



*"The Newborn Child," Georges de la Tour (c.1645–1648)*

# Larchmont Avenue Church

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

## **Second Sunday of Christmas**

**January 4, 2026**

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



**PRELUDE**

“What Child Is This?”  
*Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano*

Arr. Lani Smith

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

**\*THE PEACE**

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

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Before the foundation of the world,

**All: God destined us for love.**

One: Through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,

**All: we are adopted into God’s own family.**

One: From the farthest edges of the earth,

**All: God shepherds us homeward.**

One: Let us worship God!

**\*OPENING HYMN #132**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

**Gracious God, gather us in, your children who run and hide. We trade your goodness for ashes. We trade your peace for control. We trade your promise for certainty.**

**We humbly ask you, in this season of light, to pardon these sins and our many others.**

**Gather us back to your holy self, and return us to your abundant mercy, to the glory of your holy name... (time for silent prayer)**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORIA (#584)**

***Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! (2x)***  
***And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. (2x)***

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** *(in unison)*

**O God, through your mighty acts we receive grace upon grace. From your fullness, feed us with your life-giving Word, so that our lives, like bread, may feed a hungry world. Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** John 1:1-5, 10-18

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Jeremiah 31:7-14

**SERMON** “A Smooth, Uncluttered Path”

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #135** “There’s a Star in the East”

**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...**

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!*

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 “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

Jacques Berthier

(Choir and 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.*

## 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; 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

“Villancico Andaluz”

Joaquín Nin

*Valerie Girardi Kostner, soloist*

*Campana sobre campana y sobre campana una;*

*Asómate a esa ventana verás un Niño en la cuna.*

*Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?*

*Recogido tu rebaño ¿a dónde vas, pastorcito? Voy a llevar al Portal requesón manteca y vino.*

*Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?*

*Campana sobre campana, y sobre campana dos;*

*Asómate a esa ventana, porque está naciendo Dios.*

*Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?*

*Caminando a medianoche ¿a dónde vas mi buen pastor? Le llevo al Niño que nace como a Dios, mi corazón. Belén, campanas de Belén que los ángeles tocan ¿Que nuevas me traéis?*

*(Bell upon bell upon bell strikes one;*

*Approach the window and you will see a Child in a manger.*

*Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?*

*Gathering up your flock, where are you going, little shepherd? I'm going to take to the stable butter and wine. Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?*

*Bell upon bell upon bell strikes two; Approach the window because God is being born.*

*Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring What news do you bring me?*

*Traveling at midnight, where are you going, my good shepherd? I'm taking to the Child, who is born as God, my heart. Bethlehem, bells of Bethlehem that the angels ring*

*What news do you bring me?)*

## \*DOXOLOGY #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 #141**            “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**            “We Three Kings”      Arr. Frank Tedesco & Zach Heyde  
*Ben Wien & Douglas Kostner, piano*

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

*\*Please stand if you are able*

# 132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Continued on next page



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.  
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



# There's a Star in the East

135

## Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

1 There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn. Rise up, shep-herd, and  
2 If you take good heed to the an - gel's words, rise up, shep-herd, and

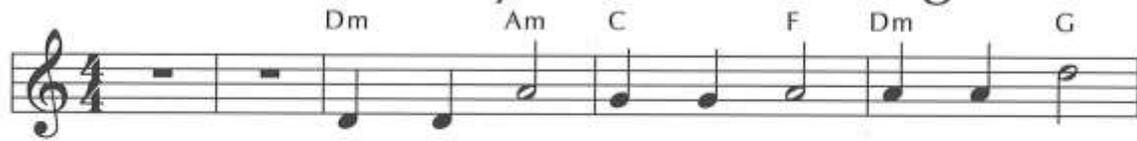
fol - low. It will lead to the place where the Christ was born.  
fol - low. You'll for - get your flocks; you'll for - get your herds.

*Refrain*  
Rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low. Fol - low, fol - low;

rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low. Fol - low the star of

Beth - le - hem. Rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low.

# 141 On This Day Earth Shall Ring



1 On this day earth shall ring with the song  
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came  
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three  
 4 On this day an - gels sing; with their song



chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to  
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth; ox and ass be -  
 to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be -  
 earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, born on earth to



save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.  
 side him from the cold would hide him. \*Id - e - o - o - o,  
 fore him, praise him and a - dore him.  
 save us; peace and love he gave us.



id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

# 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 [pbynum@lacny.org](mailto:pbynum@lacny.org).

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- **Sunday School** will resume next Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Youth Groups** will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## FELLOWSHIP

Coffee Hour is a great time to greet and connect with fellow members and guests. We thank our Deacons for providing this important time of hospitality and fellowship.

## MUSIC

- **Chancel Choir** rehearses every Wednesday at 7:30 PM. No auditions needed; all are welcome (HS to adults). Contact: [dkostner@lacny.org](mailto:dkostner@lacny.org).

## THIS WEEK AT LAC

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Russell Hall)  
11:30 am Officer Training (Carhart)

### MONDAY, JANUARY 5

6:00 pm Larch.-Mamar. Youth Orch.  
(Russell, Carhart, Chapel, Rm 202)  
7:00 pm Officer Training (Carhart)

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

11:00 am Women's Bible Study (Lindsley Room)  
7:00 pm Deacons' Meeting (Lindsley Room)

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)  
7:00 pm Larchmont Symphonia  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

4:00pm West. Children's Chorus auditions (Russell Hall, Carhart, Chapel, Rm 202)  
7:15 pm AA

## CONNECT WITH US

Visit: [www.lacny.org](http://www.lacny.org)

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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](mailto:broodal@lacny.org).

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

