

A Service of Sacred Music

December 28, 2025

†Please stand as you are able

Prelude	<i>In dulci jubilo</i>	JS Bach
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Announcements and Greetings

†Passing the Peace

†Processional Hymn	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	No. 224
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†Bringing in the Light of Christ

†Call To Worship	Rev. Dave Loughery, Worship Leader
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Leader: Come, let us recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the steadfast love God has shown from generation to generation.

People: The Lord has not abandoned us – He became our Savior, entering our sorrow and bearing our happiness.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him, sun and moon! Praise Him, all you shining stars!

People: Let kings of the earth and all peoples, young and old together, lift their voices in praise!

Leader: For in Jesus Christ, God has drawn near – not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters, but walking with us in joy and in suffering.

People: For in Jesus Christ, God has drawn near – not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters, but walking with us in joy and in suffering.

All: Glory to God in the highest! Let heaven and earth rejoice – Christ is born, and Christ is with us!

Prayers of the People	Rev. Loughery
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Solo	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>	Albert Hay Malotte
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Gene Mazurek, baritone

Accompanied by Marilyn Chen, piano; Will Pearson, organ

Our Father, which 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.

Solo	<i>Comfort Ye</i> (Recitative from <u>Messiah</u>)	G.F. Handel
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Kurt Lannetti, tenor

Solo	<i>Every Valley</i> (Aria from <u>Messiah</u>)	G.F. Handel
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Kurt Lannetti, tenor

Duet

Panis Angelicus

César Franck

Gene Mazurek, baritone; Kurt Lannetti, tenor;

Accompanied by Marilyn Chen, piano; Will Pearson, organ

†Carol Medley

Led by Will Pearson and Karla Robinson

Sing We Now of Christmas No. 237 (v. 1)

What Child Is This No. 219 (v. 1)

The First Noel No. 245 (v. 1)

Angels From the Realms of Glory No. 220 (vv. 1, 2)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - No. 251 (v. 1, 3)

Duet

The Prayer

David Foster

Fran Cooper, soprano; Kurt Lannetti, tenor

Carol Bayer Sager

Solo

Carol of the Birds

Traditional Catalan

Amelia Dobbs, soprano

Arr. A. L. Christopherson

*When rose the eastern star, the birds came from afar;
In that full might of glory with one melodious voice.
They sweetly did rejoice and sang the wondrous story.*

*The eagle left his lair, came winging through the air;
His message loud arising and to his joyous cry
The sparrow made reply, his answer sweetly voicing.*

*Sang, praising God on high,
Enthroned above the sky,
And his fair mother Mary.*

*O'ercome are death and strife,
This night is born new life,
The robin sang rejoicing.*

Duet

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustov Holst

Gene Mazurek, baritone; Kurt Lannetti, tenor

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Then His mother Mary, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved, with a gentle kiss.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim praised Him in the air*

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wiseman, I would do my part.
What can I give Him? I will give my heart.*

What can I give Him? I will give my heart.

Solo

The Virgin Slumber Song

Max Reger

Gene Mazurek, baritone

*Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus-child,
While amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.*

*And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon a bough:
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!*

*Happy is Thy laughter, holy is Thy silent rest,
Lay Thy head in slumber fondly on Thy Mother's breast.
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!*

Celebrating Our Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, with joyful hearts we thank you for the miracle of Christmas. We thank you for coming to us in the living flesh of that little boy. We praise you for our heritage of Christmas devotion in music and poetry, beginning with the music of the angels and the poetry composed by the earliest witnesses of your incarnation. Let us then once again worship with thanksgiving at the manger. But let us remember Jesus not only as a baby but as our Savior, who suffered with us, died for us and because of us and, by your power, rose to new and deathless life. For him, above all, do we offer you praise this Christmastide. Amen.

Offertory

Pastorale on Quem Pastores

Vidas Pinkevicius

†Christmas Doxology

Glory be to God the Father

No. 229

(TUNE: W ZLOBIE LEZY for Infant Holy)

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son.

Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.

Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,

As we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.

Solo

Rejoice in the Lord

Ron Hamilton

Gene Mazurek, baritone

God never moves without purpose or plan

When trying His servant and molding a man

Give thanks to the Lord though your testing seems long

In darkness He giveth a song

O Rejoice in the Lord; He makes no mistake

He knoweth the end of each path that I take

For when I am tried and purified

I shall come forth as gold

I could not see through the shadows ahead

So I looked at the cross of my Savior instead

I bowed to the will of the Master that day

Then peace came and tears fled away

Now I can see testing comes from above

God strengthens His children and purges in love

My Father knows best, and I trust in His care

Through purging more fruit I will bear

O Rejoice in the Lord; He makes no mistake

He knoweth the end of each path that I take

For when I am tried and purified

I shall come forth; I shall come forth

I will rejoice in the Lord

†Hymn

There's a Song in the Air

No. 249

†Benediction

†Benediction Response

Let There Be Peace on Earth

No. 239

†Postlude

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her

J.S. Bach

Additional Lyrics

Comfort Ye (Recitative from Messiah) Kurt Lannetti, tenor
Comfort ye; Comfort ye my people, saith your God, Saith your God
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem;
And cry unto her that her warfare, her warfare is accomplished;
That her iniquity is pardoned; that her iniquity is pardoned.
The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness:
Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every Valley (Aria from Messiah)
Kurt Lannetti, tenor
Every valley; every valley shall be exalted.
Shall be exalted; shall be exalted; shall be exalted.
and every mountain and hill made low;
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain;
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

Every valley; every valley shall be exalted;
Every valley; every valley shall be exalted,
And every mountain and hill made low;
The crooked straight; the crooked straight;
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

Panis Angelicus
Gene Mazurek, baritone; Kurt Lannetti, tenor;
Accompanied by Marilyn Chen, piano; Will Pearson, organ
Panis angelicus fit panis hominum. (The bread of angels becomes the bread of men)
Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum. (The heavenly bread puts an end to all figures/symbols)
O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum. (O wondrous thing! The Lord becomes food)
Pauper, pauper, servus et humilis. (For the poor, the poor, a servant, and the humble)
Te trina Deitas unaque poscimus. (Thee, O Trinity, One God, we implore)
Sic nos tu visita, sicut te colimus. (Visit us, as we worship Thee)
Per tuas semitas duc nos quo tendimus. (Along Your paths, lead us where we tend)
Ad lucem quam inhabitas. Amen. (To the light in which You dwell. Amen)

The Prayer
Fran Cooper, soprano; Kurt Lannetti, tenor
I pray you'll be our eyes, and watch us where we go,
And help us to be wise in times when we don't know.
Let this be our prayer, when we lose our way:
Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace
To a place where we'll be safe.

La luce che tu hai (I pray we'll find your light)
Nel cuore resterà (And hold it in our hearts)
A ricordarci che (When stars go out each night)
L'eterna stella sei (You are the eternal star)

Nella mia preghiera (Let this be our prayer)
Quanta fede c'è (When shadows fill our day)
Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.
Give us faith so we'll be safe

Sogniamo un mondo senza più violenza (We dream of a world with no more violence)
Un mondo di giustizia e di speranza (A world of justice and of hope)
Ognuno dia la mano al suo vicino (Everyone shakes hands with their neighbor)
Simbolo di pace, di fraternità (A symbol of peace and fraternity)

La forza che ci dà (We ask that life be kind)
È il desiderio che (And watch us from above)
Ognuno trovi amor (We hope each soul will find)
Intorno e dentro sé (Another soul to love)

Let this be our prayer (Let this be our prayer)
Just like every child (Just like every child)
Need to find a place
Guide us with your grace
Give us faith so we'll be safe

È la fede che (And the faith that)
Hai acceso in noi (You have ignited within us)
Sento che ci salvera (I feel it will save us)

THIS WEEK AT LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, December 28, 2025	Sacred Music Service
9:15 a.m.	Heavenly Grounds
10:15 a.m.	Nursery
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Wednesday, December 31, 2025	OFFICES CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS
Thursday, January 1, 2026	OFFICES CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS
Sunday January 4, 2026	
8:15 a.m.	Heavenly Grounds
8:30 a.m.	Nursery
8:35 a.m.	Worship Service
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service

Our First Financial Education Session for 2026:

What is a Charitable Giving Plan and Why Should You Have One?



Find out on Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm in our Parlor! During this session, we will explore Charitable Giving Plans – what a Charitable Giving Plan is, why you should have one, what it includes, and (easy) steps to establish one. To reserve your seat, contact Gary Chiaverotti (chiaverotti@aol.com)

or call Nate in the Church Office (757-489-8168) by Tuesday, January 13th. INVITE SOMEONE TO COME WITH YOU! This Education Session is a great opportunity to bring a friend or neighbor into our church and meet some of our members.

Save the Date!

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on **January 14, 2026** in the Fellowship Hall at 1pm. Contact Traci Shepard for more information.

UPCOMING NEW YEAR'S SERIES: LOVE GOES FIRST

Jesus gave us a Great Commission to reach out to people everywhere (Matt 28:19). This task is daunting in a world where negative thoughts about Christianity are so prevalent, where people believe we are the problem, and when so many hate us and all we stand for? If you are tired of just talking about the problems that divide us, this series will help us reach across division and wrestle with how we may find a way forward



LARCHMONT UMC NOTICES!

December 28, 2025

The concert today is an offering by our gifted musicians in honor of their relationships with Christ. They would also like to invite you, if you have been inspired today by these gifts, to make a special year-end offering toward our 2025 budget in order for us to completely fulfil our obligations this year. Please use the offering envelope or the QR code by the box in the Narthex and mark your giving 'general budget.' We give thanks for you all in this season of giving.



Together We Can Hit the Mark !!!!!!!

Larchmont Church, we are so close to achieving our financial goals for 2025 - but we aren't done just yet!!!! Your general fund giving so far this year has been more than enough to pay all of our regular bills, and



we are so grateful for your generosity. But we still need to raise a bit more to meet our obligations to the District and Conference and make promised gifts of support to both LUMC Missions and Trustees Capital. If God has been tugging at your heart to give a generous year-end gift to LUMC, please follow his lead and bring your gift to worship on Sunday, to the office by Tuesday 12/30, or to the post office by New Year's Eve. You may also give by phone with the QR code below. Together we CAN hit the mark in 2025. Thank you!

Helping Hands Needed!

Many hands make light the work! Please stay after the 10:30 service on Jan. 4th to take down our holiday decorations. Please RSVP to Mary Thorpe at LMand2@comcast.net or use the QR code.



Love Goes First: 2026 Stewardship Campaign

As we step into a new year, we have an opportunity to reflect on how God's love has met us, sustained us, and moved us. Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, themed "Love Goes First" begins on January 4th. Inspired by the truth that God first loved us, this campaign focuses on how our resources allow us to extend that transformative love throughout our entire community. Your gifts do more than support a building; they send love out into the streets, schools, and homes of our neighbors. As you pray about your pledge for the coming year, ask yourself: *How can my resources help Love go first in 2026?* We look forward to celebrating our shared vision together on **Faith Dedication Sunday, February 8th**.

Assisting in Worship

	This Sunday December 28, 2025	Next Sunday January 4, 2026
Worship Leaders	Liz Smith	Gary Chiaverotti
Children's Worship	Sacred Music	Fran Cooper
Media Tech	Sara Morris	Wina Giddens
		Les Thorpe
Sound Tech	Jeff Paiste	Jeff Paiste
Camera Tech	Clarise Hicks	Clarise Hicks
Trustee of the Month	Allison Arbuckle	Kami Lannetti
Sunday Stewards	Brian Casey	Robert King
	Robert King	Ed Lilly
Monday Counters	Gary Chiaverotti	Demi Wheeler
	GM Ziller	Laura Fitzwilliam
Bus Driver	Michael King	Dave Lannetti
Ushers	Monica Levow	Laura Calvert
	Dave Lannetti	Chris Calvert
	Kami Lannetti	Kami Lannetti
	Brian Casey	Monica Levow

Larchmont United Methodist Church
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757-489-8168 office/ 757-489-1267 fax

Lead Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Pastor of Visitation
Music Director
Organist
Financial Secretary
Bookkeeper
Preschool Director
Children's Ministry Director
Youth Director
835LIVE Worship Leader
Digital Communications
Housekeeper

Rev. Fran Cooper; pastor@larchmontumc.org
Nate Poplin; office@larchmontumc.org
Dave Loughery; pov@larchmontumc.org
Karla Robinson; music@larchmontumc.org
Will Pearson; wpearson@odu.edu
Rita Turner; giving@larchmontumc.org
Amber Pickrell, bookkeeping@larchmontumc.org
Meg Ditty; lumps@larchmontumc.org
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Robert Ragland