



Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Third Sunday of Lent
March 23, 2025

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



PRELUDE “Legend No. 5 in Ab Major” Antonín Dvořák
Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano

INTROIT “All The Ends of the Earth” Douglas Kostner
All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

MOMENT FOR MISSION *Mary Grace Pagaduan The Stem Alliance*

***THE PEACE**

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*adapted from Psalm 80*)

One: O Shepherd of Israel, hear the cries of your flock! Remember how you brought a young vine from Egypt, cleared out the brambles and briars, and planted your people as your very own vineyard?

All: You prepared the good earth, you planted her roots deep, and the vineyard soared high and shaded the mountains, even dwarfing the giant cedars!

One: But now, O Lord, the vine you planted no longer thrives, because we have gone astray. Now anyone passing by can steal its grapes, and thorns infest the ground.

All: Bring us back, Almighty God! Show us your mercy, and we will be saved!

One: Come and save this grapevine that you planted, this young vine you made grow so strong!

Preserve and protect us, the people you made to be your vineyard.

All: We will never turn away from you again. Keep us alive, and we will praise you. Bring us back, Almighty God! Show us your mercy, and we will be saved!

***OPENING HYMN #494** “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts” (verses 1, 4, and 5)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

O Christ, you are the true vine, and you have made us your branches. In your grace, we find strength. In your love, we are set free.

Forgive us, O God, when we do not live as people who have been freed, when we act as if the Easter story did not change us and change the world.

Forgive us, O God, when we do not live as people who are your branches, when we forget that we are rooted in you and bound to one another by your spirit.

Forgive us, O Christ, our one true vine, and teach us to abide in you... (*time for silent prayer*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***KYRIE (#551)** *Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*in unison*)

Christ the True Vine, abide with us, we pray. Open our eyes to your life-giving Way, open our ears to your life-giving Truth, and open our hearts to Life we can only find in you. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 22:23-31

ANTHEM

“I Am the Vine”

*I am the vine, you are the branches,
Remain in me and you will bear abundant fruit.
I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.
He trims away every barren branch,
But the faithful ones he trims to increase their yield.
Live on in me, as I do in you.
No more than a branch can bear fruit alone,
Can you bear fruit apart from me.
If you live in me, and my words live on in you,
Ask what you will, it will be done for you.
Through your work, God is glorified!*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rev. Bynum

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 15:1-11

SERMON

“I AM the True Vine”

Rev. Bynum

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #836 (verses 1 and 4)

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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; and 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 electronically via the Realm Connect app or by scanning the QR code to the right. Additional pledge cards are available at the Usher Station at the rear of the sanctuary.



OFFERTORY

“Abide With Me”

Arr. John Carter

Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano

***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 #438** “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Vs. 1: All; Vs. 2: Low voices; Vs. 3: High voices; Vs. 4: All

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Bynum

POSTLUDE

“Rock of Ages”

Arr. Marianne Kim

Ben Wien, piano

*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.*

TODAY’S MUSICAL GUEST

Ben Wien, piano

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 or SignUpGenius.com Sponsoring Flowers.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Join the Women's Bible Study! Email broodal@lacny.org.
- Men's Bible Study. Contact Arthur Washington, ajwash@optonline.net.
- Kids ages 3 through 5th grade are dismissed to Sunday School following the Children's Message.

FELLOWSHIP

- Coffee served in Russell Hall today at 11:15 am. Meet Mary Grace Pagaduan and learn about The Stem Alliance.
- Interested in membership at LAC? Reach out to Rev. Bynum at pbynum@lacny.org.
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt 4/5@3:30pm.

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: lacoffice@lacny.org
- Midnight Run Dates: 4/5.
- SAVE THE DATE: LAC Rummage Sale, May 1-3
Donations accepted: Sat, April 26 10am – 12pm
Sun., April 27 12pm – 4pm
Mon., April 28 10am – 4pm
Tues., April 29 9am – 12pm

www.lacny.org/rummage-sale-2025-2/



or scan QR code

LENTEN & EASTER SERVICES

- Maundy Thursday Communion Service — April 17th @ 7 PM
- Good Friday Service — April 18th @ 12 noon
- Community Sunrise Easter Service in Manor Park — April 20th @ 6:30 AM
- Easter Services at LAC — April 20th @ 9 AM and 11AM

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)
10:20 am Sunday School (All ages meet in Carhart)
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall)

MONDAY, MARCH 24

6:00 pm Community Resource Center presentation by Jirandy Martinez (Carhart)
6:00 pm Larch.-Mamaron. Youth Orch. (Russell Hall)
7:00 pm Session (Library)

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

6:45 pm Al Anon (Library)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Lindsley)
4:00 pm Westchester Children's Chorus (Sanctuary, Carhart, Chapel, Room 202, Youth Room)
7:15pm AA (Carhart)

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)

Visit: www.lacny.org



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, we ask that you please recycle your bulletin. Thank you.



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



Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts 494

1 Je - sus, thou joy of lov - ing hearts, thou fount of
 2 Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; thou sav - est
 3 We taste thee, O thou liv - ing bread, and long to
 4 Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, wher - e'er our
 5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; make all our

life, thou light of all, from the best bliss that
 those that on thee call; to them that seek thee
 feast up - on thee still; we drink of thee, the
 change - ful lot is cast, glad when thy gra - cious
 mo - ments calm and bright. O chase the night of

earth im - parts we turn, un - filled, to heed thy call.
 thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.
 foun - tain - head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.
 smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.
 sin a - way; shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light.

This 19th-century American translation of stanzas from a longer Latin poem is so well shaped that it sounds like an original meditation on Christian experience centered on the Lord's Supper. The North American tune name seems not to have originated with the English composer.

438 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands.
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,

Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side which flowed
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

Though scholars discredit the story that this hymn was written when the author found shelter under a large rock during a thunderstorm, the popular appeal of that conjecture perhaps lies in the energy of this plea and the vividness of its imagery drawn from many biblical sources.

TEXT: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776, alt.
 MUSIC: Thomas Hastings, 1830, alt.

TOPLADY
 7.7.7.7.7

FORGIVENESS

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.
 all for sin could not a - tone. Thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.