



James Tissot, "The Magi Journeying (*Les rois mages en voyage*)," 1886–1894

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

First Sunday of Christmas
December 29, 2024

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum
Associate Pastor: Rev. Anna Grace Claunch
Director of Music: Douglas Kostner



PRELUDE

“What Child is This?”
Caitlyn Carpenter, viola

Arr. Evelyn Larter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Peter Bynum

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Hear the good news of the gospel: The time of salvation has come.

All: God’s Word now dwells among us, full of grace and truth.

One: Fill us, O God, with the light and life of Christ, through whom all things were made,

**All: so that we may be faithful disciples, bearing witness to your grace and truth;
through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.**

***THE PEACE**

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

***OPENING HYMN #145** *“What Child Is This”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

Holy God, even though we are in awe of the love and light of Christ, we remain self-centered and cling to the sin of the world. We celebrate the birth of our Savior, yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him. We are called to pursue justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, yet we seem content to seek our own comfort and ignore the cries of those in need.

By the light of the Christ child, lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness, as we seek to honor Emmanuel, God With Us... *(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 pleased! (2x)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

God of all truth, we give you thanks that your Word became flesh and now lives among us. As we prepare to hear the ancient words of Scripture and sing songs of praise and faith, enliven our hearts and minds to know afresh your living and eternal Word, Jesus Christ, who is present in this place. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 148

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 3:12-17

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL SING

*During this time we will celebrate the Christmas season
by singing selected verses of carols requested by the congregation.*

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Bynum

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for the life of the world, saying:

O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church . . . Inspire us to glorify and praise you with the shepherds of Bethlehem, giving thanks for every sign of your grace.

O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world . . . Strengthen those who work for good. Provide generously for the poor and put an end to all oppression.

O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community . . . Help us to keep watch over this city. Let it be a sign of your redemption, a place sought out, not forsaken. O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones . . . Pour out your goodness and mercy on all who are hurting this day. Let them find new hope in you.

O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, hope of the world, help us to bear witness to your light so that all may believe and have life in you; and hear us now as we join our voices and hearts together, offering the prayer our Savior taught us to pray, saying...

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.

Rev. Claunch



OFFERTORY

Villancico Andaluz

Joaquin Nin

Valerie Girardi Kostner, soloist

Campana sobre campana y sobre campana una; Asómate a esa ventana verás un Niño en la cuna.

Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?

Recogido tu rebaño ¿a dónde vas, pastorcito? Voy a llevar al Portal requesón manteca y vino.

Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?

Campana sobre campana, y sobre campana dos; Asómate a esa ventana, porque está naciendo Dios.

*Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?
Caminando a medianoche ¿a dónde vas mi buen pastor? Le llevo al Niño que nace como a Dios, mi corazón.*

Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?

(Bell upon bell upon bell strikes one; Approach the window and you will see a Child in a manger.

*Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?
Gathering up your flock, where are you going, little shepherd? I'm going to take to the stable butter and wine.*

*Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?
Bell upon bell upon bell strikes two; Approach the window because God is being born.*

*Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?
Traveling at midnight, where are you going, my good shepherd? I'm taking to the Child, who is born as God, my heart.*

Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?)

***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 #110 *“Love Has Come”*

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Bynum

***POSTLUDE**

“Pat-a-Pan”
Caitlyn Carpenter, viola

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.*

Announcements & Happenings

PRAYERS

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

FLOWERS

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers, please contact the office at broodal@lacny.org.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Join the Women's Bible Study! Email broodal@lacny.org.
- Men's Bible Study. Contact Arthur Washington, ajwash@optonline.net.
- Youth Group resumes January 15th

FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to our Deacons for the weekly coffee hour fellowship they offer to us through the year!

MUSIC

Thank you to Douglas, our chancel choir, and all of our guest musicians and singers for helping us make beautiful music throughout 2024!

SERVICE

- LAC Food Connection. Contact: lacoffice@lacny.org to volunteer.

THIS WEEK AT LAC

Office Closed Monday, December 30th through Wednesday January 1st

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

8:30 am OFFICE HOURS RESUME

7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

STEWARDSHIP



Scan the QR code to make a pledge to the Stewardship 2025 Campaign.



CONNECT WITH US

Visit: 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 that you please recycle your bulletin.
Thank you!

145

What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A) C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."