

**November 18, 2018**

*Stewardship Commitment Sunday*

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:

“Prayer of Saint Gregory”

Alan Hovhaness

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Dallas Blair

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“O Worship the Lord”

Hal H. Hopson

*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. He is our God.*

*Let all the earth keep silence before him.*

Psalm 29:2, Habakkuk 2:20

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 261

“Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns”

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

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

### ***We Approach God with Penitence***

Call to Confession: Acts 1:8; 8:1,4

The Prayer of Confession:

**Jesus, you call us to be your people in your world—  
not so that we feel safe and comfortable,  
but so that we bear witness to your life everywhere we go.  
Sometimes this adventure with you thrills us;  
and sometimes your strength is our only hope.  
Teach us to be priests—reflecting your love to those  
around us, carrying their burdens to you. Help us live in  
a way worthy of our calling that our lives may nudge  
others closer to you. In your name, amen.**

concluded with:

Lift Up Your Hearts 864:1,4 “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

The Assurance of Pardon:

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,  
**through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life  
has set us free from the law of sin and death.**  
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
**in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 262

“I Love to Tell the Story”

### ***We Respond with Thanksgiving***

The Children's Message

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

The Pastoral Prayer

*Sermon Notes are also prayer request cards that can be dropped into the box at the Welcome Center.*

The Anthem:

“Go Forth into the World in Peace”

John Rutter

*Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.*

The Offertory:

“Here I Am, Lord”

David Howard Pettit

The Offering:

*Today's offering is for the LaGrave General Fund and World Renew. 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: Exodus 19:1-9 (pg. 115)

The Sermon: **“FREEDOM TO: A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### ***We Respond with Praise***

The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 264:1,3,4,5,\*7

“Lift High the Cross”

*During the singing of the hymn, the deacons will collect your 2019 Stewardship Commitment envelopes.*

*(\*Please rise at the interlude played just prior to stanza 7)*

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Lift High the Cross”

Sue Mitchell Wallace & John H. Head

*Let every race and every language tell of him who saves our lives from death and hell.*

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist  
Dr. Larry Visser – organist  
Aaron Good – trumpeter

Vocal Quartet, Merle Mustert – director (8:40)  
Kathryn Becksvoort – soprano; Jess Hollenbach – alto  
Jim Elzinga – tenor; Peter Redder – bass  
Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director (11:00)  
Ken and Mary Afman – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)  
Dan and Julie Molenbeek – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

### **Music at LaGrave**

The “sending” text of John Rutter’s anthem *Go Forth into the World in Peace* is from the 1928 *Book of Common Prayer*, used widely in the Anglican Church. An early choral work of Rutter, the anthem includes hallmarks of his compositional style: flowing, pleasing melodic lines, unison voices evolving into full harmony, phrases with increasing intensity leading into a full climax, and a meditative conclusion with a peaceful “Amen.”

The flowers on the chancel are in memory of my parents, Marvin and Corinne Kuipers, who passed away many years ago, and my only sibling, Sharon VanderWall, who passed away five years ago today. **Renee Kuipers**

**The November special offering** is for World Renew. World Renew joins communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation through Community Development, Disaster Response and Rehabilitation and work for Peace and Justice.

**This evening**, Rev. David Bast, retired minister in the RCA, will lead us in the preaching of the Word. He will preach on Psalm 103 and his sermon is called, “Memo to Self.” It will also be our annual Pre-Thanksgiving Service. You will have an opportunity to bring offerings of food (or money) for the Westminster Food Pantry.

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