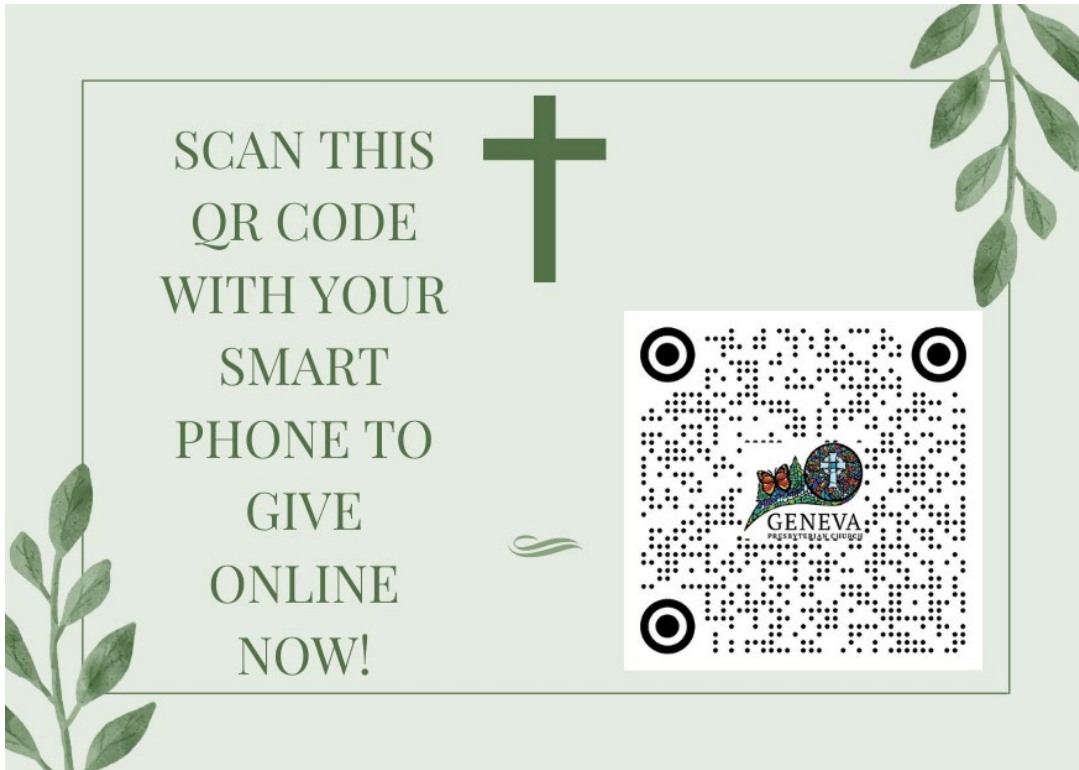
This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Silent Reflection on the Scripture**Sermon****"The Church As Healer"***Pastor Mark Greiner***Affirmation of Faith** *(from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith)*

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.

The Thanksgiving

The Offering



Offering Prayer *(George Herbert, 1593-1633)*

You have given so much to me. Give one thing more, a grateful heart, Amen.

Music Offering

Prayer of Dedication

The Sending

Closing Hymn

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

#683

CELEBRATING TIME

683 Lord of All Hopefulness



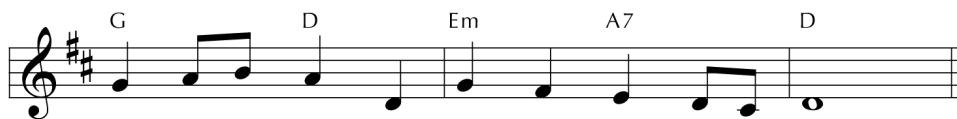
1 Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, whose
2 Lord of all ea-ger-ness, Lord of all faith, whose
3 Lord of all kind-li-ness, Lord of all grace, your
4 Lord of all gen-tle-ness, Lord of all calm, whose



trust, ev-er child-like, no cares could de-stroy: be
strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be
hands swift to wel-come, your arms to em-brace: be
voice is con-tent-ment, whose pres-ence is balm: be



there at our wak-ing and give us, we pray, your
there at our la-bors and give us, we pray, your
there at our hom-ing and give us, we pray, your
there at our sleep-ing and give us, we pray, your



bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

When first published in 1931, this “All-Day Hymn” (as it was titled) seemed very daring for not using traditional archaic pronouns to address Christ. Current pronouns no longer disturb, but the comforting Jesus portrayed here needs to be balanced by his call to discipleship.

TEXT: Jan Struther, 1931
MUSIC: David Schwoebel, 2008
Text © 1931 Oxford University Press
Music © 2008 Celebrating Grace, Inc.

COURTNEY
10.11.11.12
(alternate tune: SLANE)

Charge and Benediction *(Philippians 4:7-8)*

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing,
whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Postlude

About the Music...

In the Old Testament, Gilead was the name of the mountainous region east of the Jordan River. This region was known for having skillful physicians and an ointment made from the gum of a tree particular to that area. Many believed that this balm had miraculous powers to heal the body. In the book of Jeremiah, God tells the people of Israel that though many believe in the mysterious healing power of this balm, they can't trust in those powers for spiritual healing or as a relief of their oppression. He reminds them that He is ultimately in control, and only He can relieve their suffering. In the New Testament, God answers the suffering of His people by sending His own son to take our place. Jesus becomes our "balm in Gilead." It is Him we are called to turn to in our times of trial for healing and comfort. We sing this song with that assurance: no matter our hardships or supposed shortcomings, Jesus loves us enough to take our suffering upon Himself.

When first published in 1931, "Lord of All Hopefulness" (previously titled "All-Day Hymn") seemed very daring for not using traditional archaic pronouns to address Christ. Current pronouns no longer disturb, but the comforting Jesus portrayed here needs to be balanced by his call to discipleship. This version of the hymn is set to music composed by David Schwoebel who was the Music Director of the Derbyshire Baptist Church in Richmond, VA. I admired him greatly when I was growing up and his church's Christmas Concert CD was listened to so much that it would skip! He was the choral conductor for the 2021 summer Music Conference at Massanetta Springs. Such a great pleasure to work with him and sing his music once more.

***"Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise."
- Jeremiah 17:14***



The work, worship, pastor and leadership of Geneva.

Comfort for the Family and Friends of

Elaine Brasted;

Jim Torrence;

The family and friends of John McKenna, friend of Jim and Sara Torrence

Ray Johnson, father of Katie Harris;

Ruth Harris, mother of Jim Harris

Derrick Brown, family of Scott Brown

Healing and Comfort for

Brent Davis, spine surgery;

Carole Haller, health concerns;

Barbara and Paul Prosswimmer, health concerns;

Rosie Perthel, health concerns;

Jan Sengers, colleague of Sara Torrence, health concerns

Earl Baker, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence, health concerns

Bill Bryan, father of Letitia Denaburg, health concerns;

Pepe Marin, continued treatment for cancer;

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

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;

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.



Birthdays: *Sheena Galliani (1/5); Bob Ricci (1/6); Jacquelyn Kough (1/6); Rosalie Ruff (1/8); Allyson McElwaine (1/14); Sara Torrence (1/17); Amanda White (1/18); Terry Shima (1/20); Malachi McElwaine (1/23); Carole Haller (1/25); Eric Winchenbach (1/26); Ruth Nunn (1/28); Ani Cherot (1/30)*

This Week at Geneva

Sunday, January 23	10:30am	Worship – In-Person and Online
Wed, January 26	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sunday, January 30	10:30am	Worship – In-Person and Online

- **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.

- **Pastor Patrick on Vacation**

Pastor Patrick will be on vacation January 17 - January 23. If you have a pastoral need during this time please contact your Deacon. Happy New Year, and many thanks to Pastor Mark Greiner for leading worship on January 23rd.!



- **Thank You Pastor Mark Greiner!**

With 25+ years in congregational ministry, our presbytery commissioned Pastor Mark Greiner for medical mission work in Nepal in 2020. He practices Eastern Medicine at Crossings Healing and Wellness in Silver Spring. Passionate about teaching, he is on the faculty of the Maryland University of Integrative Health. He's a playful potter, percussionist, acupuncturist, parent, and pastor. His wife is an ecojustice educator with the Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake.



Pastor Mark Greiner, M.Div., M.Ac., L.Ac., CZB

- **JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY!**

Happy New Year! How about this for a new year's resolution (or really just a great thing to do at any time of the year): hop on for Bible Study this coming week!

This dedicated and fun group meets every

Wednesday @ 7:00pm Eastern for scripture study, prayer, and fellowship. You're officially invited and it would be a joy to see you soon!



Virtual Bible Study: Wednesdays @ 7:00pm

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

Meeting ID: 273 879 363

Password: 978348

- **The Inclement Weather Policy for Geneva:**

Sundays: If inclement weather is predicted for Sunday, a decision will be made by Pastor Patrick and the Elders on the Saturday immediately before the Sunday service in question.



For example, if a snow / ice storm is forecast for Sunday, December 8, the decision would be made on Saturday, December 7 and an all-church email will be sent out. Phone calls will be made to those who do not have email.

Please use your own judgment about coming to worship if the weather is "iffy." We do not want anyone to get in an accident coming to church, or fall on the ice /snow in the parking lot. If in doubt, err on the side of caution and stay home!

- **Worship Flowers**

Would you like to sponsor Geneva's Sunday morning worship flowers to enhance our gift of worship to God? If so, 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 or (301) 424-4346.



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;
Rolf Winch, 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 by:

Janelle Thibau in memory of my father, Mac G. Morris



Geneva warmly welcomes all our guests joining us today



Geneva Staff:

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor, pastor.genevapotomac@gmail.com
Ben Shaver, Music Director, music.genevapotomac@gmail.com
Melissa Cutler, Office Administrator, melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com

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