



The Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum
Director of Music: Douglas Kostner
Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Ekama Eni

May 9, 2021

Bulletin for Online and In-Person Worship

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

MAY 9, 2021

PRELUDE *There Is a Happy Land* Dale Wood

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

CALL TO WORSHIP Kristin and William DeFelice

Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name, and make known God's deeds among the peoples.

We will sing to the Lord... we will sing praises to God... we will share the news of God's works with the world!

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

We will remember the wonderful works of Christ -- his teaching, his healing, and his steadfast love for the sheep of his flock.

Remembering his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God said, "To you I give the land of Canaan as your inheritance."

When we were few in number, of little account, and strangers in it... when we wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people, God's spirit was upon us.

"Do not touch my anointed ones," God said. "Do my prophets no harm."

We have known pain, and we have wandered in the wilderness, but God has prepared a place for us. God's promises are for us, for our children, for all who are far away, for anyone and everyone whom the Lord our God calls!

MUSICAL MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Ekama Eni

O Lord our God, your Word assures us that you have plans for us... plans for our welfare and not for harm... plans that give us hope for the future. Like a Good Shepherd you lead us to lands of promise and safety.

Still, like perplexed prophets and doubting disciples, we follow you with hesitation. Our steps are marked by fear and worry. We prefer to rely on our own wits, erect our own defenses, and make our own plans.

Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of faith. Help us believe you when you say, "When you search for me, you will find me."

Help us know that, if we seek you with our whole hearts, you will let us find you. Give us the courage to claim the promises you make to us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you!

GOSPEL

Luke 14:1-14

Ernest Wong

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?" But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. Then he said to them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?" And they could not reply to this.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 1:3-8

These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan—in the wilderness, on the plain opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Di-zahab. (By the way of Mount Seir it takes eleven days to reach Kadesh-barnea from Horeb.) In the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month, Moses spoke to the Israelites just as the Lord had commanded him to speak to them. This was after he had defeated King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, and King Og of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei. Beyond the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses undertook to expound this law as follows:

The Lord our God spoke to us at Horeb, saying, ‘You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Resume your journey, and go into the hill country of the Amorites as well as into the neighboring regions—the Arabah, the hill country, the Shephelah, the Negeb, and the sea coast—the land of the Canaanites and the Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates. See, I have set the land before you; go in and take possession of the land that I swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give to them and to their descendants after them.’

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Claiming the Promised Land”

Rev. Bynum

VOLUNTARY

I Am Bound for the Promised Land

Hugh Livingston

THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Gifts may be shared via:

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MUSICAL MEDITATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Robert Martin

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Community Art Installation for Mother's Day: We invite members of the congregation and community to pay tribute to mothers or other significant women in your life by attaching a ribbon and message to the stair railings leading to the sanctuary on the corner of Larchmont Avenue and Forest Park. We will provide ribbons and Sharpie pens near the stairs, but feel free to write at home and bring the ribbon. Bring your ribbons any day from **April 28 to May 9**. Questions? Contact Penny Oberg or any member of the Welcoming Committee!

Helping Hands Fundraiser: Each year LAC's Church and Society Committee distributes approximately \$25,000 in grants to our Mission Partners, including such organizations as the Community Resource Center, the Larchmont/Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force, At Home on the Sound, the Community Counseling Center, HOPE Community Services and The Sharing Shelf. Unfortunately, for the second year in a row, COVID-19 has prevented LAC from holding its annual Rummage Sale, which has historically provided a good share of the funding for these grants. Can you help us help our partners? We have five generous donors who have offered to match the first \$5,000 we raise. You can help by purchasing a Helping Hand for our Mission Partner Circle of Hope. **Our goal is to encircle our mission partners in love and support and the financial support they need.** One hand is \$50; a pair of hands is \$100. Donations of any size are welcome and can be made via [Realm](#): simply select "Helping Hands" from the Fund menu, or by sending a check to the Church Office (Attn: Gloria Haq) with "Helping Hands" on the memo line. Donors will be recognized on our Mission Partner Circle of Hope in our weekly newsletter.

Weeks of Welcome: Join the Welcoming Committee in helping Rev. Bynum feel at home!

1) **Host a meal.** To sign up, click here: <https://signup.com/go/MqSF0uf>. In the comment section, please indicate any specific details that will be helpful to Rev. Bynum to prepare for event. This includes home address, restaurant name / address, your mobile phone #, parking suggestions, instructions upon arrival, etc. **We are scheduling the next two weeks, and will then add more time slots based on Rev. Bynum's schedule going forward.** We will also be organizing Zoom meet and greets and lots of other opportunities for welcome with Rev. Bynum in the very near future. Please stay tuned for future announcements!

2) **Add your photo to your Realm profile.** Since we don't have a current photo directory and aren't yet worshipping in person, this will help Peter put names and faces together more quickly.

Let's give Peter a big LAC welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Pat Allen at pattyall@optonline.net or 914-262-6925.

Save the date for HOW Green!'s next Sustainable Sunday Speaker Series on **Sunday, June 6th at 4 PM**, hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church. Topic: Healthy Yards — Native Plants and Pollinators. More details to follow! HOW Green! would like to remind Village of Larchmont residents that our leaf blower-free season started May 1st. For the health of our community and our earth, please make sure leaf blowers are not used on your property, except during the designated clean-up periods. For more information see the village website at villageoflarchmont.org. Interested in learning more about LAC's Sustainability Initiatives as we strive to be good stewards of creation? Our next meeting is Friday, May 14th at 5:30 PM via this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6229883667>. We invite you to join us! If you have any questions or want to know more, email Sasha Nahr at sashanahr@gmail.com.

Snack Packs for Larchmont Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force: LAC will participate in LMHTF's latest snack bag initiative called "Spice Bags," here's a note from them:

We would like to collect Spice Bags of either Spanish seasonings (cumin, chili powder, garlic powder, salt & pepper) or Italian seasonings (oregano, basil, thyme, salt & pepper). A few things to keep in mind:

- Please donate only NEW spices -- this is not a great opportunity to clean your cabinets of old spices that have been sitting there for a while.

- We realize this is a more expensive venture than the kids' snack bags and expect that people will create/donate fewer bags. Anything we have to offer clients is great!
- It still is fun if you want to decorate the bags, and this is something our amazing kid contributors might enjoy!

There will be drop off boxes for the spice bags at the church, so please look out for those as we return to our in-person worship, or stop by the office on a Wednesday. The last day to drop off spice bags will be May 23rd. Please contact Ekama Eni (eeni@lacny.org) for any questions!

*“Then their father Israel said to them... then do this: take some of the best products of the land in your bags, and carry down to the [people] as a present.”
(Genesis 43:11)*

Worship Today

Today's flowers are donated by the Serenbetz Family in honor of Mother's Day, in celebration of worshipping together in-person, and in memory of Thelma Serenbetz.

The art on the cover is “Entering into the Promised Land” by Jorge Socco.

Christian Education

Sunday School News: This week's lesson is available on YouTube! If you have any questions, contact Ekama Eni at eeni@lacny.org or (914)834-1800 (ext. 306).

Youth News: TGIF and SHIFT will have hybrid in-person / online meetings this week. Please RSVP by 3:00 PM if you will be joining in-person, and see Church Notes for Zoom information to join in. Contact Ekama Eni at eeni@lacny.org or (914)834-1800 (ext. 306) for any questions!

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet next on May 20th at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. Any questions, please email Arthur Washington at ajwash@optonline.net.

Bible Study Fellowship: LAC is a host church for the Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Westchester Women's Day Group for the 2020-21 school year. The study this year is Beginnings: A Study of Genesis. BSF meets via zoom on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. To register or for more information, go to bsfinternational.org or contact BSF/LAC liaison, Chrystal Chambers at chambers95@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY

All Day

10:00 a.m.

5:30 p.m.

MAY 9

Mother's Day

Worship (Sanctuary / Online)

TGIF (Zoom)

MONDAY

7:30 p.m.

MAY 10

Youth Ministry Committee (Zoom)

TUESDAY

6:45 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

MAY 11

Al Anon (Zoom)

Finance Committee (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY

11:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

MAY 12

Staff Meeting (Zoom)

AA (Zoom)

AA (Zoom)

SHIFT (Youth Center / Zoom)

Bells (Chapel)

THURSDAY

9:00 a.m.

MAY 13

Bible Study Fellowship (Zoom)

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:

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum <i>Email: pbynum@lacny.org</i>	308
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 Director	Kristin DeFelice <i>Email: preschooldirector@lacny.org</i> 834-3984, www.lacpreschool.com	
LAC Preschool Admin. Assistant	Tammy Consentino <i>Email: adminassistant@lacny.org</i>	
Sextons	Gerry Gaitan Cesar Manrique <i>Email: ppm@lacny.org</i>	304
	<i>Church Officers</i>	
Co-clerks of Session	Clark Morehouse and Leah Griggs Pauly	
	<i>Board of Trustees</i>	
President	Arthur Washington	
Vice-President	Stacy Brandom	
Secretary and Treasurer	Jeff Smith	
	<i>Board of Deacons</i>	
Moderator	Stephanie Piccone	

LAC Website: www.lacny.org Fax: (914) 834-1832
Place prayer requests at: The LAC Prayer Connection (ext. 342)
You may reach Rev. Bynum via his mobile phone at (843)302-2511.