



# Larchmont Avenue Church

60 Forest Park Avenue

Larchmont, New York 10538

(914) 834-1800

First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024



## December 1, 2024 – First Sunday of Advent

**PRELUDE** “Still, Still, Still” Arr. Evelyn Larter  
Caitlyn carpenter, viola

**INTROIT** “The Root of Jesse” Douglas Kostner  
*The root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations  
in him the Gentiles will hope.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** The Widner Family

One: The world says, “All is lost.”

**All: God says, “All are loved.”**

One: The darkness says, “The light is dying.”

**All: The light says, “The dawn is breaking.”**

One: Fear says, “Cover your eyes and your ears.”

**All: Hope says, “Wait, watch, and listen.”**

One: As we light our first Advent candle, we pray for holy hope of God.

**All: Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Hope.**

**\*THE PEACE**

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

**\*OPENING HYMN #82** – “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**MOMENT FOR MISSION** Christmas Baskets Becky Gray

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*) Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

**Christ our Savior, you may not find us as you hoped. We have ignored signs and problems we do not wish to see. We have stopped listening to cries of anguish we do not wish to hear. We have failed to change things we know must be changed.**

**Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive hearts that have grown weary. Restore spirits that are burdened by worry. Refresh minds and bodies that are numb and disengaged. Reveal to us signs of your coming, so that we may turn to your light and find you again...** (*time for silent prayer*)

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORIA** (#584) **Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! (2x)**  
**And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well! (2x)**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (*in unison*) The Gray Family

**Holy Spirit, as we open your Word in this season of light, we ask for your blessing. Clear our minds, open our ears, and free our hearts to hear what you would have us hear on this first Sunday of Advent. Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

**CHILDREN'S STORY TIME** "The Polar Express," by Chris Van Allsburg  
Rev. Bynum

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Jeremiah 33:14-16 Rev. Bynum

**SERMON** "The Light Ahead" Rev. Bynum

**CHORAL ANTHEM** "Believe" Alan Silvestri  
Bill Sabia, drums

*Children sleeping, snow is softly falling. Dreams are calling, like bells in the distance.*

*We were dreamers, not so long ago, But one by one, we all had to grow up.*

*When it seems the magic slipped away, We find it all again on Christmas day.*

*Believe in what your heart is saying, hear the melody that's playing.*

*There's no time to waste, there's so much to celebrate.*

*Believe in what you feel inside and give your dreams the wings to fly.*

*You have everything you need, if you just believe.*

*Trains move quickly to their journey's end. Destinations are where we begin again.*

*Ships go sailing far across the sea, Trusting starlight to get where they need to be.*

*When it seems that we have lost our way, We find ourselves again on Christmas day.*

*Believe in what your heart is saying, hear the melody that's playing.*

*There's no time to waste, there's so much to celebrate.*

*Believe in what you feel inside and give your dreams the wings to fly.*

*You have everything you need, if you just believe.*

## **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

...Therefore, we praise you, with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever

proclaim the glory of your name...

Sanctus

***Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might,***

***Heaven and earth are full of your Glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!***

Memorial Acclamation

***Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.***

***Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!***

Words of Institution

Jacques Berthier

Communion of the People

*In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*  
(Choir and Congregation singing)

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near, lift up your voices, the Lord is near.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Claunch

**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 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

Financial gifts may be shared via Realm, by scanning the QR code here or via pledge cards found in the pew or at the rear of the sanctuary.



## OFFERTORY

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”  
Caitlyn Carpenter, viola

Arr. Raymond Haan

## \*DOXOLOGY (#105)

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.*

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN #88 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (verses 1, 6 and 7)

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Bynum

## \*POSTLUDE

“Pat-a-Pan”

Arr. Evelyn Larter

*You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude, but there is no expectation that you remain seated. Feel free to greet your neighbors!*

*\* Please stand if you are able.*

## Notice of Congregational Meeting

On December 8, 2024, at the end of the worship service, a meeting of the congregation of the Larchmont Avenue Church will be called for the purpose of electing new church officers and three at-large members of the 2025 All-Church Nominating Committee.

# Announcements & Happenings

## PRAYERS

Do you have a prayer request to share with our LAC community? Call our prayer line at (914) 834-1800, ext. 342.

## FLOWERS

Today's flowers are Given in honor of the Leclere family by Amy Hart.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Nursery care available in Room 114 for infants/toddlers.

## FELLOWSHIP

## MUSIC

- Mark your calendars! Larchmont Symphonia 12/8, 12/24 (8pm).
- Student Quartet 12/15.
- Children Guitarist Duo 12/22.
- String Quartet and Flute Trio 12/24 @ 5pm.
- Advent/Chancel Choir is debuting today, and will be with us until Christmas Eve!

## SERVICE

- Midnight Run: 12/7, 4 PM Russell Hall
- LAC Food Connection. [lacoffice@lacny.org](mailto:lacoffice@lacny.org).
- **LAC Christmas Gift program** is a time-honored tradition that embodies the spirit of the season. This year, we are looking for LAC members to provide wrapped Christmas gifts/gift cards for 25 people in 10 families. Families will also receive a gift basket with Christmas goodies.

### Sign up for gift giving:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4CACAC29A31-53545551-lacchristmas>

**Monetary Donations:** LACNY.org Giving page select Holiday Gifts in the dropdown menu or by to LAC with Holiday Gifts on the memo line.

## THIS WEEK AT LAC

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)  
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

6:00 pm Larch-Mamaroneck Youth Orch. (Chapel)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

11:00 am Women's Bible Study (Carhart)  
6:00 pm Deacons' Meeting (Room 201)  
7:00 pm AA (Carhart)

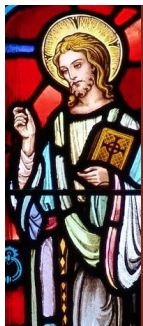
### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)  
5:00 pm Youth Group  
7:30 pm Symphonia (Chapel)  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

4:00 pm West. Children's Ch. (Russell, Carhart, Ch.)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

## STEWARDSHIP 2025



Opening  
Doors

Stewardship  
2025

Goals:  
10% ↑ in gifts  
110 total pledges

Commitments  
to date:  
\$555,800

74

PRIOR DONORS

7

NEW DONORS

41

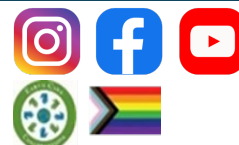
INCREASED GIFTS



## CONNECT WITH US

Visit: [www.lacny.org](http://www.lacny.org)

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!



# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-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.

# 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
 and close the path to misery.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
 our spirits by thine advent here;  
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 all peoples in one heart and mind;  
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)

Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.