

January 28, 2018

A Service of Holy Communion

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:

“Clothe Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness”

J. G. Walther, J. S. Bach

How we long with all our spirit for the love we do not merit, from our weary sighs, Lord, free us, with this heavenly food now feed us. May we, when by life discouraged, by this cup of life be nourished, thankful that our Friend invites us and with God himself unites us.

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now; our hearts in true devotion bow. Your Spirit send with light divine, and let your truth within us shine.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 594:1,3,4

“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear”

(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

The Call to Repentance: Luke 15:3-7 (pg. 1625)

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God,

our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear,

and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

Gracious God,

our troubles are a burden that we cannot carry and our worries often overwhelm us.

In your mercy, help us and heal us.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;

open to us a future in which we can be changed;

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

concluded by singing:

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 630

“O Christ, the Lamb of God”

Sung by women, then men, then all

The Assurance of Forgiveness: John 10:14-16 (pg. 1667)

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 330:1,3

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

The Children's Blessing:

Leader: What is our prayer for these children?

Congregation: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

(Children, 4-2nd grade, may leave for Children's Worship)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Come, Ye Disconsolate”

Terre Johnson

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish. Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying, hope when all others die, fadeless and pure! Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, “Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure.”

Here see the Bread of Life, see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love;

come, ever knowing earth has no sorrow, but heav'n can remove.

The Offertory: “I Love to Tell the Story”

Charles Ore

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: Daniel 12:3

Philemon 6: “I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.”

The Sermon: **“LIKE THE STARS, FOREVER AND FOREVER”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

*The Communion Hymn: ***Worship & Rejoice 561:1,4***

“Christ for the World! We Sing”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (See insert)

As the elements are distributed, please meditate while the choir sings.

The Communion Anthems:

“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

harm. J. S. Bach

O Bread of Life from heaven, O Food to pilgrims given, O manna from above: feed with the blessed sweetness of your divine completeness the souls that want and need your love.

O Fount of Grace redeeming, O River ever streaming from Jesus' wounded side: come now, your love bestowing on thirsting souls, and flowing till all are fully satisfied.

We love you, Jesus, tender, in all your hidden splendor within these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riven, and our clear eye in heaven behold your glory face to face.

“Table of Plenty”

Daniel L. Schutte

Refrain: Come to the feast of heaven and earth!

Come to the table of plenty! God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

O come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends. I wait to welcome the lost and lonely to share the cup of my love. (Refrain)

O come and eat without money, come to drink without price. My feast of gladness will feed your spirit with faith and fullness of life. (Refrain)

My bread will ever sustain you through days of sorrow and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of gladness to flood the depths of your soul. (Refrain)

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The Thank-offering:

(As we give for the cause of benevolence, we will sing the closing hymn and stand when signaled.)

The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 262

“I Love to Tell the Story”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Jubilance”

Raymond H. Haan

Rev. Andrew Palau – guest minister

Rev. Peter Jonker – liturgist

Rev. Mike Hoogetboom, Rev. Kristy Manion – communion liturgists

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

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

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

Dee DeKryger, Joyce Jeltema – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

Lisa and Emily Beidler – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

We welcome Reverend Andrew Palau to our pulpit this morning. Andrew is one of the lead preachers for the Luis Palau Association, an international ministry which is coordinating with local churches (including ours!) for this summer’s Grand Rapids CityFest. Andrew has preached in churches and at Evangelistic festivals all over the United States. He has also regularly leads events in places like Rwanda, Romania, Egypt, Mexico, India, Poland, and

Jamaica. Andrew is the son of famous evangelist Luis Palau. He is married with three children and he calls Portland, Oregon home.

Music at LaGrave:

Raymond Haan, one of our area’s finest church music composers, often dedicates his compositions to friends and acquaintances. His energetic and stately organ solo *Jubilance* was dedicated to new LaGrave member Mary Doornbos, Ray’s former colleague at Calvin Christian High School, and also Dr. Visser’s first cousin. The piece reflects Mary’s vitality for life and firm faith which has remained strong even in her recent battle with lymphoma. It is played this morning for Mary, viewing our service via livestream, and for all whose faith remains stalwart through difficult times.

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. Hoogetboom will preach on Ruth 1; his sermon is entitled: “Ruth: Bitterness and Blessing.”

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.