

SUMMER SERMON SERIES: the marks of
DISCIPLESHIP

SEPTEMBER 3

SHARING



Larchmont Avenue Church

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

September 3, 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

September 3, 2023

PRELUDE

McKee

Michael Hassell

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*OPENING HYMN 766 *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound (verses 1, 2 and 4)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

Rev. Bynum

Holy God, giver of blessings, we thank you for the mercies we know, and ask your forgiveness when we fail to acknowledge you as the source of all good.

When we hoard your gifts, when we say, "that's mine," when we ignore the bounty around us, when we are blind to the good, forgive us. Help us to share, to see, to live gratefully. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

(time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI

Hymn 581

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(in unison)

Garr Di Salvo

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

James 2:14-17

Garr Di Salvo

ANTHEM

Every Valley

John Ness Beck

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low; and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Nic Dávila, soloist

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-17

NT, page 60

SERMON

“What Shall We Do?”

Rev. Claunch

*HYMN 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

...Therefore, we praise you, with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

...Great is the mystery of faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *In the Lord I’ll Be Ever, Thankful* J. Berthier
(congregation singing)

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God, do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near, lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Garr DiSalvo

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 the power and glory forever. Amen.

THE GREAT AMEN

(congregation singing)

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

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

Beech Spring

Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Bynum

*HYMN 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service (verses 1 and 2)

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Claunch

POSTLUDE

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam

Dietrich Buxtehude

*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 either scan the QR code to the right or contact the office at broodal@lacny.org to sign-up for an upcoming Sunday!



Nursery Care: Available on the ground floor of the education wing (Classroom 114) for infants and toddlers age 2 and below.

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

11:15 am Coffee Hour (Lindsley/Russell Hall)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

OFFICE CLOSED

HAPPY

Labor Day

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

6:45 pm Al-Anon (Library)

7:00 pm Deacons (Lindsley Room)

7:15 pm AA (Carhart/Chapel)

7:30 pm Westchester Chorale (Russell Hall)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)

7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

4:00 pm Westchester Children's Chorus (Russell Hall)

7:15 pm AA (Carhart/Chapel)



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766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) F (Bm) Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) B \flat (D) F (A) C



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) Dm (F#m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (A) C (D) F



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (D) F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to - geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.