



The Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Director of Music: Douglas Kostner
Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Ekama Eni

December 24, 2020 | Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m.

Bulletin for Online Worship | <http://www.lacny.org/worship/livestream/>

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2020

PRELUDES

Carol of the Bells

Arr. Fabrizio Ferrari

Brynn Coady, Nicole Sharlow for Sophie Moussapour, Juliet Rotondo, violin; Nola Coady, cello

Sing We Now Noël

Arr. Brant Adams

Rich Williams, trombone

Ding, Dong, Merrily on High

Arr. Linda Scholes

The Bells

Two French Carols

Arr. Brian Joyce

James Tiebout & Sasha Bilik, violin

Caitlyn Carpenter, viola; Paul Swensen for Allison Hecht, cello

Silent Night

Arr. Melvin Lauf

Flautinos

Melanie Huang, Claudia Huter, Diana Teodorescu, Giovanna Vitale; Steve Huter, piano

El Belén Tocan a Fuego

Mark Hellem

Larchmont Symphonia

WELCOME

Patty Towle

CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

Celebrate the coming of the Light.

O sing to the Lord a new song,

God's salvation is at hand.

Celebrate the coming of Salvation.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

Celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace.

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.

Celebrate the coming of Christ!

HYMN 133 (verse 1, 3, and 5)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

(Continued)

Refrain:

***O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!***

***Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!***

***Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!***

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Wong Family

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Thea Beaver

God of Joy, we come to celebrate again the arrival of Love Incarnate here in our very midst. Your glorious arrival is enough to cause the forests to sing for joy, yet we still find reasons to complain and sigh. Your light of salvation is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives, yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt. Your gift of Love is big enough for the whole world, yet we still find ourselves resentful that your love extends to those whom we deem to be unworthy. God, you invite us into the light of the stable where the overlooked and forgotten have gathered to celebrate the miracle of your love. Give us the strength and courage to join you at the manger. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

MY SOUL GIVES GLORY TO MY GOD

***My soul gives glory to my God; my heart pours out its praise.
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.
Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,
Remembering past promises with present faithfulness.***

THE PEACE

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Alexandra LeClere

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

(Continued)

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

VOLUNTARY

El Noi de la Mare

Mark Hellem

Larchmont Symphonia

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

The DeFelice Family

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Kin-dom Come!

Rev. Jed Koball

Virtual Chancel Choir

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day:
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance;
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.*

*Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance;
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.*

*In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
So very poor this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
To call my true love to my dance;
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.*

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Steve and Louise Williams

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and power and glory forever. Amen.

THE GREAT AMEN

***Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!***

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Gifts may be shared via:

- Checks mailed to the church, attn: Gloria Haq
- Online at lacny.org/givenow
- Text: "LarchmontAveChurch" to 73256
- Smart phone app: Realm Connect

DOXOLOGY

O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 3)

***How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessing of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Luisa Nahr

CANDLE LIGHTING

Silent Night, Holy Night!

At this time, we invite you to dim the lights in your home, and light additional candles or snap glowsticks for little ones!

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

HYMN 134 (verses 1, 2, and 4)

Joy to the World

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ya Viene la Vieja

Mark Hellem

Larchmont Symphonia

Violin 1: Nicole Sharlow, Sophie Moussapour, Brynn Coady

Violin 2: Elyse Gellert, Selia Coady, Morris Schoeneman

Viola: Katherine Sinsabaugh, Emily Jaswal, Annie Jaswal

Cello: E. Zoe Hassman, Gent Malashuga

Bass: Joel Fivis

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Tonight

Our guest preacher today is **Rev. Jed Koball**, LAC's former Associate Pastor, who currently serves as a Mission Co-worker with the Peru Joining Hands Network (Red Uniendo Manos Peru) along with wife, Jenny, and son, Thiago.

On the **cover of the bulletin** is a cut-paper collage of a *retablo*, created by Patty Towle after a wood-and-ceramic piece by Erika Ulloa. The *retablo* is the main Christmas decoration for a Peruvian home. The typical form is a wooden box with doors that open and close, and inside is a diorama depicting the nativity. The form was adapted over the centuries from early missionaries and priests, who would share Bible stories visually using pictures and sculptures. They have come to include indigenous imagery—note the bright colors, indigenous clothing, and inclusion of local animals like the llama. Many nativity retablos show the people with their arms and palms upturned in a traditional stance of praise or prayer.

A cut paper collage is a distinctive art form that uses art paper, hand-made paper, and photos/pictures from magazines, books, or any source that provides the colors and textures needed. Pieces of the papers are cut and glued to create the image. The "Advent Candles" collage was created in the same way.

Christian Education

Sunday School News: Our virtual Sunday School will resume on January 10th! If you have any questions, contact Ekama Eni at eeni@lacny.org or (914)834-1800 (ext. 306).

Youth News: Youth Group will resume meeting on January 6th. Merry Christmas! Questions? Coming? Email Ekama at eeni@lacny.org. Please see the LAC Youth Page for our calendar for the rest of the year.

The **Men's Bible Study** will take a few weeks off for Christmas! We'll let you know when things start back up again in 2021. Any questions, please email Arthur Washington at ajwash@optonline.net.

Bible Study Fellowship: BSF will resume on January 14, 2021.

Please note: the LAC Office will be closed from December 25, 2020 until January 4, 2021.

THE LARCHMONT AVENUE CHURCH

The Larchmont Avenue Church is a member church of the Presbyterian Church USA (pcusa.org) and the Hudson River Presbytery (hudrivpres.org).

You may reach staff members via (914) 834-1800 at the following extensions:

Director of Music Ministry	Douglas Kostner <i>Email: dkostner@lacny.org</i>	307
Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries	Ekama Eni <i>Email: eeni@lacny.org</i>	303
Church Secretary & Communications Coordinator	Marranda Major <i>Email: mmajor@lacny.org</i>	302
Bookkeeper	Gloria Haq <i>Email: ghaq@lacny.org</i>	310
LAC Preschool Interim Director	Kristin DeFelice <i>Email: kdefelice@lacny.org</i> 834-3984, www.lacpreschool.com	
LAC Preschool Interim Admin. Assistant	Sarah Haq <i>adminassistant@lacny.org</i>	
Sextons	Gerry Gaitan Cesar Manrique <i>Email: ppm@lacny.org</i>	304

Church Officers

Co-clerks of Session Clark Morehouse and Leah Griggs Pauly

Board of Trustees

President Jim Allen
Vice-President Arthur Washington
Secretary and Treasurer Jeff Smith

Board of Deacons

Moderator Becky Gray

LAC Website: www.lacny.org Fax: (914) 834-1832

Follow LAC on Facebook and Twitter.

For pastoral care and counsel please contact our Deacon Parish Support Team.

Place prayer requests at: The LAC Prayer Connection (ext. 342)