

Longest Night

A Service of Reflection & Remembrance



Monday, December 23, 2024 | 7:00 p.m.

Larchmont Avenue Church
60 Forest Park Avenue
Larchmont, NY 10538

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & WORDS OF INTENT

LITANY OF GATHERING

One: Creator God, hover over this space.

All: *For grief is like an ocean, pulling us back in, and we need you in the midst of the waves.*

One: Creator God, hold us in your arms.

All: *For our hands are already full, carrying memories and heartache, and we need you to carry us.*

One: Creator God, in times of joy and in times of sorrow, we turn to you.

All: *Thank you for staying through the longest nights. Give us strength for today, courage for tomorrow, and peace for the past.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1, 25-31 46

Psalms 139:1-18

Matthew 11:28-30

BLESSING FOR THE LONGEST NIGHT

Jan Richardson

PASTORAL PRAYER

CANDLE LIGHTING & SILENT REFLECTION

Those who would like to come forward to light a candle are welcome to do so.

COMMUNAL SENDING

One: We are here.

All: *We are here.*

One: I see you and your pain.

All: *I see you and your pain.*

One: I see you and your hope.

All: *I see you and your hope.*

One: You are my neighbor.

All: *You are my neighbor.*

One: We belong to one another.

All: *We belong to one another.*

One: We are not in this alone.

All: *We are not in this alone.*

One: Thanks be to God for the love that binds us.

All: *Thanks be to God for the love that binds us.*

One: Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC