



*"A Clean Heart" by Jen Norton*

# Larchmont Avenue Church

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

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 17, 2024**

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

# THE SERVICE OF THE LORD

March 17, 2024

PRELUDE                      *Sometime I Feel Like a Motherless Child*                      Daniel Kallman  
Grant Tucker, alto sax

INTROIT                                      *Open My Lips*                                      Douglas Kostner  
*Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                                      Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

This season of Lent is a time for us to examine our hearts and our lives  
**and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.**

As we gather together, let us seek God with our whole hearts  
**and treasure God's Word in our spirits.**

O Lord, You desire truth in the inward being;  
**therefore teach us Your wisdom, and write Your law upon our hearts.**

With joy and gladness, let us ask together in one voice,  
**"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me!"**

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

\*OPENING HYMN #209                      "My Song is Love Unknown"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*                                      Rev. Claunch

**God of mercy, we come to you in prayer today seeking clean hearts and right spirits.  
Forgive us, Lord, if we have prayed with our words but failed to pray with our actions.  
Forgive us for things we have done that contributed to the suffering of another.  
Forgive us for things we have left undone that could have lightened a neighbor's burden.  
Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy...**

*(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)*                                      Rev. Claunch

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in  
your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING    John 12:20-33

ANTHEM

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*  
Grant Tucker, alto sax; Bill Sabia, drums

Bob Hurd

*Create in me a clean heart; give me a willing spirit.  
Create in me a clean heart.*

*In your goodness have mercy on me; in your compassion wash me,  
Wash me from my guilt.*

*Give me back the joy of your presence; give me a steadfast spirit.  
I will sing your praise.*

*A broken spirit I give you.  
You will not spurn a humbled heart.  
You will not spurn a humbled heart.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Claunch

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 51:1-10

SERMON

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #436, verse 1

***God of compassion, in mercy befriend us, giver of grace for our needs all-availing.  
Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us, patience untiring and courage  
unfailing.***

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Bynum

**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!***

MOMENT FOR MISSION Rummage Sale 2024

Alexandra LeClere

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

*Steal Away*  
Grant Tucker, alto sax

Hal Hopson

\*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

\*CLOSING HYMN #826      “Lift High the Cross”

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Bynum

\*POSTLUDE

*Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho*  
Grant Tucker, alto sax

Daniel Kallman

*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](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.
- **Sunday School Today:** Following the Children's Message, kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are dismissed for Sunday School.  
Use the QR Code to view the *Spring Sunday School schedule*.



**Youth Group for middle and high schoolers meets on Wednesday evenings in the Youth Room.** Use the QR Code to view the Spring 2024 Youth Calendar. Questions? Email [agclaunch@lacny.org](mailto:agclaunch@lacny.org).

### **THIS WEEK AT LAC**

#### **SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)  
10:20 am Tiny Theologians (Carhart)  
11:15 am Welcome Sunday Coffee Hour  
(Russell Hall)

#### **MONDAY, MARCH 18**

7:00 pm Trustees Meeting (Lindsley)  
7:00 pm Session Meeting (Library)

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 19**

6:45 pm Al-Anon (Library)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

#### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)  
3:00 pm Woman's Club Meeting (Office)  
5:00 pm Youth Group (Youth Center)  
7:00 pm Larchmont Symphonia (Chapel)  
7:00 pm The Spiritual Child Book Study (Carhart)  
7:45 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

#### **THURSDAY, MARCH 21**

8:30am Men's Bible Study  
12:00 pm The Spiritual Child Book Study (Carhart)  
4:00 pm Westchester Children's Chorus  
(Sanctuary/Chapel/Carhart/ Rm 202)  
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

#### **Senior Pastor and Head of Staff**

**Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum**

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#### **Tammy Cosentino, Admin. Assistant**

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# My Song Is Love Unknown 209

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from heav - en's throne sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times we strew his way, and his sweet prais - es  
 4 Un - heed - ing, we will have our dear Lord made a -  
 5 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly  
 stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior  
 sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our  
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to  
 vine: nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like

be. O who am I that for my sake my  
 know. But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who  
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and  
 slay. Yet stead - fast he to suf - fering goes, that  
 thine. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I

Lord should take frail flesh, and die?  
 at my need his life did spend!  
 for his death we thirst and cry.  
 he his foes from thence might free.  
 all my days could glad - ly spend.

The opening line here could equally well have been a courtier's lament for a secret affair, but it soon becomes a path into a vivid and poignant reflection on Christ's Passion. This 17th-century text is beautifully embraced by its sensitive and lyrical 20th-century tune.

## Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.  
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

*to Refrain*

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.