



LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*The Vision of Larchmont Church is to be a vibrant, engaging, and inclusive church that follows Jesus Christ.*

**November 30, 2025**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

†Please stand as you are able

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Prelude *Advent Hope* David Lasky

Announcements and Greetings

†Passing the Peace

†Bringing in the Light of Christ

†Processional Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* No. 206

†Introit *He Came Down* (v. 4 – HOPE) No. 2085 (TFWS)

*He came down that we may have hope; He came down that we may have hope;*

*He came down that we may have hope, Hallelujah forevermore.*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle of Hope Jonathan and Sandra Clark

Leader: Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope.  
In the midst of uncertainty, we hold fast to the promise that our hope is in the Lord:  
“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land  
of deep darkness, a light has dawned.” (Isaiah 9:2)  
As we light this candle, we remember that Jesus is the hope of the world.

**People: May this flame remind us to place our trust in the promises of God, who is faithful to redeem and restore.**

Leader: Let us pray:  
Lord, of hope, as we begin this Advent season, kindle in us a remarkable hope.  
Help us to trust in Your promises and share the light of Your hope with those  
around us.

**People: Amen**

Leader: We light the first candle for hope. (*One blue candle is lit*)  
Come, Lord Jesus, our hope.

**ALL: Shine in our hearts and our world!**

# Celebration of Holy Baptism for Reese Micah Reynolds

## Response of the Congregation

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into the family of Christ.**

Baptism Song                      *Jesus Loves Me (v. 1)*                      No. 191

Prayers of the People                      Rev. Bob Cooper

The Lord's Prayer

Children's Message                      Liz Smith

Scripture Lesson                      Luke 1:5-25                      Worship Leader

Leader: The Word of the Lord                      **People: Thanks be to God**

Anthem                      *O Magnum Mysterium*                      Tomas Luis De Victoria

*O magnum mysterium, et admirabile  
sacramentum*

*Jacentem in praesepio  
(Lying in a manger bed)*

*(O, how great the mystery, and what miraculous  
sign for mankind)*

*O beata Virgo, cujus viscera me ruerunt portare  
Dominum Jesum Christum*

*Ut animabilia viderent Dominum natum  
(That living animals should see the newborn Lord  
of Hosts)*

*(O most blessed Virgin whose holy womb  
was deemed worthy to bear us Lord Jesus Christ)*

*Alleluia.*

## Breakthrough Prayer

**God, please break through the barriers we set up, and show us how to become the vibrant, engaging, inclusive church community you call us to be. Amen.**

Sermon                      *"Hope"*                      Rev. Fran Cooper

†Hymn                      *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vv. 1, 6, 7)*                      No. 211

Celebrating Our Offerings

## Offering Prayer (unison)

Dear Heavenly Father, as we build for the future today,  
may our gifts shine Your light and show Your way.  
Help us to serve as living stones,  
our work to be your vibrant home. Amen.

Offertory

*Offertoire sur un Noël Breton*

Cesar Franck

†Doxology

*Christ is the World's Light* (v. 4)

No. 188

*Give God the glory; God and none other.  
Give God the glory; Spirit, Son, and Father.  
Give God the glory; God with us, my brother:  
Glory to God on high.*

†Closing Hymn

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

No. 196

†Benediction

†Benediction Response

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

*Prepare the royal highway, the King of kings is near;  
Let every hill and valley a level road appear.  
Then greet the king of glory foretold in sacred story:*

REFRAIN: O blest is he that came in God the Father's name!

†Postlude

*Toccata on Veni Emmanuel*

Adam Heron



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### **Advent/Christmas Worship: Brought to the Light**

Too often, we reduce the four themes of Advent— hope, peace, joy, and love— to sentimental clichés tied more to the holidays than to the reality of life.

But Advent isn't about pretending everything is fine. It's about Light showing up in the midst of darkness. Advent invites us to wrestle honestly with what hope, peace, joy, and love mean during real life— to look beyond surface-level comforts and encounter something deeper and truer in the person of Jesus.

Advent reminds us that the Light has come—and that it's for those who know how deeply they need it.

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THIS WEEK AT LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Use this QR code to give online using your phone. →



Online Giving

<b>Sunday, November 30, 2025</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>
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
<b>Monday, December 1, 2025</b>	
6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study at the Wetzel's
7:00 p.m.	Lay Leadership Meeting
<b>Tuesday, December 2, 2025</b>	
10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
<b>Wednesday, December 3, 2025</b>	
10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
6:00 p.m.	Larchmont Ringers
6:00 p.m.	835LIVE Band Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Prayer Group
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
<b>Saturday, December 6, 2025</b>	
10:00 a.m.	Hanging of the Greens
<b>Sunday, December 7, 2025</b>	
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
11:30 a.m.	Women's Fellowship Lunch + Cookie Exchange
5:00 p.m.	Advent Study Night

**Streaming Service Survey!**

Our church's worship committee needs your insights on our streaming service! Please complete this short online survey; it should only take a couple of minutes. Your responses will help us to better understand how and why people are engaging with our streaming service and where we might make some meaningful improvements for the future. Thank you for your time and your input - it is much appreciated!



Streaming Survey

LARCHMONT UMC NOTICES!

November 30, 2025

A lily is placed on the altar today in memory of Nancy Hopkins who passed away on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Advent Night – Next Sunday, Dec 7, 5-6:30 pm.**

Join us for a church-wide snack dinner and study that will accompany our Advent Worship Series. Dinner is at 5pm, and then we break up into age groups to do studies and activities. Pastor Fran will lead the adult session in the Parlor; Monica will lead the Youth Session in the Youth Room (while they also do a mission activity); SS teachers will lead children's session in the Great Room. A nursery is also provided. Let's prepare our hearts for the season and share an evening of fellowship and learning about what Christmas is really about! Sign up here using the link or QR code. <https://larchmont.breezechms.com/form/c6408e9797>



Advent Family Night

**Angel Tree for Ghent Nursing Home**

Small Christmas gift bags are being assembled by the Youth for every Ghent Healthcare resident. Delivery will be the week before Christmas if you would like to help. Additionally, we will have an Angel Tree to purchase special gifts for 20 residents of the Ghent Healthcare Center. The tree will be located outside the office after Thanksgiving. Please take a tag to make a special Christmas for someone in need. Contact Claudia Wade - [wadecjl@verizon.net](mailto:wadecjl@verizon.net)

**Poinsettias Are Coming!**

You are invited to purchase red, pink or marble poinsettias in honor or memory of family and friends. Six inch poinsettias are \$13 each. They will arrive for services on Dec. 14th. You are encouraged to take them after our holiday services. **Orders must in by Dec. 8th.** There are half sheets in the narthex for the offering plate, or fill out the dedication form with the QR code or the following link!: <https://larchmont.breezechms.com/form/8e2dc8> Make checks out to Larchmont UMC with Poinsettias on the memo.



### Longest Night Service – Sun, Dec 21, 4pm

A service of remembrance often referred to as “Blue Christmas Service” or “Longest Night,” as December 21 is the longest day of darkness, will be held in the Church Chapel. The service will be a time of meditation and music as well as a time to light a blue candle in memory of a loved one. All are invited to this special service.



#### Deadlines Approaching for Year-End Giving!

If you plan to make a tax-advantaged gift of appreciated stocks or bonds to Larchmont Church in time to gain a 2025 tax credit, the deadline for such gifts is closer than you might

expect. Your brokerage and ours will both need some time to transfer your gift. And remember, even financial professionals take time off for the holidays. We suggest that you **initiate your gift by Dec 8th** to ensure completion of the gift transfer by Dec 31st. We now use a different agent for transfer acceptance. Contact our Financial Secretary ([giving@larchmontumc.org](mailto:giving@larchmontumc.org)) for the form to send to your brokerage, or talk to Treasurer Chas Etheridge (757.423.4750) who can quickly walk you through the process. Thank you for generously supporting Larchmont Church.



### Tis The Season!

Please join the Worship Committee this Saturday, Dec. 6th at 10 am to deck the Larchmont halls. Jobs available for all size hands. Please RSVP to Mary Thorpe at [LMand2@comcast.net](mailto:LMand2@comcast.net) or use the QR code.



Hanging of the Greens

### WANTED: Children for our Annual Christmas Eve Nativity Play

Families, our annual Nativity play will be held Christmas Eve at 5pm. We are in need of children, ages 2 to grade 5 to participate. We will be having Nativity rehearsals on **Dec 14<sup>th</sup> and Dec 21<sup>st</sup>** immediately following the 10:30 service. Snacks will be provided. Character parts will be assigned the first rehearsal. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the first rehearsal! To sign up your child, please use this link <https://larchmont.breezechms.com/form/830e5869> or QR code. (Parents, please submit one form per child).



Nativity Play

### Nativity Santa Breakfast

The Nativity Santa Breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 13, from 9:00-11:00 am in the social hall. Come enjoy a pancake breakfast and take a picture with Mr & Mrs. Claus. We will also have a nativity photo booth with costumes and a manger with baby Jesus. Children can make a stable nativity scene with Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. We look forward to seeing you!

### Women's Fellowship Holiday Lunch and Cookie Exchange Dec. 7 11:30

Join in for a fun lunch and cookie exchange. Bring 2 dozen cookies to share. (The cookie exchange is optional but the more the merrier!) Lunch is \$5. Please respond to Traci by Dec. 2 to [andrew.shepard1@cox.net](mailto:andrew.shepard1@cox.net)

**Peace On Earth**  
A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**11:00AM - 1:00PM**

**MASON MEMORIAL CHURCH**  
744 GOFF STREET, NORFOLK, VA  
(NEXT TO HUNTERSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER)

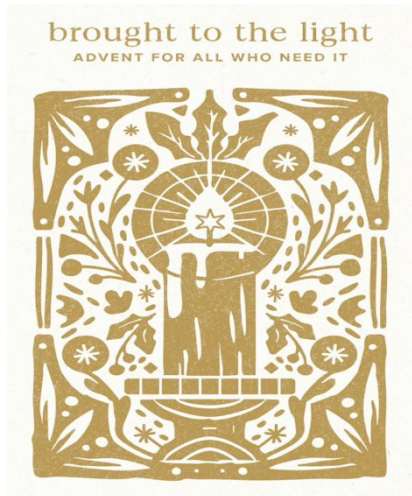
Registration is **FREE** and on-site. Children's gifts are for ages 0-17. Each child must be present to receive their Christmas toys and gifts. Enjoy a **FREE** holiday food box with a certificate for a **Free** turkey and so much more!

**FREE ENTRY**  
**FREE TOYS**  
**FREE LUNCH**  
**FREE TURKEY**

**MORE INFO!**

LAUNCH Food Security is made available with generous support from SentaraCares.  
LAUNCHcommunity.org | @LAUNCH\_Community | @LAUNCH.Norfolk





## Church-Wide Advent Night Study

Sunday,  
December 7  
5 – 6:30 pm

Join us for a church wide snack dinner and study that will accompany our Advent Worship Series. Dinner is at 5pm, and then we break up into age groups to do studies and activities. Pastor Fran will lead the adult session in the Parlor; Monica will lead the Youth Session in the Youth Room (while they also do a mission activity); SS teachers will lead children's session in the Great Room. A nursery is also provided. Let's prepare our hearts for the season and share an evening of fellowship and learning about what Christmas is really about!

### FORM OR ONLINE REGISTRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

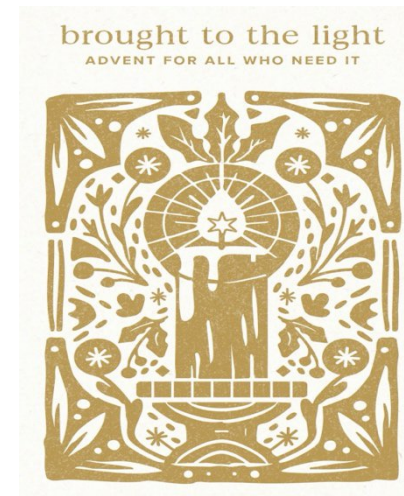
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

How many people are you RSVPing? \_\_\_\_\_

Names attending:



Advent Family Night



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### FORM OR ONLINE REGISTRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

How many people are you RSVPing? \_\_\_\_\_

Names attending:



Advent Family Night

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## Assisting in Worship

	<b>This Sunday</b> <b>November 30, 2025</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b> <b>December 7, 2025</b>
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Jonathan Clark	Dave Loughery
<b>Children's Worship</b>	Liz Smith	Fran Cooper
<b>Media Tech</b>	Wina Giddens	Wina Giddens
		Jeff Paiste
<b>Sound Tech</b>	Jeff Paiste	Bill Huber
<b>Camera Tech</b>	Clarise Hicks	Clarise Hicks
<b>Trustee of the Month</b>	Gene Levow	Allison Arbuckle
<b>Sunday Stewards</b>	Ed Lilly	Ed Lilly
	Dave Lannetti	Dave Lannetti
<b>Monday Counters</b>	Chris Burge	Julie Etheridge
	Demi Wheeler	Pris Peake
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Jonathan Clark	John Fitzwilliam
<b>Ushers</b>	Traci Shepard	Jonathan Clark
	Gary Chiaverotti	Laura Calvert
	Rob Baxter	Chris Calvert
	Bill Lehew	Dave Lannetti

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**Larchmont United Methodist Church**  
**1101 Jamestown Crescent**  
**757-489-8168 office/ 757-489-1267 fax**

Lead Pastor	Rev. Fran Cooper; <a href="mailto:pastor@larchmontumc.org">pastor@larchmontumc.org</a>
Administrative Assistant	Nate Poplin; <a href="mailto:office@larchmontumc.org">office@larchmontumc.org</a>
Pastor of Visitation	Dave Loughery; <a href="mailto:pov@larchmontumc.org">pov@larchmontumc.org</a>
Music Director	Karla Robinson; <a href="mailto:music@larchmontumc.org">music@larchmontumc.org</a>
Organist	Will Pearson; <a href="mailto:wpearson@odu.edu">wpearson@odu.edu</a>
Financial Secretary	Rita Turner; <a href="mailto:giving@larchmontumc.org">giving@larchmontumc.org</a>
Bookkeeper	Amber Pickrell, <a href="mailto:bookkeeping@larchmontumc.org">bookkeeping@larchmontumc.org</a>
Preschool Director	Meg Ditty; <a href="mailto:lumps@larchmontumc.org">lumps@larchmontumc.org</a>
Children's Ministry Director	Cathy Hickman; <a href="mailto:education@larchmontumc.org">education@larchmontumc.org</a>
Youth Director	<a href="mailto:youth@larchmontumc.org">youth@larchmontumc.org</a>
835LIVE Worship Leader	Dai Poole; <a href="mailto:worshipleader@larchmontumc.org">worshipleader@larchmontumc.org</a>
Digital Communications	Ron Pionk; <a href="mailto:CommunicationsSpecialistLUMC@gmail.com">CommunicationsSpecialistLUMC@gmail.com</a>
Housekeeper	Robert Ragland

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