



Larchmont Avenue Church

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 17, 2023

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 17, 2023

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jublio
Nicole Sharlow, violin

Arr. Lee Burswold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Weiss Family

One: We have come this morning to share the joy of God's good news,

**All: happy tidings to encourage the oppressed, bind up the brokenhearted,
and proclaim liberty to the captives!**

One: Let us rejoice in the Lord, let our whole being exult in our God;

**All: for the Lord is coming to clothe us with the garments of salvation
and cover us with the robe of righteousness!**

One: We relight the first Advent candle

All: to acknowledge the Light of Hope.

One: We relight the second Advent candle

All: to herald the coming of the Prince of Peace.

One: And we light the third Advent candle as a sign of the Joy that God is bringing into the world.

All: Let us prepare the way of the Lord!

*THE PEACE

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

*OPENING HYMN #140

Once in Royal David's City

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

**Lord, we are preparing to celebrate the birth of the Savior, but your righteousness still feels
out of reach. We know you are "God With Us," but we are so busy we often fail to
recognize you at work in the world. Forgive us, Lord, for our pride, our greed, and our
lack of resolve. Help us to prepare our hearts to meet you in the manger once more ...**

(time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! (2x)

Hymn 584

And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. (2x)

¡Gloria, gloria, gloria en las alturas a Dios! (2x)

Y en la tierra paz para aquellos que ama el Señor. (2x)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Claunch

*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

I Wonder as I Wander
Debra Whitman, harp

Appalachian Tune

PRAYER

(in unison)

Jack Bowerman

**O Lord, we offer these gifts to you in faith, hope, and love. As we prepare to hear and
experience the beloved story of your birth once more, we ask you to clear away the
clutter in our minds and our hearts. Through the words of angels and children, speak
to us with grace and generosity, so that we too may see, and hear, and follow. Amen.**



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Children of LAC

SCENE 1: THE PROPHETS

RESPONSIVE HYMN 83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vs. 1)*
***Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.***

SCENE 2: A DECREE FROM CAESAR AUGUSTUS

RESPONSIVE HYMN 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1)*
***O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.***

SCENE 3: THE BIRTH OF JESUS

RESPONSIVE HYMN 115 *Away in a Manger (vs. 1)*
***Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.***

SCENE 4: THE SHEPHERDS

RESPONSIVE HYMN *Do You Hear What I Hear? (vss. 1 and 2)*
***Said the night wind to the little lamb, do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb, do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite, with a tail as big as a kite.
Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy, do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song, high above the trees, with a voice as big as the sea, with a voice as big as the sea.***

SCENE 5: THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARS

RESPONSIVE HYMN 118 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (vss. 1, 3, and 4)*
***While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around, and glory shone around.
"To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign."
"The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
all humbly wrapped in swaddling bands, and in a manger laid, and in a manger laid."***

SCENE 6: THE HEAVENLY HOST

RESPONSIVE HYMN 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High (vs. 1)*
***Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

SCENE 7: THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER

RESPONSIVE HYMN 145 *What Child Is This (vs. 1)*
***What child is this who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud The babe, the son of Mary!***

SCENE 8: THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

RESPONSIVE HYMN 151 *We Three Kings (vs. 1)*
We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,

*field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

SCENE 9: AND THE REST IS HISTORY

CLOSING HYMN 134 *Joy to the World* (vss. 1 and 4)
*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!
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

Rev. Claunch

POSTLUDE


Noël Étranger

Louis-Claude Daquin


*NOTE: You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude,
but there is no expectation that you remain seated at this time.*

**please stand if you are
able*

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your voice and presence would be a gift to our worship! If you would be willing to be a liturgist, please scan the QR code to the right or email the office at broodal@lacny.org. 



If you are interested in sponsoring flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please scan the QR code to the right or contact the office at broodal@lacny.org to sign-up for  upcoming Sunday!



- **Nursery Care:** Available on the ground floor of the education wing (Classroom 114) for infant and toddlers age 2 and below.
- **Sunday School resumes January 7.**
- **TGIF and SHIFT resume Wednesday January 10.**



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Order online at www.lacny.org/giving page

THIS WEEK AT LAC

Sun. Dec. 17

Worship: Christmas Pageant
10:00 AM (Sanctuary)
Coffee Hour 11:15 AM (Lindsley Room)
Confirmation Class 11:15 AM (Youth Room)
Open House 3:00 PM (the Manse)
Community Caroling 6:00 PM
(Constitution Park)

Mon. Dec. 18

Trustees 7:00 PM (Lindsley)

Tues. Dec. 19

Al Anon 6:45 PM (Library)
Finance Committee 7:00 PM (Room 202)
AA 7:15 PM (Carhart Hall)

Wed. Dec. 20

Staff Meeting 11:00 AM (Lindsley)
Symphonia 7:00 PM (Chapel)
The Spiritual Child Book Study
7:00 PM (Carhart Hall)
Chancel Choir 7:45 PM (Russell Hall)

Thurs. Dec. 21

The Spiritual Child Book Study
12:00 PM (Carhart Hall)
AA 7:15 PM (Carhart Hall)
Longest Night Service 7:00 PM
(Sanctuary)

Fri. Dec. 22

LAC Family Caroling 4:00 PM
Reception 6:00 PM
(Manice Home-15 Locust Dr.)

Christmas Eve Services

10:00 AM, 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

Once in Royal David's City 140

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -

cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
 deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
 smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.