



*Hunger Cloth from the Wernberg Monastery in Austria*

# Larchmont Avenue Church

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

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY October 5, 2025

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



## PRELUDE

“Prelude”

Theodore Dubois

## INTROIT

“Live into Hope”

Edward Miller

*Live into hope of captives freed, go sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

## \*THE PEACE

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

## MOMENT FOR MISSION

*Stewardship 2026*

Pat Allen

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from a prayer by Leon Clymore)*

One: O God, it is clear from your holy Word that you desire the liberation of all oppressed peoples.

**All: All of us have experienced oppression of one kind or another. And some of us know a deeper pain... oppression we have suffered because we are different from “the norm.”**

One: O God, we may be immigrants from other nations. We may claim a heritage or ethnicity that is a minority in this place. We may be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Whatever the labels might be, some of us have been treated as outcasts, unwelcomed, not equal.

**All: Yet you are the One who created us the way we are. You have given us our ethnicity, our gender, and the circumstances of our birth. And, without exception, you love us, welcome us, and affirm our identity.**

One: O God, we know that we are not saved or justified by our deeds or our works, but only by your grace and love.

**All: We are all grateful for your welcome, your affirmation, and the steadfast love you offer to all of your children. Today, as we celebrate a sacred meal with brothers and sisters around the world, we bear witness to our liberation from bondage, and we look forward to the day when all nations in all places will be able to see all people with your loving eyes. Amen.**

## \*OPENING HYMN #401

“Here in This Place (Gather Us In)”

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.**

**We look at a world undone by strife, torn by violence, and separated by hatred, but you call us, clearly and consistently, to walk in the way of peace.**

**Forgive us, O Lord, for failing to follow you because the cost seems too high. Forgive our complacency. Grant us clarity of vision to see the light and the strength to walk behind you. Lift up all those who seek your peace, your hope, and your love, and help us join hands so that your light might shine through us... *(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)*

*Holy God, as we read your holy word, we ask your Spirit to bless it and give it power,  
so that it may be for us the Word of life. Amen.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      Isaiah 61:1-4

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**      Acts 12:1:17

**SERMON**      “Liberation Theology”

**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**

*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

“The Reign of God Is at Hand”

Marty Haugen

*Proclaim, proclaim God’s strong, transforming Word!  
Sing what you have heard from the true and faithful prophets,  
And break down the walls built of hatred, greed, and fear;  
The reign of God is near.*

*Stand up and speak God’s freedom and God’s peace.  
Let the violence cease; let us speak the truth to power.  
When prisoners are freed and the captives are unbound,  
The reign of God may be found.*

*Go forth and show God’s mercy and God’s care.  
Let us learn to share of the grace poured down upon us,  
When hungry are fed and the broken ones are healed,  
The reign of God is revealed.*

*Look up and see! God’s spirit breathes anew.  
Let our hearts be true to the call we have been given.  
Through courage and faith we might serve God’s holy plan:  
The reign of God is at hand.*

## \*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 #317

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

“McKee”

Dale Wood

*NOTE: You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude, but there is no expectation that you remain seated.  
Feel free to get up and 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](mailto:broodal@lacny.org).

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month (TODAY) the kids begin in Sunday School. They can be dropped off in the Carhart Room prior to worship and they will join their families later in the service for Communion.
- Women's Bible Study- Tues. 10/7@ 11am, Lindsley.  
Men's Bible Study - Thurs. 10/9 @ 8:30 am. Lindsley.
- We love having little ones in worship with us! If you prefer, there is a nursery for infants & toddlers (Room 114/Education Wing). Ask an usher for directions.

## FELLOWSHIP

SAVE THE DATE! ALL ARE WELCOME

10/9 @ 7pm SEEKERS: Join artist SoHyun Bae for a multimedia presentation & discussion "Painting as Prayer" (Carhart)

10/17 @ 5 pm to 7 pm FAMILY GAME NIGHT: Pizza, prizes, games, FUN!!!! (Russell Hall)

10/19 @ 2pm BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS  
Beloved tradition. All pets are welcomed! (Sanctuary)

## MUSIC

- Chancel Choir rehearsals every Wednesday at 7:30 PM. No auditions needed, all are welcome (HS to adults). Contact: [dkostner@lacny.org](mailto:dkostner@lacny.org).
- Symphonia in Worship, 10/26.

## SERVICE

- Midnight Run . Join us at 4pm in Russell Hall  
October 18<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup>

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Today is World Communion Sunday, a tradition celebrating Christian unity since 1934. To mark this day, LAC participates in the "Peace and Global Witness Offering," which supports PC(USA) ministries. *Please use the blue mission envelope in the pews if you wish to contribute. Checks can also be sent to the Church Office with designation for "Peace/Global Witness."*

## STEWARDSHIP



Christ is the cornerstone. We are the foundation.  
2026 Stewardship Appeal

Connected in faith, service, and fellowship, your support will be the foundation of LAC for decades to come. Scan the QR code on the left to make your Giving Pledge today

## THIS WEEK AT LAC

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall)  
11:30 am Personnel Committee Meeting (Library)

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:00 pm Larch-Mamar. Youth Orch. (Russell, Carhart, Chapel, Rm 202)

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

11:00 am Women's Bible Study(Lindsley)  
7:00 pm Deacons' Meeting (Library)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)  
5:00 pm Youth Group: 5th to 7th Grades  
6:15 pm Youth Group: 8th to 12th Grades  
6:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Lindsley Rm)  
4:00pm West. Children's Chorus (Russell Hall, Carhart, Chapel, Rm 202)

7:15 pm AA (Chapel)

8:00 pm SEEKERS: Painting as Prayer (Carhart)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

11:00 am Larchmont Day-Fall Festival (Constitution Park)

## CONNECT WITH US

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

Senior Pastor : Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum  
([pbynum@lacny.org](mailto:pbynum@lacny.org), 914-834-1800 ext. 308)  
Associate Pastor : Rev. Anna Grace Claunch  
([agclaunch@lacny.org](mailto: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](mailto:broodal@lacny.org).

As an Earth Care Congregation, we ask you to 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.

## 317 In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no  
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -  
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your  
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -  
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the  
 race may be. All chil - dren of the  
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.