

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 & Family Ministries: Samuel Washington

September 12, 2021

Bulletin for Online and In-Person Worship

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

PRELUDE Nun danket alle Gott / Ash Grove
Rich Williams, trombone

Arr. Brant Adams

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

CALL TO WORSHIP

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird,
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing, fresh from the Word!
Let us Worship God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God; he is steadfast and never fails us. Our life on Earth is filled with continuous uncertainties and difficult choices; challenges to our Christian life have been present since ancient times and continue to prevail today. Yet we often forget that we do not have to face them alone. Help us to turn to prayer and the teachings of Jesus Christ to guide our way forward. Help us to view our needs as a loving community and not with ourselves at the center. Give us patience and compassion, and remind us to turn to always be turning to our fortress, our God, who never fails us. In Jesus's name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling

GLORIA PATRI

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.

THE PEACE

I've Got Peace Like a River

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the Living God

As we prepare to hear the Word of God for this day, we pray for the Spirit of the Living God to fall afresh on these familiar texts and bring us new understanding. Melt away our distractions, mold our minds to understand, fill our hearts with compassion, and use our hands for your purpose. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh this day. Amen.

A Psalm of thanksgiving.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Samuel 16: 14-23

Douglas Kostner

Now the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him. And Saul's servants said to him, 'See now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord now command the servants who attend you to look for someone who is skillful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will feel better.' So Saul said to his servants, 'Provide for me someone who can play well, and bring him to me.' One of the young men answered, 'I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the Lord is with him.' So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, 'Send me your son David who is with the sheep.' Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. Saul sent to Jesse, saying, 'Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight.' And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

HOMILY "Just As You Are" Douglas Kostner

VOLUNTARY Woodworth Arr. John Carter

SHARING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Here I Am, Lord

THE LORD'S PRAYER What a Friend We Have in Jesus

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Now Thank We All Our God

Gifts may be shared online at lacny.org/giving

BENEDICTION Go, My Children with My Blessing

POSTLUDE Nun danket alle Gott Arr. Sigfrid Karg-Elert

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

At 3 p.m. this afternoon, Hudson River Presbytery will gather in our sanctuary to conduct a **service of installation** for Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum as the Senior Minister of Larchmont Avenue Church! The sermon will be offered by Dr. Brian Blount, President of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, and members of the presbytery and the community will be invited to join us for this time of music, prayer, and celebration.

Following the installation service, from 4-6 p.m. on September 12, there will be a **reception to celebrate** the installation and welcome Rev. Bynum and his family! The reception will be hosted by Karen and Paul Isaac at 75 Prospect Avenue, Larchmont, NY.

The **Block Party** is back and better than ever on Sunday, September 19, directly following Sunday Worship on Forest Park Avenue! In recognition of a very tough couple of years, this year's Block Party will be FREE OF CHARGE! We hope the Block Party will provide a fun way to get back together to reunite over food and fun activities. To address COVID related issues, we will have food service through Walter's Food Truck and Mister Softee ice cream food truck. We will have fun games for young people led by our Preschool staff. We are asking that all people wear masks except when eating. We will also be serving food with goal of zero waste through our Eco Task Force. We hope that this event will provide a wonderful Welcoming / fun opportunity for everyone as we prepare for the 2021 – 2022 program year! For any questions (or to volunteer to help out), please contact a member of the Welcoming Committee!

Save the Date: LAC will hold a special **Blessing of the Animals** on October 3. Your fluffy, scaly, and feathered companions are invited to come to Church for a brief afternoon service and a reception with treats for all of God's critters in the Memorial Garden.

We will continue collecting pantry staples throughout the summer for our Mission Partners at HOPE: **cereal, pasta sauce, canned veggies, canned fruits, tuna, rice, and other meals in a can.** The collection bins will be in both the Larchmont Ave and Forest Park Ave foyers, and the office will be open Monday-Friday from 9-5pm to accept donations.

Welcome to Worship

About today's service: LAC is excited to experience the Word proclaimed through beloved hymns! While the delta variant crashed our plans for a full service of singing (and Tropical Storm Henri caused an additional delay), we are excited to share in a mini-hymn sing, and look forward to the day when we can sing without risking our community's health. Take a minute now, prior to worship beginning, to look up the page number of your favorite hymns so that you can shout it out when the time comes:

(Pro-tip: the index of Hymns listed by first line starts on page 1009!)

Today's bulletin cover is "Hallelujah!" by Brenda R. Wright.

Thank you to our many volunteers who have helped to pull this service together, from all who submitted requests, to Patty Towle, who transformed these beloved lyrics into liturgy, we are grateful for your gifts and enthusiasm! We also share our gratitude to Director of Music Ministry, Douglas Kostner, for stepping into the pulpit to share a Word with us! Larchmont Avenue Church is blessed to have so much talent in our community!

Today's bulletin cover is "Hallelujah!" by Brenda R. Wright.

Christian Education

Sunday School will launch for the 2021-22 program year on September 19th! Your feedback will help us finalize the classroom groupings, so please complete the registration form here ASAP: https://bit.ly/3z5U4e4

Youth Group for both our Middle School (TGIF) and High School (SHIFT) students will launch on Wednesday, September 22nd!

Our first **Confirmation Class** (Topic: The Bible) will be on September 26th.

The Men's Bible Study will next meet on Thursday, September 23 at 8:30 a.m. in the Lindsley. Any questions, please email Arthur Washington at ajwash3@outlook.com.

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12

10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary / Online)

3:00 p.m. Rev. Bynum's Installation Service (Sanctuary /Online) 4:00 p.m. Installation Reception (Off-site: 75 Prospect Ave)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13

7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Committee (Lindsley)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 a.m. Church & Society Committee (Lindsley)

4:00 p.m. Westchester Children's Chorus Auditions (Chapel)

6:45 p.m. Al Anon (Library / Zoom) 7:15 p.m. AA (Carhart / Zoom)

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 15

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (Lindsley / Zoom)

12:00 p.m. AA (Zoom)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16

7:00 p.m. AA (Carhart / Zoom)

7:00 p.m. Sunday School Teacher Training (Lindsley)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17

11:00 a.m. Woman's Club of Larchmont (Russell) Junior Symphonia (Lawn/Russell) 5:00 p.m.

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:

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Church Officers

Co-clerks of Session Clark Morehouse and Leah Griggs Pauly

Board of Trustees

President **Arthur Washington** Vice-President Stacy Brandom Jeff Smith Secretary and Treasurer

Board of Deacons

Moderator Katherine Sinsabaugh

> 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.