



"They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love," Jeremi Richardson (2025)

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025

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



PRELUDE “Herr Christ, der ein’ge Gott’ssohn” Carl Engelbrecht

INTROIT “God Is Love” Douglas Kostner
God is love, and those who abide in love, abide in God, and God abides in them.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

MOMENT FOR MISSION *Church Picnic* Liz Nabholz

***THE PEACE**

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

All: God’s steadfast love endures forever!

One: Ever-present God, our Creator, out of your fullness we have all received blessing upon blessing, grace upon grace.

All: God’s steadfast love endures forever!

One: Jesus Christ, our Savior, through your Word, your actions, and your faithfulness to the very end, you have taught us to love one another.

All: God’s steadfast love endures forever!

One: Holy Spirit, our Sustainer and Guide, we ask you to help us keep your commandment to love one another, so that we, as your people, might show your love to the world.

All: God’s steadfast love endures forever! Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN #306** “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Vs. 1-All Vs. 2-High Voices Vs. 3-Low Voices Vs. 4-All Vs. 5-All

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

Holy God, you command us to love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You command us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness. You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way.

Forgive us, O God. Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth. Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your beloved community, as we share your love with your people everywhere...
(time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORIA (#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*)

Gracious God, through the wisdom of your Word and the power of your Holy Spirit, we ask you to give us your faith, your hope, and your love, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 136: 1-9, 23-26 (English Standard Version)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Rev. Bynum

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 13:31-35

SERMON

“This Is How They’ll Know”

Rev. Bynum

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #693 (verses 1 and 3)

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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; 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!*

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

“This Is How”

Chris de Silva

*This is how all will know that you are my disciples:
If you have love for one another, all will know that you are my disciples.
In the washing of the feet, in the breaking of the bread,
In the feeding of the hungry, so all will know what you have done for me.
In the clothing of the poor, in the reaching out to all,
In the speaking for the voiceless, so all will know what you have done for me.
In the sharing of the meal, in the caring for the weak,
In the welcome of the other, so all will know what you have done for me.
In the healing of the sick, in the loving of our enemy,
In the giving to the homeless, so all will know what you have done for me.*

***DOXOLOGY #609**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God; all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #300** “We Are One in the Spirit”

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Bynum

POSTLUDE

“Allein Gott in der Höh’ sei Ehr”

Wilhelm Kienzl

*You are welcome to stay and listen to the Postlude, but there is no expectation that you remain seated.
Feel free to greet your neighbors!*

** Please stand if you are able.*

Announcements & Happenings

PRAYERS

Do you have a prayer request to share? Call our prayer line (914) 834-1800, ext. 342.

FLOWERS


If you are interested in sponsoring flowers, please contact the office at broodal@lacny.org.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- No Sunday School today, 5/18.
- The Sunday School kids will be singing in worship on Pentecost Sunday (June 8th)

After worship on **Sunday, June 1st** John Sykes V will host a pancake breakfast in Carhart Hall as a fundraiser for his Eagle Project, which involves the refurbishment of Memorial Garden. The anticipated work will include power washing the stones, mulching the existing path, repainting of the wrought-iron fencing, and fabrication of six new benches for peaceful reflection and use during memorial services. All are welcome to join us for breakfast to celebrate our LAC community and Memorial Garden!

FELLOWSHIP

- Sign Up Today! 5/22. SEEKERS @ 7pm. *LAC Member Helen Coster, an experienced political journalist, will speak about the intersection of media, news reporting, and faith in our times.* <https://www.lacny.org/> or Scan the QR Code 
- Save the Date! CHURCH PICNIC June 8th.
- Coffee served in Russell Hall today at 11:15 am.
- Interested in membership at LAC? Reach out to Rev. Bynum at pbynum@lacny.org.

MUSIC

Looking for ways to get involved? Joining the choir is a great way to make a joyful noise (and some great friends as well). Call the church office or email dkostner@lacny.org for more details.

SERVICE

- LAC Food Connection: lacoffice@lacny.org www.lacny.org/runmage-sale-2025-2/ or scan the QR code

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, MAY 18

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

MONDAY, MAY 19

7:00 pm Trustees' Meeting (Lindsley)

TUESDAY, MAY 20

5:00 am School Budget Vote (Russell Hall)
6:45 pm Al Anon (Library)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Main Office)
5:00 pm Youth Group 5th to 7th Grades
6:15 pm Youth Group 8th to 12th Grades
7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

THURSDAY, MAY 22

8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Lindsley)
7:00 pm SEEKERS: Helen Coster (Russell Hall)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

CONNECT WITH US

Visit: www.lacny.org

Senior Pastor : Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum
(pbynum@lacny.org, 914-834-1800 ext. 308)
Associate Pastor : Rev. Anna Grace Claunch
(agclaunch@lacny.org, 914-834-1800 ext. 303)



Update your Realm, today. Use the pew card & drop into the offering or at the back of the Church or scan the QR code.



Problems? contact broodal@lacny.org.



As an Earth Care Congregation, we ask that you please recycle your bulletin. Thank you.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*Or "Maker's"

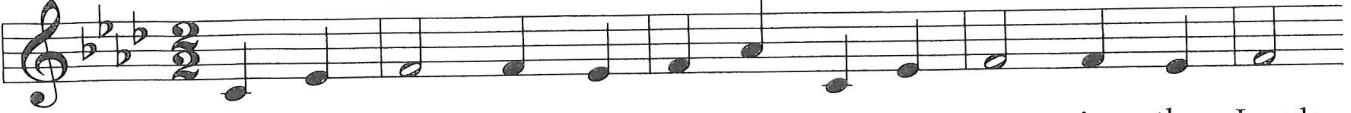
Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

We Are One in the Spirit

300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm



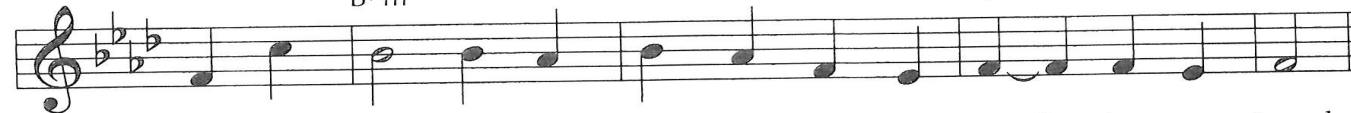
1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm




we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm




and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) Dbm (Em) Fm



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm (Am) Bbm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm (Am/E) Bbm/F (Em) Fm



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.