

## January 14, 2018

Led by the Holy Spirit, LaGrave's members seek to worship and serve God in all of life, transforming His world and being transformed to reflect the character of Christ.

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. Because our worship proceeds without announcements, please carefully follow the order of worship printed below, noting that we use *two* different red hymnals. The *Worship & Rejoice* hymnal will be indicated by bold, italic type. An asterisk (\*) denotes standing for those who are able. We are glad that you are here. Let us worship God together.

### MORNING WORSHIP 8:40 & 11:00 AM

*Please prepare your heart and mind for worship with a time of prayer and meditation.*

### *God Calls Us to Worship*

The Prelude:

“Variations on *Will You Come and Follow Me*” Denis Bédard  
“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” Michael Burkhardt

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Oh, Sing to the Lord” (8:40)

*Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.  
Oh, sing to our God!*

*For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!  
Oh, sing to our God!*

“Jesus, Lead the Way” (11:00)

*Jesus, lead the way through our life's long day. When at times the way is cheerless, help us follow, calm and fearless. Guide us by your hand to the promised land.*

*Jesus, still lead on till our rest be won. If you lead us through rough places, grant us your redeeming graces. When our course is o'er, open heaven's door.*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 538

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

All who are able please sing the descant on stanza 4

*(The congregation is asked to rise on the last line of the hymn introduction.)*

\*The Greeting

\*The People's Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

### *We Humbly Approach God*

Here is the message we have heard from Jesus and announce to you. God is light. There is no darkness in him at all. Suppose we say that we share life with God but still walk in the darkness. Then we are lying. We are not living out the truth.

**But suppose we walk in the light, just as he is in the light. Then we share life with one another. And the blood of Jesus, his Son, makes us pure from all sin.**

I John 1:5-9, NfRV

Let us walk in the light of Jesus, inviting his Spirit to show us our need for a Savior.

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

**Holy God, we hear your call to come follow you, but like little children, we stall for time. When you invite us to follow you, sometimes we say, “Not now; later” — especially if the path is steep or unfamiliar. We are too easily pleased by what our eyes can see. Forgive us. You have made us your children. We want to trust and obey you. Teach our faltering feet to walk in Jesus' dust. In his name, amen.**

The Assurance of Forgiveness: “Jesus Loves Me”

**Jesus loves me – he who died, heaven's gate to open wide. He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.**

**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!** (3 times)

**The Bible tells me so.**

LUYH 709:2

Jesus did not come into the world to condemn it; he came to save us.

John 3:17

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 327

“When We Walk with the Lord”

The Children's Message

Leader: What is our prayer for these children?

**Congregation: The Lord be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

*(Children, 4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, may leave for Children's Worship)*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Dear Lord and Master” (8:40) arr. Morten J. Luvaas  
*Dear Lord and Master of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! Reclothe us in our rightful minds, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence praise. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian Sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee. O Galilee! O calm of hills above, where Jesus knelt to share the silence of eternity, interpreted by love! Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease. Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.*

“Would I Have Answered When You Called” (11:00)

Roy Hopp

*Would I have answered when you called, “Come, follow, follow me!”? Would I at once have left behind both work and family? Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim and kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?*

*Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee, on roads unknown, by ways untried, beyond security? Or would I soon have hurried back where home and comfort drew, where truth you taught would not disturb the ordered world I knew?*

*Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, “Crucify!”, when on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky? Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone, a dying King with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?*

*O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways, nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise. I only pray that when you call, “Come, follow, follow me!”, you'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.*

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The Offertory: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” Emma Lou Diemer

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too; and Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

## The Offering

*Today's offering is for Inner City Christian Federation and the LaGrave General Fund. Please use an envelope from the pew to designate your gift. All undesignated monies will go to the General Fund.*

*(Please sign and pass the Welcome Register.)*

### \*The Doxology:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

### *God Speaks to Us*

The Scripture: Mark 1:16-20 (pg. 1556)

The Sermon: **“THE ART OF FOLLOWING”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### *We Go in His Peace*

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 742:1-3,5

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

\*The Benediction

\*The People's Response: **Amen.**

\*The Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”

Karl Osterland

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director (8:40)

Ted Rozeboom – vocalist (11:00)

Ken & Mary Afman – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

Merv Kamper and Marlene Padding – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

### **Music at LaGrave (8:40)**

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892) was a Quaker poet who never considered himself a hymn writer. Yet, his hymn *Dear Lord and Master of Mankind* written in 1872 still remains popular after 145 years. In his texts, Whittier calls

Christians back to simplicity and purity in worship. Morten Luvass's choral arrangement of this text is set to an early American tune from an 1835 collection of hymns titled *Southern Harmony*. A variety of choral textures are heard throughout the anthem including unison, two-part, three-part, and finally four-part harmony.

**The January special offering** is for Inner City Christian Federation which provides housing opportunities and services that encourage family responsibility and independence, thereby helping to build stable communities. ICCF assists more than 2,200 low-to-moderate income families each year and continues to address the issues of affordable housing in Grand Rapids.

**Tonight** Rev. Jonker will preach on Genesis 17:1-13; his sermon is entitled: “The Story of Baptism.”

Livestreaming worship is available at [lagrave.org](http://lagrave.org).