

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

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



PRELUDE

“*Old Adam*”

William Bolcom

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Romans 5, *The Message*)

One: Sin breaks connection with God in everything and everyone.

All: We saw it first in Adam; then Moses spelled it out for us in God’s law.

Sin leads to death and separation from God; there’s no way around it.

One: Ah, but nothing is impossible with God! Adam, who got us into this mess, also points ahead to the One who will get us out of it.

All: The one thing that sin cannot defeat is grace. When it’s sin versus grace, grace wins hands down. All sin can do is threaten us with death; but the grace of Christ invites us into life—a life that goes on and on and on, world without end!

***OPENING HYMN #436** “*God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*”

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

Merciful One, we are so easily tempted. We turn away from your Word so quickly. We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort, inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness.

But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind.

Save us from our sin, O Lord. Help us to look to You as our true hope and salvation. Be for us a hiding place, a guide, and a guardian for all of our days. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***GLORIA #582** *Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

confident and self-assured in the way that only a man can be when he thinks he's the most important person in the garden.

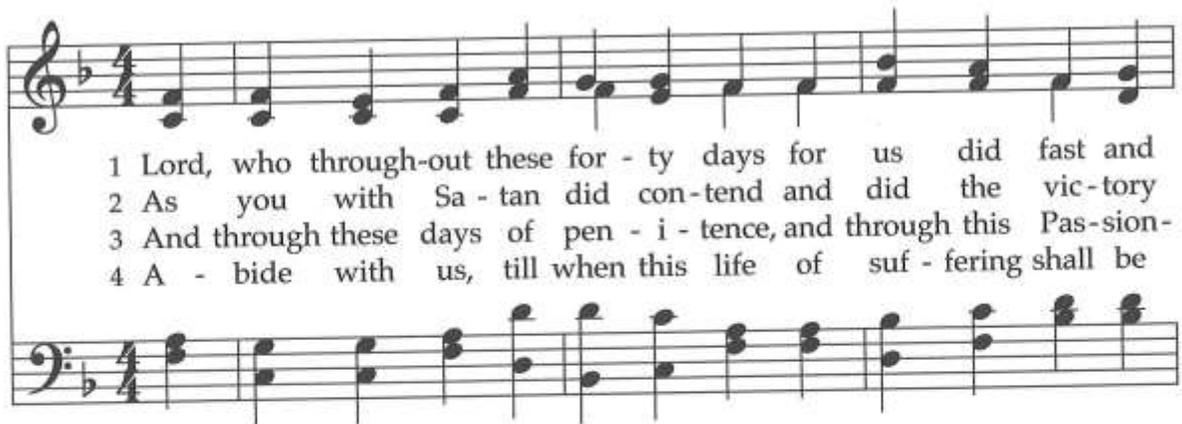
“**The Eternal Feminine**” is a slow drag with, as the composer puts it, a “harmonically devious third strain that calls up the Mystery of Woman.” I might add that the meandering melody suggests that Eve had the gift of gab.

“**The Serpent’s Kiss**” is a rather free-form ragtime fantasy which includes a stoptime section consisting of percussive effects; it slithers through its various themes and sections and ends with a reminiscent quote of the first section of “The Eternal Feminine”. I’ll leave it to theologians to parse that particular detail.

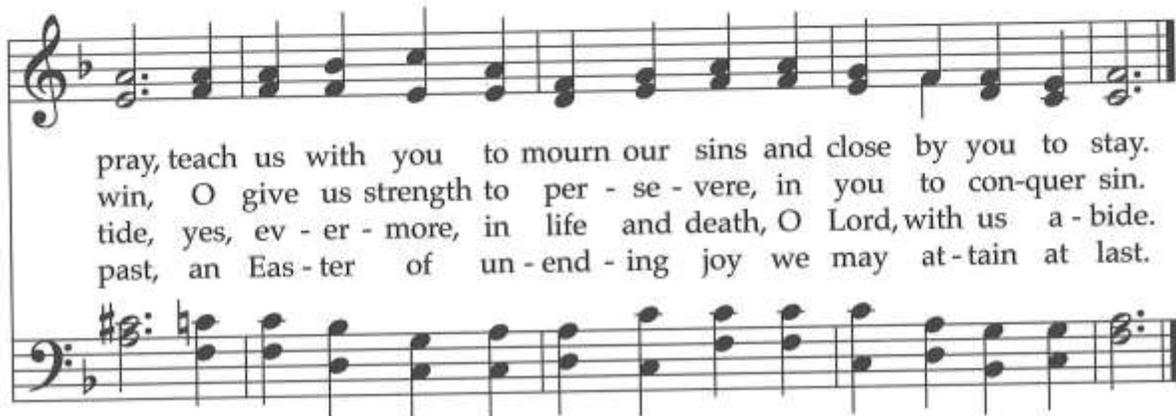
The final rag, “**Through Eden’s Gates,**” has Adam and Eve cakewalking out of the garden. It is beautifully melancholic and oddly calm for a couple that has just been evicted from Paradise.

Douglas Kostner, Director of Music Ministry

Lord, Who throughout These 166 Forty Days



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be



pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at-tain at last.

God of Compassion, in Mercy 436

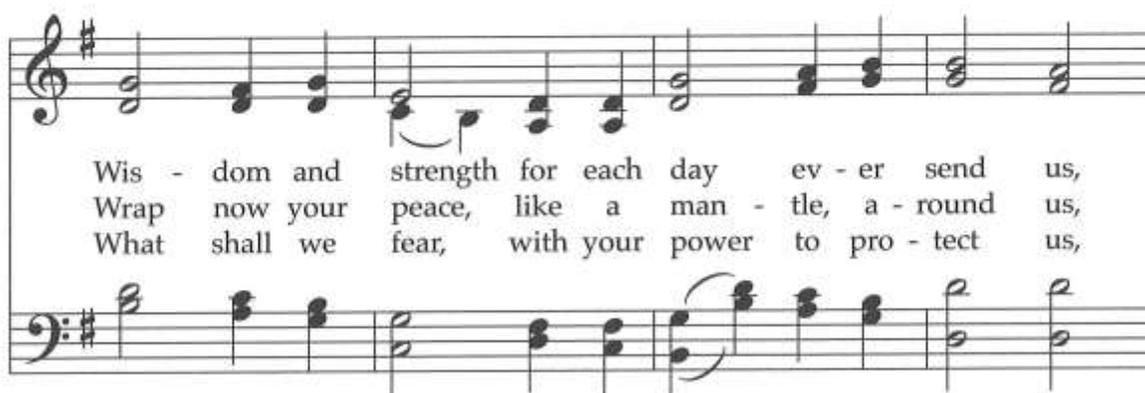
Befriend Us



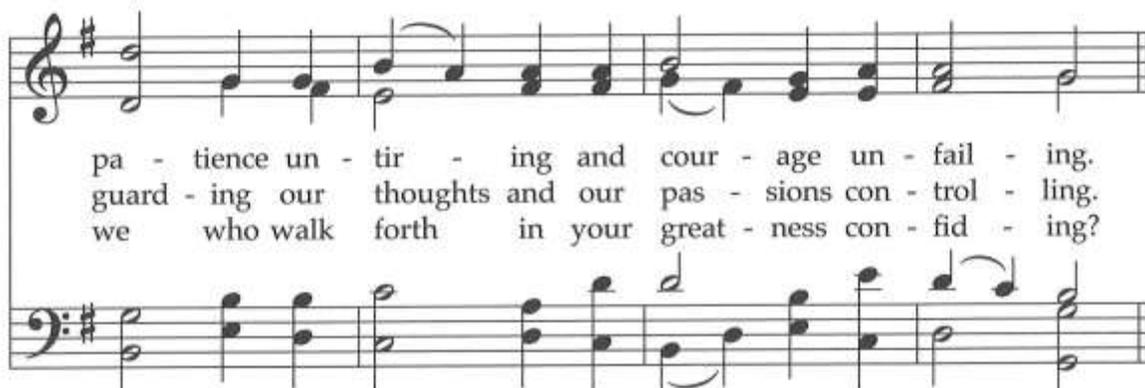
1 God of com - pas - sion, in mer - cy be - friend us,
2 Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
3 How shall we stray, with your hand to di - rect us,



giv - er of grace for our needs all - a - vail - ing.
stilled our rude hearts with your word of con - sol - ing.
you who the stars in their cours - es are guid - ing?



Wis - dom and strength for each day ev - er send us,
Wrap now your peace, like a man - tle, a - round us,
What shall we fear, with your power to pro - tect us,



pa - tience un - tir - ing and cour - age un - fail - ing.
guard - ing our thoughts and our pas - sions con - trol - ling.
we who walk forth in your great - ness con - fid - ing?

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Because our students are on Winter Break, Sunday School will not meet today.
- We love having little ones in worship, but if you prefer, there is a nursery for infants & toddlers (Room 114/Education Wing). Ask an usher for directions.

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.

SERVICE

Welcome Home DR Mission Team!
Family Day of Service -- March 7, 2026
Rummage Sale – April 18-25, 2026

THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6:00 pm Larch-Mamar Youth Orch (Russell, Chapel, 202)
7:00 pm Session (Library)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)
5:00 pm Youth Group – 5th to 7th grades
6:15 pm Youth Group – 8th to 12th grades
7:00 pm Larchmont Symphonia (Chapel)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Russell Hall)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

4:00 pm WC Chorus Rehearsal (Russell Hall)
7:15 pm AA (Carhart)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:00 am WC Chorus Spring Retreat (Sanctuary)

CONNECT WITH US

Visit: www.lacny.org

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(pbynum@lacny.org, 914-834-1800 ext. 308)
Associate Pastor : Rev. Anna Grace Claunch
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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.

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

