

March 25, 2018

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.

EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

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

The Prelude:

“Fantasia in C minor”

Johann Sebastian Bach

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

Robert Below

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“O God, Whose Healing Power”

O God, whose healing power is present everywhere, pervading all creation with your eternal care:

look now in your compassion upon this world of pain

and lives now bound and broken make free and whole again.

O Christ, who came among us to heal the sick, the blind, to bless the poor and burdened, the broken heart to bind: send us where they are waiting for hands to help and heal and through the gifts we offer, your grace again reveal.

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*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 590:1,3,4,5,7,8

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

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

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Reading: James 5:13-16 (pg. 1884)

The Hymn: *Worship & Rejoice 638*

“O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come”

The Scripture: Matthew 26:36-41 (pg. 1548)

The Sermon: **“WATCH AND PRAY”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 889:1,6,7

“Lord, My Petition Heed”

The Invitation:

During the prayer time, the congregation will sing the hymns listed in the Order of Worship. There will be three prayer teams in the front and one team in the back. If you would like a prayer team to pray with you where you’re seated, raise your hand.

After you have written briefly your need on the request card, proceed to a prayer team and hand your request to the Pastor or Elder who will pray with you.

Please bring your prayer request card with you to the team.

Hear this invitation:

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

—Matthew 11:28-29, NIV

The Laying on of Hands and Prayer:

The laying on of hands is one of the ancient and special services of the church. Jesus often prayed for the sick in this way, and this form was continued in the Apostolic church. May the unseen hands of the Great Physician now rest upon you in divine blessing and healing. May the cleansing stream of his pure life fill your whole being – body, mind, and spirit to strengthen you and heal you.

The Prayer Hymns: (while people go to stations for prayer)

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

LUYH 737

- 1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.**
- 2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today. Open mine eyes, my sin show me now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.**

- 3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray. Power, all power, surely is thine, touch me and heal me, Savior divine.**
- 4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o’er my being absolute sway. Fill with thy spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me.**

“Come to the Savior Now”

LUYH 613

- 1. Come to the Savior now, he gently calls to you; in true repentance bow, let him your heart renew. Christ came that you may know salvation, peace, and love, true joy on earth below, a home in heaven above.**
- 2. Come to the Savior now, all who have wandered far; renew your solemn vow, for his by right you are; come like poor, wandering sheep returning to his fold; his arm will safely keep, his love will ne’er grow cold.**
- 3. Come to the Savior, all, whate’er your burdens be; hear now his loving call, “Cast all your care on me.” Come, and for every grief, in Jesus you will find a sure and safe relief, a loving friend and kind.**

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

LUYH 443

- 1. My life flows on in endless song; above earth’s lamentation, I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**
(Refrain) No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?
- 2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing? (Refrain)**
- 3. What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. (Refrain)**
- 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)**

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Lloyd Larson

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
(Refrain)

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul, you can share the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all. Christ died for all!”

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend; and if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend.
(Refrain)

African American Spiritual based on Jer.8:22

The Offertory:

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Paul Manz

The Offering

Today's offering is for Mel Trotter Ministries 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 Closing Hymn: **Worship & Rejoice 439**

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

J. S. Bach

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Brian Bartusch – organist, pianist

Aaron Polet – vocalist

Dean Rooks, Judy Otte, Ron Redder, Jean Scott – Prayer Elders

Aaron Polet is a recent Calvin College graduate with a degree in music education, a member of the music and worship team at Shawnee Park CRC, sings in the Calvin College Alumni Choir, and also teaches voice privately. We warmly welcome Aaron and pray that his ministry through music will enrich our worship this evening.

Today's flowers are given by **Katey, Mary, and Bill Romence** in loving memory of Mary's mother, **Florence Vanderveen**, a longtime and active member of LaGrave, who died March 14, 2013, at 100 years of age. Praise be to God for her life of love and service.

The March special offering is for Mel Trotter Ministries. Mel Trotter Ministries exists to demonstrate the compassion of Jesus Christ, through rescue and restoration for anyone experiencing hunger and homelessness. They provide services including job training, food, emergency and long term shelter support and a community center.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the last week of Jesus life on earth. Purple, the color of royalty, is used in the paraments and banners. It symbolizes the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The palm branches symbolize the greeting the people gave Jesus, the King.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.