

John Calvin Meditating, engraved from a painting by Ary Scheffer (1858)

Reformation Sunday

Larchmont Avenue Church 60 Forest Park Avenue Larchmont, New York 10538 (914) 834-1800

October 27, 2024

PRELUDE

"Highland Cathedral" Ian Underwood, Highland bagpipes Traditional

INTROIT"The Lord Is My Refuge"Douglas KostnerThe Lord is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

THE NATURE OF WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from a letter by John Calvin to Cardinal Sadoleto, 1539)

- One: "Let us know and be fully persuaded,
- All: that wherever the faithful, who worship God purely and in due form according to the appointment of God's Word, are assembled together to engage in the solemn acts of religious worship, the Lord is graciously present, and presides in the midst of them... Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, and the sacraments administered according to Christ's institution, there --it is not to be doubted -- a church of God exists."

***THE PEACE**

- One: "If we want to prove our obedience to our Lord and Master Jesus Christ,
- All: then we must bind ourselves in a *pia conspiratio* [literally, a "breathing together"], and cultivate peace among ourselves."¹
- One: May the peace of Christ be with you!
- All: And also with you!

***OPENING HYMN #321** "The Church's One Foundation" (verses 1 and 5)

CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

- One: "[I]f we are willing to rest upon simple Scriptural teaching, there will be no danger of anyone's deceiving us, for in Scripture, one way of confession is prescribed...
- All: Since it is the Lord who forgives, forgets, and wipes out sins, let us confess our sins to him in order to obtain pardon.
- One: He is the physician; therefore, let us lay bare our wounds to him.
- All: It is he who is hurt and offended; from him let us seek peace.
- One: He is the discerner of hearts, the one cognizant of all thoughts;
- All: let us hasten to pour out our hearts before him."²

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

Rev. Claunch

- One: What do we mean when we speak of "justification"?
- All: "...to justify means to remit sins, to absolve from guilt and punishment, to receive into favor, and to pronounce a man just."
- One: From whom can we receive such justification?
- All: "Properly speaking... God alone justifies us, and justifies only on account of Christ, not imputing sins to us but imputing his righteousness to us."
- One: And how can we receive this justification from God?

¹ Lukas Vischer, *Pia Conspiratio: Calvin's Commitment to the Unity of Christ's Church* (Theology and Worship Occasional Paper No. 20, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 2007), p. 15.

² John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book III, Chapter IV, Paragraph 9 (1536).

- All: "...not through any works, but through faith in the mercy of God and in Christ... [We] therefore teach and believe... that sinful man is justified by faith alone in Christ, not by the law or any works."³
- One: Then let us believe the good news, and be at peace.
- All: Through faith in Christ, and by the grace of God, we are forgiven!

*GLORIA (#581) Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE CENTRALITY OF SCRIPTURE

Rev. Claunch

SOLA SCRIPTURA

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

"O Lord, who is the fountain of all wisdom and learning... infuse your Spirit into me, the Spirit of understanding, of truth, judgment, and prudence, lest my study be without success, and the labor of my teacher be in vain... Amen."⁴

PSALTER READING	Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22	(Pew Bible OT, p. 508)
ANTHEM	"Amazing Grace" Ian Underwood, Highland ba	Arr. Stephen Hatfield
CHILDREN'S MESSAG	Ε	Rev. Bynum
GOSPEL READING	Mark 10:46-52	(Pew Bible NT, p. 47)
SERMON	"The M'od Squad"	Rev. Bynum

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #649 (verses 1 and 3)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

One: Why do Christians need to pray?

- All: "Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them."
- One: What kinds of prayer are pleasing to God?
- All: "First, we must pray from the heart... asking for everything God has commanded us to ask for. Second, we must fully recognize our need... so that we humble ourselves in God's majestic presence. Third, we must rest on this unshakable

³ Second Helvetic Confession, 5.106, 5.108, 5.109 and 5.010 (1561).

⁴ From a prayer by John Calvin (1542).

foundation: even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ our Lord. That is what God promised us in his Word."⁵

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYERRev. BynumOur 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 glory forever. Amen.

THE GREAT AMEN (congregation singing) Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Arr. Timothy Cummings Ian Underwood, Highland bagpipes

*DOXOLOGY (#607)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*CLOSING HYMN #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Bynum

*CHORAL AMEN

*POSTLUDE

"Crossing the Minch" Ian Underwood, Highland bagpipes

Traditional

There is no expectation that you remain seated during the Postlude. Feel free to greet your neighbors!

* Please stand if you are able.

⁵ *Heidelberg Catechism*, 4.116 and 4.117 (1562).

Announcements & Happenings

PRAYERS	FLOWERS	
Do you have a prayer request to share with our LAC community? Call our prayer line at (914) 834- 1800, ext. 342.	 This morning's flowers are given by Arthur and Pam Washington in celebration of the wedding of their daughter, Caroline Washington, to Devin Haack on October 26, 2024. If you are interested in sponsoring flowers, please get in touch with the office at broodal@lacny.org. 	
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	FELLOWSHIP	
 Interested in info or joining Women's or Men's Bible Study, contact broodal@lacny,org or ajwash@optonline.net, respectively. Tiny Theologians for ages 3-10 meets today in the Carhart Room following the Children's Message. Nursery care is available in the education wing (room 114) for infants and toddlers. 	 SAVE THE DATE! 11/17 Fall Celebration, 6-8 pm. 21 & Over Learn about our Scotland Pilgrimage. <u>https://www.lacny.org/2025-pilgrimage-to-scotland/</u>. 2025 Nominations for church officers are being compiled. If interested contact <u>broodal@lacny.org.</u> 	
MUSIC	SERVICE	
 Open to all HS-adults -Limited Advent Choir engagement (11/20-12/24). Contact <u>dkostner@lacny.org</u>. Mark your calendars for Larchmont Symphonia in worship: 11/24, 12/24 (8pm) 	 Midnight Run: 11/23 & 12/7 @ 4 PM. LAC Food Connection. Contact: <u>lacoffice@lacny.org</u>. Mission Trip dates 2/15 - 2/22/25. Email: <u>agclaunch@lacny.org</u> for info. 	
THIS WEEK AT LAC		
<u>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27</u> 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online) 10:00 am Tiny Theologians (Carhart) 11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall) 12:30 pm Girl Scouts Walk <u>TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29</u> 6:45 pm Al-Anon (Room 202) 7:00 pm AA (Carhart)	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30 12:00 pm Memorial Service 7:30 pm Symphonia (Chapel) 7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 4:00 pm Westchester Children's Chorus 7:15 pm AA (Carhart)	

STEWARDSHIP 2025

Today marks the start of the 2025 Stewardship Campaign 'God is **Opening Doors** at LAC. Help us answer the call. We need your time, energy, skills, talent and financial support. Please find more information in the pew cards or scan the QR code here. Dedication Sunday is 11/17.



Visit: www. lacny.org

CONNECT WITH US

Senior Pastor : Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum (pbynum@lacny.org, 914-834-1800 ext. 308) Associate Pastor : Rev. Anna Grace Claunch (agclaunch@lacny,org, 914-834-1800 ext. 303)



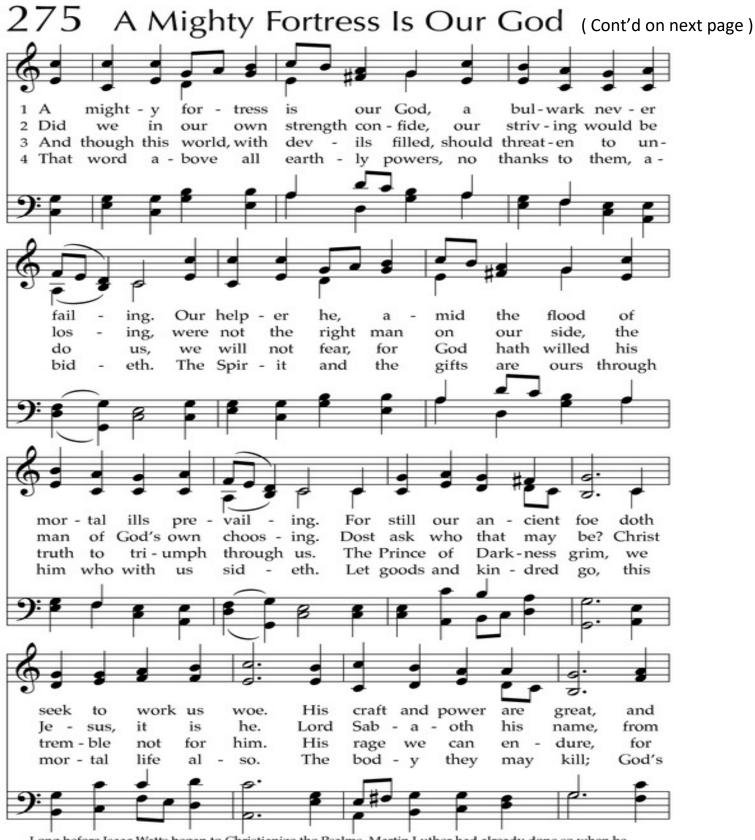
As an Earth Care Congregation, we ask you to please recycle your bulletins. Thank you!

THE CHURCH



This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

TEXT: Martin Luther, 1529; trans. Frederick Henry Hedge, 1852 MUSIC: Martin Luther, 1529, alt. EIN' FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN

