



*He Qi The Magi*

# Larchmont Avenue Church

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

## **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

January 7, 2024

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

# THE SERVICE FOR EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7, 2024

PRELUDE *Prélude sur l'introit de l'Épiphanie* Maurice Duruflé  
Caitlyn Carpenter, viola  
*(This prelude is based on the melody of today's introit.  
Listen to the viola for a preview of what will be sung immediately following.)*

INTROIT *Ecce Advenit Dominator* Plainchant  
Mackenzie Minguillo, soloist  
*Ecce advenit dominator Dominus: et regnum in manu eius, et potestas, et imperium.  
Deus, iudicium tum regida: et iustitiam tuam filio regis.*  
*(Behold, the Sovereign Lord is coming; kingship government, and power are in his hands.  
Endow the King with your judgment, O God, and the King's son with your righteousness.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

A star has risen in the east.  
**Star of wonder, star of night!**  
A child is born in Bethlehem.  
**Hark! The herald angels sing!**  
Let us follow the star to Bethlehem  
**and bring our gifts to the newborn Christ.**

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

\*OPENING HYMN #152 "What Star is This, with Beams so Bright"

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

**Great God, Magi from the east were looking for Jesus. Herod was looking for Jesus. We are**

**looking for Jesus.**

**Forgive us, O God, when we turn away from your light, when we follow our own ambitions instead of your call, when we respond to your presence with fear rather than joy.**

**Forgive us, O God, when we do not comprehend the depth of your Christmas love, the meaning of your powerful story, or the call you place on each of our lives.**

**Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, empower us to follow the star once more...**

*(time for silent prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA PATRI #580 *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.*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

**Lord, as we open your Word this morning, help us to create room in our hearts, minds, and spirits to hear what you have to say to us today, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

*OT, page 690*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 2:1-12

NT, page 2

SERMON

“Other Countries/Other Roads”

Rev. Bynum

ANTHEM

*Behold That Star*

Harry T. Burleigh

Mackenzie Minguillo, soloist

*(An original spiritual written by Thomas W. Talley in the early 20th century. Talley collected and notated spirituals.)*

*Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder!  
Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.  
There was no room found in the inn  
For Him who was born free from sin.  
The wise men came on from the east,  
To worship Him, the Prince of Peace.  
Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder!  
Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.  
A song broke forth upon the night*

*From angel hosts all robed in white.  
“Glory to God, world without end,  
And peace on earth, good will to men.”  
Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder!  
Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.*

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

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Congregational Response *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*  
*(choir and congregation singing)*

Jacques Bethier

***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.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND 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 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

*We Three Kings*

Arr. Tedesco & Heyde

Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano

*(Written for a Christmas Pageant in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins, Jr., this was one of the first widely popular carols to come from the United States.)*

\*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

\*CLOSING HYMN #151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Bynum

POSTLUDE *De Tierra Lejana Venimos* ("From a Distant Land We Come") Arr. Lyn Joyner

Caitlyn Carpenter, viola

*(A villancico was a Spanish musical form prevalent in the Renaissance. Today the term commonly means "Christmas carol.")*

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

*\*please stand if you are able*

## Mentions and Announcements

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](mailto:broodal@lacny.org) to sign-up for an upcoming Sunday!



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](mailto:broodal@lacny.org).



- **Nursery Care** is available on the ground floor of the education wing (Classroom 114) for infants and toddlers up to age 2.
- **Children Meet in Carhart at 10:00 a.m. for Rev. Claunch's Tiny Theologians class.** They will come up to the sanctuary for communion.
- **Youth Group** meets on Wednesdays in the Youth Room. Middle schoolers meet from 5pm to 6pm, and high schoolers meet from 6:15pm to 7:15pm. Questions? Email [agclaunch@lacny.org](mailto:agclaunch@lacny.org).



### THIS WEEK AT LAC

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00 am Officers' Training Day 1  
10:00 am Worship  
(Sanctuary/Online)  
10:00 am Sunday School  
(Carhart, Lindsley)  
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall)  
11:15 am Polity Presentation  
/Officers' Training (Carhart)

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 8

7:00 pm Trustees Meeting (Lindsley)  
7:00 pm Officers' Training Day 2  
(Carhart)

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

6:45 pm Al-Anon (Library)  
7:00 pm Finance Comm.  
(Rm 202)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)  
7:30 pm Westchester Chorale  
(Chapel)

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

11:00 am Staff Meeting  
(Lindsley)  
5:00 pm TGIF (Youth Center)  
6:15 pm SHIFT (Youth Center)  
7:00 pm Larchmont Symphonia  
(Chapel)  
7:45 pm Chancel Choir  
(Russell Hall)

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

4:00 pm Westchester Children's  
Chorus (Russell Hall /Sanctuary/  
Chapel/Carhart/Rm 202)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

# What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)  
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more  
 2 'Tis now full-filled what God de-creed, "From  
 3 While out-ward signs the star dis-plays, an  
 4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)  
 D A D G D A

love-ly than the noon-day light? 'Tis  
 Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed;" and  
 in-ward light the Lord con-veys and  
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)  
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an-nounce a new-born king, glad  
 lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand to  
 urg-es them, with ten-der might, to  
 not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)  
 A D A D G A D

ti-dings of our God to bring.  
 read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.  
 seek the giv-er of the light.  
 guid-ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

## 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty night;  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!



Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1–12) as “kings,” perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.