



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

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

Bulletin for Online and In-Person Worship

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

JANUARY 9, 2022

PRELUDE *Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam* J.S. Bach

INTROIT *Out of Deep, Unordered, Water* Charles Parry

*Out of deep, unordered water God created light and land,
World of bird and beast and, later, in God's image, woman, man.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.*

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I am with you, says the Lord.

We shall not fear.

I have called you by name.

We shall not fear.

You are mine.

Do not be afraid.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 375 *Shall We Gather at the River*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In the waters of baptism, O God, you have cleansed us and claimed us, making us part of the body of Christ. Forgive us for refusing your grace and rejecting your name.

We confess that we have followed our own paths, and they have led us far from you. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We confess that we cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We confess that we allow the past to hold us hostage.

In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life, and, with clean hearts, go forward in the way of Jesus...

Silence is kept for prayer and reflection.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.***

*THE PEACE

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Theresa Campion

O Lord, your voice is over the waters... your voice thunders with glory... your voice is full of majesty. As your Word is spoken today, we pray that we will hear your voice... that we will remember our own baptisms...remember your mighty works...and remember that you live and reign over us, around us, and in us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 29

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children of the church are invited to join the pastor on the chancel steps.

Congregation: **May God be with you there!**

Students: May God be with you here!

ANTHEM

Children exit for Sunday School

Flow, River, Flow

Bob Hurd

Flow, river, flow, flow over me.

O living water, poured out for free;

O living water, flow over me.

You will be mine and I will be your God,

For I will wash you clean.

And a new heart, a heart of flesh and feeling,

I will place within you for your heart of stone.

The blind shall see, the mute shall find a voice,

The lame shall leap for joy.

Rivers will flow into dry and barren desert;

Flowers bloom in splendor, glory fill the land.

Whoever drinks the water I will give

Will never thirst again.

The drink I give is an ever-flowing river,

Welling up within you to give eternal life.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 8:9-24

SERMON

“How Do We Know?”

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

VOLUNTARY

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Hobby

LITANY FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD & LORD'S PRAYER

O Christ, by your epiphany your light shines upon us, giving us the fullness of salvation. Help us show your light to all we meet today.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ of glory, you humbled yourself to be baptized, showing us the way of humility. Strengthen us to serve you in humility all the days of our life.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, by your baptism you cleansed us from our sin, making us children of your Father. Give the grace of being a child of God to all who seek you.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, by your baptism you sanctified creation and opened the door of repentance to all who are baptized. Make us servants of your gospel in the world.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, by your baptism you revealed to us the glorious Trinity when the voice from heaven proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son," and the Holy Spirit descended upon you like a dove. Renew a heart of worship within all the baptized.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, you do not leave us orphaned. You know the whispers of our hearts, the fears we dare not utter, and the hopes that we worry may never be fulfilled. In this time of silence, search us, know us, and lay claim to our deepest needs.

Silence is kept for prayer and reflection.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep us, your children who are born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught his disciples to pray together saying...

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!

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Lisa Goldberg, *At Home on the Sound*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Gifts may be shared online at lacny.org/giving or via the Realm Connect app. Additional pledge cards are available at the Usher Station in the narthex.

*HYMN 463

How Firm a Foundation

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

How Firm a Foundation
Caitlyn Carpenter, violin

Kristin Campbell

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Ready to pack up this year's Advent Wreath? Please return your **wreath forms** so that we may re-use them next year! The red collection bin is in the central hallway off of the Forest Park foyer!

The next Adult Education session will be **TODAY** following worship and will explore **Presbyterian Polity!** Have you ever wondered what makes Presbyterians different from Lutherans, Methodists, Episcopalians, and other denominations? We'll explore how we govern ourselves and make decisions as a congregation. While this session is mandatory for all new church officers, all are welcome to join!

Welcome to Worship

Today's bulletin cover is "Baptism" by Hannah Lamb.

Christian Education

Sunday School News: Following the Children's Message, preschool-5th grade students are invited to Russell Hall for a time of fun, fellowship, and learning together!

Nursery Care for our smallest congregants—infants and toddlers ages 2 and below—is available on the ground floor of the education wing in Room 114.

Youth Groups: TGIF and SHIFT will meet next on **January 26** to pack the donations collected for the Interfaith Prison Partnership!

The **Men's Bible Study** will next meet on Thursday, **January 13** at 8:30 a.m. in the Lindsley Room. Any questions, please email Arthur Washington at ajwash3@outlook.com.

LAC's chapter of **Bible Study Fellowship** (Westchester Woman's Day Group) will resume meeting in-person in Russell Hall on January 13th at 9:30 a.m. If you interested in participating, please reach out to LAC liaison Stacy Brandom. To find a session that suits your schedule, check out <https://www.bsfinternational.org/>.

This Week at LAC:

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m.

10:20 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

JANUARY 9

Worship (Sanctuary / Online)

Sunday School (Russell Hall)

Presbyterian Polity Class (Russell Hall/Zoom)

MONDAY

3:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 10

CCC (Library)

Officer Training (Russell Hall/Zoom)

Youth Ministry Committee (Library)

TUESDAY

6:45 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

7:15 p.m.

7:45 p.m.

JANUARY 11

Al Anon (Library / Zoom)

Finance Committee (Classroom 202)

AA (Chapel / Zoom)

Westchester Chorale (Russell)

WEDNESDAY

11:00 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 12

Staff Meeting (Lindsley)

Symphonia (Chapel)

THURSDAY

8:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

4:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 13

Men's Bible Study (Lindsley)

Bible Study Fellowship (Russell)

Westchester Children's Chorus (Chapel/Russell)

AA (Chapel)

FRIDAY

JANUARY 14

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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| 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 |
| Church Secretary & Communications Director | 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 | 304 |

Church Officers

Co-clerks of Session Clark Morehouse and Leah Griggs Pauly

Board of Trustees

President Arthur Washington

Vice-President Stacy Brandom

Secretary and Treasurer Jeff Smith

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.

Our COVID Safety procedures may not allow us to pass the offering plate, however, LAC always welcomes your gifts of time, talent, and treasure! Financial gifts may be shared via this QR code, or you can email the Office about finding other ways to share your time!



375 Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.



Refrain



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.



A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.