



“The Newborn Child,” Georges de la Tour (c.1645–1648)

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, let us praise our God and Creator,

All: who has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ.

One: Come, let us praise Christ our savior,

All: who has redeemed us by the riches of God's grace.

One: Come, let us praise the Spirit,

All: who marks us as beloved heirs of God.

One: Come with wisdom and understanding;

All: let us hope in Christ together and praise God forever. Amen.

*THE PEACE

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

*OPENING HYMN #401

“Here in This Place (Gather Us In)” (*verses 1 and 4*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

Gather us, Lord, your children who run and hide -- ashamed, afraid, apathetic. We trade your goodness for ashes. We trade your peace for control. We trade your promise for certainty.

Gather us to you and return us to your abundant mercy. May it flow over us, renewing our weary souls ... (*time for silent prayer*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*in unison*)

Violet Widboom

O God, through your mighty acts we receive grace upon grace. From your fullness, feed us with your life-giving Word, that our lives, like bread, may feed a hungry world. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60: 1-6

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

Rev. Bynum

SERMON

“The Seal of Our Inheritance”

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSIVE HYMN #494

Rev. Bynum

*Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all,
from the best bliss that earth imparts, we turn unfilled to heed thy call.
O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright.
O chase the night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.*

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!

...Great is the mystery of faith.

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

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful* Jacques Berthier

(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 the 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 de Navidad”
Caitlyn Carpenter, viola and Andrei Oransanu, guitar

Agustin Mangoré

*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 #331 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” (verses 1 and 4)

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Bynum

*POSTLUDE

*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.

FELLOWSHIP

- Coffee and refreshments are served by our deacons in Russell Hall each Sunday at the conclusion of worship.
- Interested in membership at LAC? Reach out to Rev. Bynum at pbynum@lacny.org.

MUSIC

Looking for ways to get involved? Joining the choir is a great way to make a joyful noise (and some great friends as well). Call the church office or email dkostner@lacny.org for more details.

SERVICE

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

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 pm Officers' Training (Carhart)

TUESDAY JANUARY 7

12:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Lindsley)
6:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Lindsley)
6:45 pm Al Anon (Library)
7:00 pm Deacons' Meeting (Lindsley)
7:00 pm AA (Carhart)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
4:30 pm Westchester Children's Chorus (Chapel)
7:00 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)



Update your Realm, today. Use the pew card & drop into the offering or at the back of the Church or scan the QR code. Problems? contact broodal@lacny.org.



As an Earth Care Congregation, please recycle your bulletin. Thank you!

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.