

DECEMBER 24, 2022



Christmas
EVE

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Patrick McElwaine, Pastor

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

Joseph's Story

The Journey to Bethlehem



Away in a manger No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus Laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus No crying He makes
I love You, Lord Jesus Look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

The Innkeeper’s Story

At The Inn



Christmas Eve Homily

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

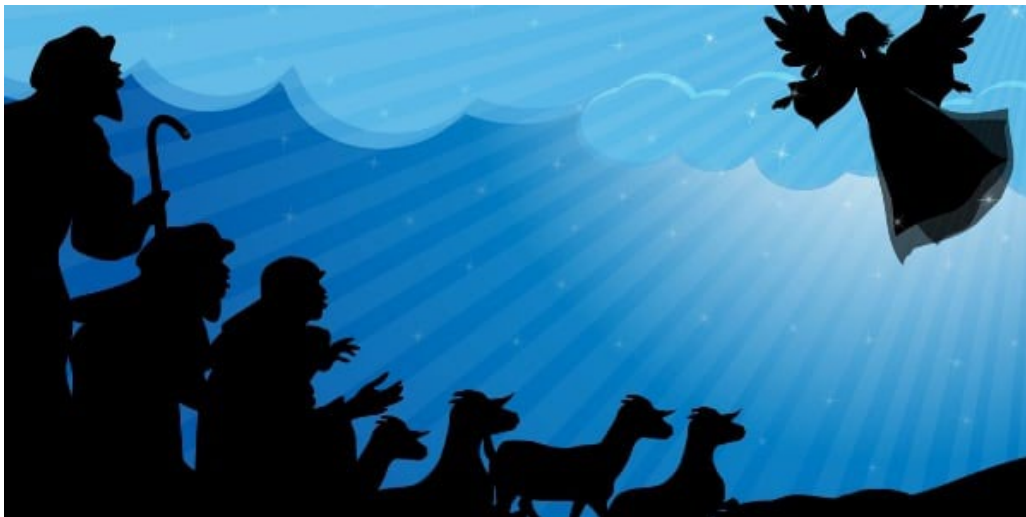
Our Christmas Eve Offering

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. (**Refrain**)

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. (**Refrain**)

The Shepherds' Story***Guarding Their Flock***

Thank you to all our readers who generously donated their voice to tell this beautiful Christmas Story!

Prayers of the People *(using the prayers we wrote as a congregation)*

Passing the Christmas Flame

Geneva tradition is to light candles together at this point of the service by passing the flame from the Christ Candle.

If you are worshipping from a distance this evening, we ask that you please:

- Turn on your video camera if you are comfortable doing so*
- Lift a light, your hands, or your heart in celebration as the words below are read*



So holy is this wondrous night, that our hearts are filled with joy,
for God turned darkness into light, With the birth of a baby boy.
The heavens rejoice, the angels sing, And the whole world in reply
Praises the Messiah, the anointed king With glory to God on high.
May the glow of this candle light our way To reach out to those in need,
So as faithful servants day by day, We may serve God's people indeed.

written by Elaine Brasted



All:

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child;
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure Light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Choir Only:

Silent night, Holy night,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
at Thy birth

ALL:

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
"Alleluia" to our King!
"Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born."

Moment for Silent Prayer

Carol

“Joy to the World”

#179 (vs. 1 & 4)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Benediction

Rev. Patrick McElwaine

Postlude

“Christmas Joy”
“We Wish You A Merry Christmas”
Geneva Handbells

arr. Jason W. Krug
arr. Kristine Johaneck



 IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Names in bold are new prayer list additions.

The work, worship, pastor and leadership of Geneva.

Comfort for the Family and Friends of

Mary Bird, aunt of Renee Moloznik;

Paul Prosswimmer;

Werner Haubrich, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence

Jens Thiedemann, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence

George Hunt, husband of Margot Hunt;

Pete Nunn, husband of Ruth Nunn;

Virginia Hughes, great aunt of Derrick Truby;

Donald Schuessler, friend of Scott Brown

Mark Perthel, brother of Carl Perthel;

Betty Halls;

Healing and Comfort for

Lorraine Leicht, Renee Moloznik's mother, health issues;

Scott Brown, health concerns;

Barbara Prosswimmer, health concerns;

Margaret and Don Acton, parents of Amanda White, continued health concerns;

Lawrence Kushner, friend of Sara and Jim Torrence;

Ann Beaty, friend of Ben Shaver, health concerns;

Bill Linton, husband of a close friend of Sara Torrence, health concerns;

Sandra Poole, niece of Sara and Jim Torrence, treatment for cancer;

Paul Quin, husband of Pamela Wilson, health concerns;

Justin Pack, nephew of PJ Davis, living with ALS;

Riley Young, hospitalization related to cerebral palsy;

Ryan Davis, nephew of Geneva Day School parents Ron and Zeina Davis, who is in critical condition following a car accident;

The extended family of Dr. Lena Leonchuk, Jeff Alexander's coworker, who live in Ukraine;

Brent Davis, spine surgery;

Rosie Perthel, health concerns;

Pepe Marin, continued treatment for cancer;

Nancy Rawson, health concerns;

Robin Kough, health concerns;

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

Ken Adams, father of Juliet Hiemberg, health concerns;

Rosalie Ruff, health concerns;

George Ehler, relative of friend of Ken Sprinkle, health concerns;

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;

Daniel Adkins, nephew of Kyla and Vince Lupo, health concerns;

Jeff Leicht, Renee Moloznik's brother;

Judith Sadler, mother to Tom Sadler, mental illness and PG County guardianship care;

Leland Perthel, living with Post-Concussion Syndrome;

Sandra Kichefski, sister of Sheri Sankey, health concerns;

Prayers for Peace

Daniel Kough, son of Jack and Robin Kough, home from Afghanistan.

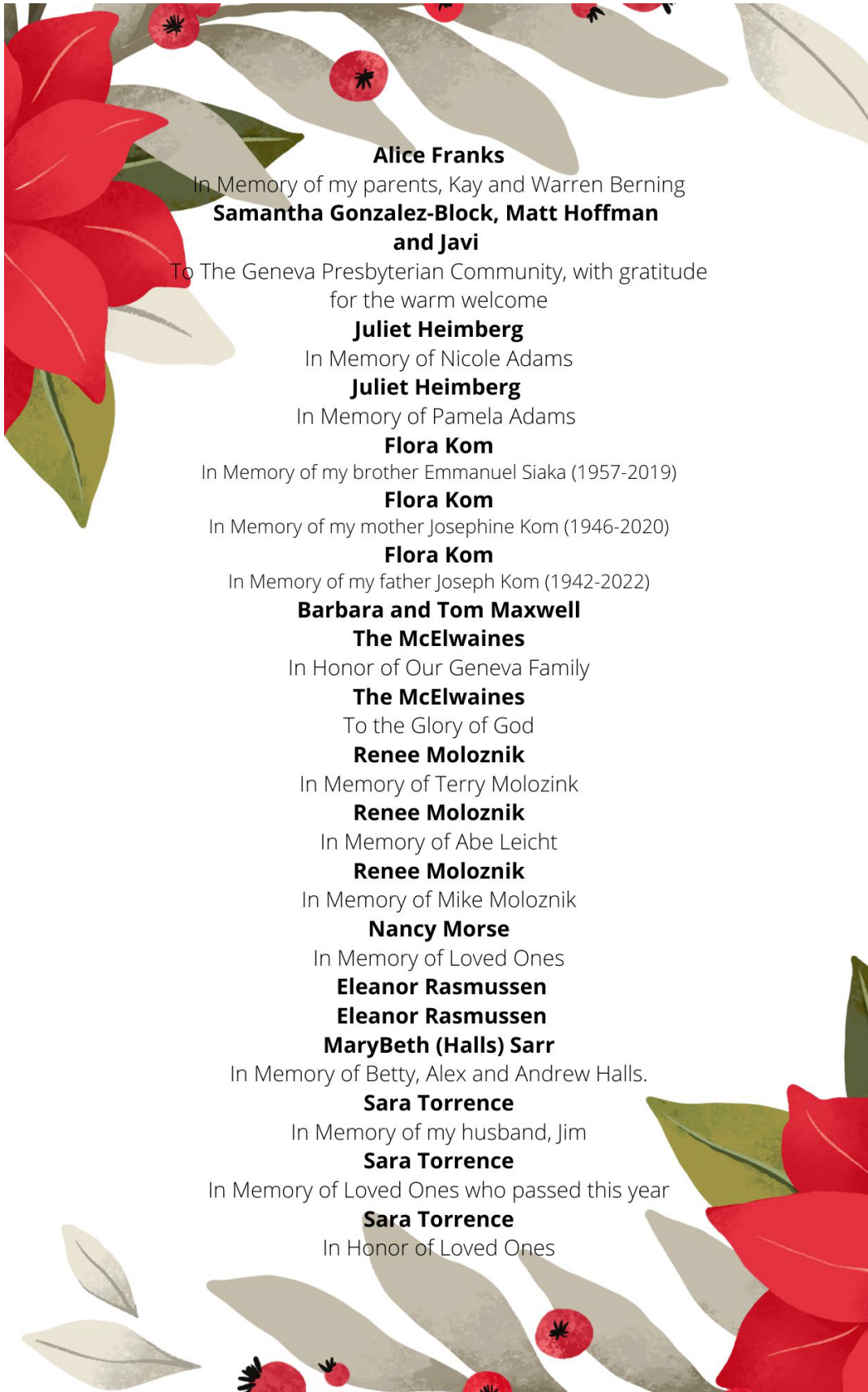
Walter Sprinkle, son of Ken and Nan Sprinkle, US Army Special Training

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Patrick, Cali, Ben &
Melissa*

Thank you to all our generous Poinsettia Donors!



Alice Franks

In Memory of my parents, Kay and Warren Berning

Samantha Gonzalez-Block, Matt Hoffman

and Javi

To The Geneva Presbyterian Community, with gratitude
for the warm welcome

Juliet Heimberg

In Memory of Nicole Adams

Juliet Heimberg

In Memory of Pamela Adams

Flora Kom

In Memory of my brother Emmanuel Siaka (1957-2019)

Flora Kom

In Memory of my mother Josephine Kom (1946-2020)

Flora Kom

In Memory of my father Joseph Kom (1942-2022)

Barbara and Tom Maxwell

The McElwaines

In Honor of Our Geneva Family

The McElwaines

To the Glory of God

Renee Moloznik

In Memory of Terry Molozink

Renee Moloznik

In Memory of Abe Leicht

Renee Moloznik

In Memory of Mike Moloznik

Nancy Morse

In Memory of Loved Ones

Eleanor Rasmussen

Eleanor Rasmussen

MaryBeth (Halls) Sarr

In Memory of Betty, Alex and Andrew Halls.

Sara Torrence

In Memory of my husband, Jim

Sara Torrence

In Memory of Loved Ones who passed this year

Sara Torrence

In Honor of Loved Ones

- Join Geneva Presbyterian Church in the New Year!

WINTER SERMON SERIES: JONAH

*Dive deeper into this well known
story with us!*

**SUNDAYS AT 10:30
STARTING MID-JANUARY
IN PERSON OR ONLINE**

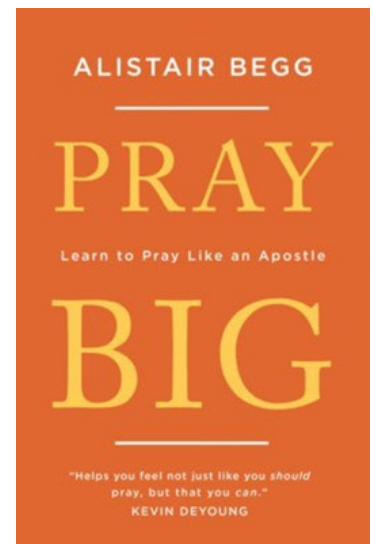
Chapter by chapter, verse by verse, in the new year we'll explore this story through fresh eyes to make connections with the New Testament and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.



- **Bible Study Update!**

Join us Wednesdays @ 7:00pm via Zoom **beginning January 4, 2023**, as our Bible Study group shifts gears to read together through Alistair Begg's book "Pray Big: Learn to Pray Like an Apostle". This eminently practical and applicable book will help deepen, develop, and direct your prayer life like no other! Make sure to get a copy and mark your calendar -- if you need help to obtain a copy, please contact the church office.

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



- **Next Generation Ministries!**

Each Sunday, all children entering 5th grade and younger are encouraged to join us for Bridges to Worship! We invite all kids to stay in the Sanctuary through the children's sermon, where there will be activity bulletins, coloring pages and books for you to read. After the sermon, we will head down to the childcare room together. Each week we'll read a book or do a craft as a group, and then have some time for play. We'll return to worship after the sermon. If your child is not yet ready to join us in the Sanctuary, the childcare room will still be open for the entirety of the service.



GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
INVITES FAMILIES TO A

NEW YEAR
CELEBRATION
PARTY

Featuring Slush and Krust: The Party
Place for Neurodiversity! Pizza,
games and giveaways!

January 7th, 11am-1pm
Geneva Presbyterian Church
Potomac, MD

RSVP HELPFUL BUT NOT REQUIRED
VIA EVENTBRITE

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the invitation featuring a row of six balloons. From left to right, the colors are yellow, white, yellow, white, yellow, and yellow.

Follow Us on Social Media



Let's Get Connected!

Please add us to your social media channels. You can follow and like Geneva Presbyterian Church via Instagram and Facebook!



@genevachurchpotomac on Instagram




@Geneva Presbyterian Church on facebook



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 **Vanco Mobile** , create an account, Invitation code for Geneva Presbyterian Church (Potomac, MD): **3DS2A8**
- **By Mail:** checks securely received at :
11931 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854

- **COVID Guidelines**

COVID Guidelines for Geneva Presbyterian are based on the color coded CDC Covid-by-County Map and the needs specific to our congregation. Please review these guidelines when you come to Geneva in person.

We are now in "the green zone" for Covid transmission in Montgomery County, which triggers "mask optional" per Session's approved policy

Approved August 22, 2022

1. Wearing of masks is optional at Geneva Presbyterian Church.
2. Please maintain a high level of respect for the comfort level of those around you when it comes to personal interactions.
3. Geneva Presbyterian will follow the CDC Covid-by-County Mapping that delineates a color coded warning level system of Green, Yellow, Orange indicating risk with respect to increase in Covid positive tests, deaths and overall vaccination status: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>
4. In the event that Montgomery County, Maryland falls into a Yellow or Orange status, Geneva will reimplement wearing masks and social distancing, and the Covid-Reopening Team will meet to determine other possible action.
5. These guidelines apply to everyone equally, regardless of vaccination status.

- **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;

Sara Sadler, Lector; Kyla Lupo, Zoom Host.

Tom Sadler and Sheri Sankey, Audio/Visual

Church Elders

Jane Campbell, Carl Perthel, Tom Sadler, Sheri Sankey, Ken Sprinkle, Amanda White, Elaine Winch

Church Deacons

Ludivine Kom-Liapoe, Kyla Lupo, Sheena Galliani, Allyson McElwaine, Renee Moloznik, Rosie Perthel, Sara Sadler, Janelle Thibau

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 Geneva Presbyterian Family.



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

Cali Bronkema, Next Generation Director, nextgen.genevapotomac@gmail.com

Melissa Cutler, Office Administrator, melissa.genevapotomac@gmail.com

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