

## January 21, 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:  
"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

B. Wayne Bisbee, Paul Manz, Johann Pachelbel

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: "Our Help Is in the Name of God the Lord"  
*Our help is in the name of God the Lord; the one who made the heavens with a word; Creator of the world, each living thing. Come, bless the Lord, lift up your hearts and sing:*  
*"Our help is in the name of God the Lord."* Psalm 124  
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\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 926  
"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*(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, NIV

Let us walk in the light of Jesus.

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

**Lord, you are a God who keeps promises.  
But we often forget our promises.  
Our actions do not match up with our words.  
We say mean things to other people, we tell lies,  
we think of ourselves first,  
and, worst of all, we ignore you.  
Lord, forgive us and help us keep our promises  
for Jesus' sake. 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 Faith: Lift Up Your Hearts 709:1,3  
"Jesus Loves Me"

The Covenant Promises

The Vows of Parents and Congregation

The Children's Message

The Sacrament of Baptism

*(Children 4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade may come forward to witness the baptism)*

(8:40): **George Matthew Kai-Kit Lee**, son of  
Amy & Wilson Lee  
Prayer Partners: Aaron & Kate Faber

(11:00): **Audrey Leone Muller**, daughter of  
Elliott & Kaci Muller  
Prayer Partners: Aaron & Jamie Klop

**Ethan Lawrence Pasch**, son of  
Brandon & Sangeetha Pasch  
Prayer Partner: Peter Jonker

The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 802:1,3  
"Wash, O God, our Sons and Daughters"

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

"Creator God" (8:40) Carole Halmekangas  
*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I called you by name. Lord, Lord! You created my being, you knit me together in my mother's womb; my frame was not hidden from you, when I was formed, you were there. Long before I knew you, you reached down and touched me; loving me before I was born; Elohim Jehovah, Creator God, my Father, praise and blessed be your holy name. I am fearfully and wonderfully made, my soul knoweth that full well; Lord, your thoughts ever are upon me, and all my days are written in your book. Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and I loved you!*

Jeremiah 1:5, Psalm 139;  
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"Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word" (11:00) Eric H. Thiman  
*Blessed Jesus, at thy word, we are gathered all to hear thee; let our minds and wills be stirred now to seek and love and fear thee. By thy teachings true and holy drawn from earth to love thee solely.*

*All our knowledge, sense and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded, till thy Spirit breaks our night with the beams of truth unclouded; thou alone to God canst win us, thou must work all good within us.*

*Glorious Lord, thyself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding; open thou each mind and heart, let us heed thy Spirit's pleading, hear the cry thy church now raises, Lord, accept our prayers and praises. Amen.*

The Offertory:

(8:40) "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" Janet Linker  
(11:00) "Here I Am, Lord" arr. Michael Helman

## 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 1:21-28 (pg. 1556)

The Sermon: **“WHAT KIND OF AUTHORITY IS THIS?”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### *We Go in His Peace*

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 928:1,2,4  
“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” David Cherwien

Rev. Ruth Boven – minister

Rev. Mike Hoogeboom – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Glenda Buteyn & Jim Elzinga – vocalists (8:40)

Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director (11:00)

Bells Jubilate, Kurt Stroh – director (11:00)

Laurie and Tom Bosma – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

Sher Engbers and Judy Otte – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

**Music at LaGrave (11:00):** Eric Thiman (1900-1975) was an important 20<sup>th</sup> century British professor and church musician who also composed choral and organ music for the

church. Thiman's gifts of melody, harmony, and significant organ accompaniments are evident in his choral anthems. Paired with the text *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word*, Thiman's anthem is a prayer seeking illumination from the Holy Spirit as the Church gathers to hear and be fed by God's Word. The final stanza builds to a glorious climax, but soon concludes with a quiet Amen.

**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 Exodus 34:1-7; his sermon is entitled: “The Lord, the Lord, the Compassionate.”

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