



“The Promise,” Renáta Fučíková, Czech Republic (1996).

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

February 25, 2024

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

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD

Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2024

PRELUDE

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano

Rebecca Bonam

INTROIT

Guard My Life

Douglas Kostner

Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather here in the season of Lent to examine our hearts, to reorient our lives, and to journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.

Let us humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord.

God's call to Abram is God's call to us: "I am God Almighty; Walk before me, and be blameless."

Let us humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord.

Since that day, people from every generation have tried to walk that path.

In this time of worship, let us make that our goal.

Let us humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, so that God might lift us up.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER *Leslie Jeffrey*

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

*OPENING HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

God of mercy, we confess that we have strayed from You and turned from Your way.

Misled by pride, we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Humble us, teach us, and lead us to the places that you would have us go...

(time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #425 *(verse 1)*

***Son of God, whose heart is peace, Son of God, most holy,
to your presence we have come; give us now your love.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

Wesley Huang

Holy God, Christ brought Your Word to a sinful world, pointing us to the Way, the Truth, and the Life. As we open that Word to hear it read and proclaimed today, we ask You teach us to follow Him and live like Him, to the glory of His holy name, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 (OT, page 13)

ANTHEM

The Staff of Faith

Craig Courtney

*My faith, it is an oaken staff, the traveler's well-loved aid;
My faith, it is a weapon stout, the soldier's trusty blade.
I'll travel on and still be stirred
By prayerful thought or holy word;
By all my peril undeterred, a soldier pilgrim staid.
I have a guide, and in his steps when travelers have trod,
If there beneath was flinty rock or yielding grassy sod,
They cared not, but with force unspent,
Unmoved by pain they onward went,
Unstayed by pleasures, still they bent their zealous course to God.
My faith, it is an oaken staff, O let me on it lean!
My faith, it is a trusty sword, may falsehood find it keen!
Thy Spirit, Lord, to me impart,
O make me what Thou ever art,
O patient and courageous heart, as all true saints have been.
How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Bynum

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 4: 13-25 (NT, page 155)

SERMON

"Depending on Faith"

Rev. Bynum

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #833 (verse 1)

***Standing on the promises of Christ, my King, through eternal ages let his praises
ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
standing, standing... I'm standing on the promises of God.***

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Claunch

**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

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

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place
Jordan Pak, viola

Kristen Campbell

*DOXOLOGY #165

Text by G. W. Dub Shepherd

Praise God throughout these forty days; Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;

And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Claunch

*CLOSING HYMN #850 *In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness*

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Bynum

POSTLUDE

How Firm a Foundation
Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano

Victor Labenske

*NOTE: You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude,
but there is no expectation that you remain seated during this time.
Feel free to get up and greet your neighbors!*

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 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.



- **Nursery Care** is available on the ground floor of the education wing (Classroom 114) for infants and toddlers up to age 2.
- **There will be no Sunday School today due to Winter Break.**
- **Youth Group for middle and high schoolers meets on Wednesday evenings in the Youth Room.** Questions? Email agclaunch@lacny.org.

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Lindsley/Russell Hall)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Library)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

6:45 pm Al Anon (Library)
7:00 pm Jazz Recital-Larchmont Music Academy (Sanctuary)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart/Chapel)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)
5:00 pm Youth Group (Youth Room)
7:00 pm Larchmont Symphonia (Chapel)
7:45 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Lindsley)
9:00 am Meeting (Carhart)
4:00 pm Westch. Children's Chorus (Russell Hall, Sanctuary, Carhart, Chapel, Rm. 202)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart/Chapel)

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

4:00 pm Midnight Run

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Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E \flat (G) A \flat (D/F \sharp) E \flat /G (A7) B \flat 7 (D) E \flat



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B \flat (D) E \flat (G) A \flat (A) B \flat



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A \flat (D) E \flat (F \sharp m7) Gm7 (G) A \flat (A) B \flat



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F \sharp) E \flat /G (G) A \flat (D) E \flat



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

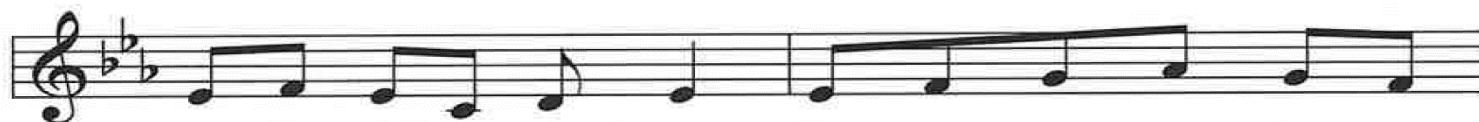
850 In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



1 In a deep, un-bound-ed dark-ness, long be-fore the first
 2 Though our world is ev-er-chang-ing, you are con-stant, firm,
 3 Joy trans-forms our lips to boast-ing on-ly in your match-
 4 God of Ha-gar, God of Sa-rah, God of no-mad A-



light shone, you, O God, be-yond all mer-it worked a
 and sure, faith-ful to your cov-enant prom-ise. Trust-ing
 less grace, send-ing Christ to dwell a-mong us, Word made
 bra-ham; God of Mir-yam, God of Mo-ses, Fi-ery



won-der faith makes known: in your mer-cy, in your
 you, we live, se-cure: sing-ing prais-es, sing-ing
 flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav-ior, Friend and
 Pil-lar, great I AM: lead us home-ward, lead us



mer-cy, you em-braced us as your own,
 prais-es, long as heart and breath en-dure,
 Sav-ior, in whose life we glimpse your face,
 home-ward, to the love-feast of the Lamb,



ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Setting this translation of a Chinese hymn to Western plainsong enhances the universal context of the opening stanza. The familiar pattern of creation, covenant, and incarnation in the first three stanzas leads to a far-reaching final stanza that looks both backward and forward.