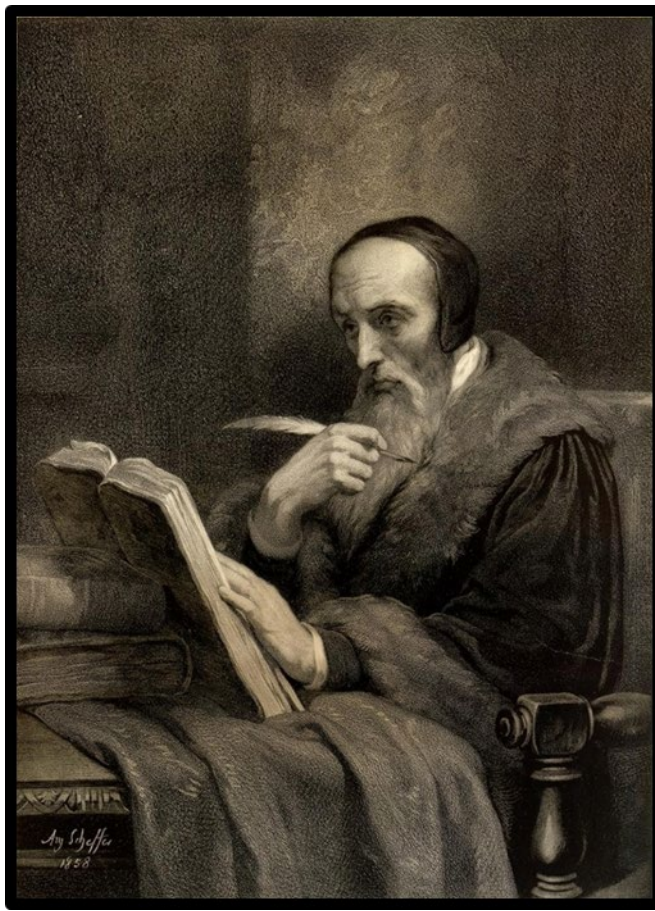




John Calvin Meditating, engraved from a painting by Ary Scheffer (1858)

Larchmont Avenue Church

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

Reformation Sunday October 25, 2026

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



PRELUDE

Scottish Bagpipes
Ian Underwood, bagpipes

Traditional

INTROIT

"I Rejoiced" Douglas Kostner
I rejoiced with those who said, "Let us go to the Lord's house."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Anna Grace Claunch

MOMENT FOR MISSION Community Counseling Center

*THE PEACE

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather here to worship God.

All: We are here, with heart, soul and mind.

One: We gather here as Christ's body.

All: We are neighbors, learning how to love each other.

One: The Holy Spirit gathers us in to be sent out again.

All: We are here to worship and to be transformed.

One: Let us worship the Triune God!

*OPENING HYMN #301 "Let Us Build a House" (verses 1-4)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) Rev. Claunch

Holy God, we are often good at following rules while neglecting the heart of your commandments. We place ourselves in the congregation of the righteous, but take our seat among the scoffers. We seek approval of our friends, family, and others whose opinions we value, forgetting that our call is to please you, above all. You call us to be holy, but we settle for self-righteousness. You call us to be impartial, but we cannot shed our biases. You call us to love our neighbors, but we have been satisfied to keep them at arm's length. Have mercy on us, God. Watch over our ways, redirect our paths, and help us love you with abandon—heart, soul, and mind. Make us instruments of reconciliation and transformation as we seek to follow your law of love, made known to us in Jesus Christ. ... (time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI #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***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Adriana Souza

Gracious God, quiet our hearts and open our minds to your Word. Give us the courage to hear what challenges us, the humility to recognize where we need to grow, and the wisdom to follow where your Spirit leads. Reform us by your grace, and shape us more fully into the people you call us to be. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

SERMON

“Who Are We...Really?”

Rev. Claunch

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #315 (*verses 1, 3, 5*)

*In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?*

*[Refrain] God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.*

*As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams. [Refrain]*

*Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. [Refrain]*

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. 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Claunch

Financial gifts may be offered electronically by scanning the QR code to the right or through Realm at

<https://onrealm.org/LarchmontAvenueChurch/-/form/give/now>.

Thank you for your support!



zelle®

OFFERTORY

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

David Schwoebel

*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!
Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.*

***O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home. (All sing)***

***DOXOLOGY #607**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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 #300** *"We Are One in the Spirit"*

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Claunch

POSTLUDE

Scottish Bagpipes
Ian Underwood, bagpipes

Traditional

*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*

Announcements & Happenings

PRAYERS

- Do you have a prayer request to share? Call our prayer line at (914) 834-1800, ext. 342.
- OPEN SANCTUARY -- 11/3.

FLOWERS

Scan this QR code to sponsor flowers for an upcoming Sunday.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School today in Carhart!

- Little ones are welcome in worship, but a nursery for infants & toddlers is also available in Room 114. Ask an usher for directions.
- Sunday School and Youth Group are underway. Contact agclaunch@lacny.org.

FELLOWSHIP

- All Saints Sunday is Nov. 1. Please email the office at lacoffice@lacny.org with the names of the loved ones you want to include in this remembrance.
- DEDICATION SUNDAY 11/15
- BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY 11/22 & FAMILY BRUNCH.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee gets names of *potential Session members* from each of you. You can nominate yourself or a friend. The nominating form can be found at <https://www.lacny.org/contact-us/officer-nominations/>, or email our church secretary at broodal@lacny.org.

MUSIC

- Come make joyful music with LAC this coming Advent/Christmas season! Learn more about the HANDBELL CHOIR! All are welcome: grades 6 through adults. *Rehearsals begin Nov.1*
dkostner@lacny.org



Stewardship Appeal 2027

Goals:

10%↑ in gifts
110 total pledges

36

PRIOR DONORS

Commitments to date:

\$235,124

2

NEW DONORS

21

INCREASED GIFTS

ONE FAITH. ONE MISSION. ONE CHURCH



THIS WEEK AT LAC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)
10:20 am Sunday School (Carhart)
11:00 am Coffee Hour (Lindsley)
11:00 am Personnel Committee (Library)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

4:00 pm LMYO (Russell Hall)
7:00 pm Session (Library)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Lindsley)
5:00 pm Youth Group (5th-7th Gr. -Youth Rm)
6:15 pm Youth Group (8th-12th Gr. -Youth Rm)
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Russell Hall)
7:30 pm Symphonia (Chapel)

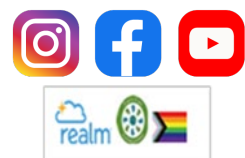
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Lindsley)
7:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Russell Hall)

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. Problems? contact broodal@lacny.org.

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

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B $\flat$ C Dm



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B $\flat$ F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B $\flat$



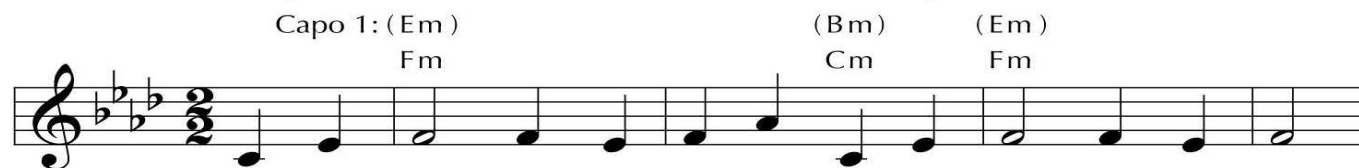
vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshipping community.

We Are One in the Spirit

300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



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,



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,



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:



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



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.