

November 25, 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* 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: "A Thanksgiving Prelude"

Now Thank We All Our God
For the Beauty of the Earth
Come, You Thankful People, Come

Piet Post
Clay Christiansen
David Cherwien

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

"Be Still, My Soul"

Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side! Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; leave to thy God to order and provide, in every change he faithful will remain. Be still, my soul, thy best, thy heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 575:1,2,4

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

(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: Psalm 72:18-20 (pg. 908)

The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 953

"Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God"

*The Confession of Faith:

Q. Why do Christians need to pray?

A. **Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them.**

Q. What is the kind of prayer that pleases God and that he listens to?

A. **First, we must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, revealed to us in his Word, asking for everything God has commanded us to ask for.**

Second, we must fully recognize our need and misery, so that we humble ourselves in God's majestic presence.

Third, we must rest on this unshakable foundation: even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ our Lord. That is what God promised us in his Word.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. & A. 116, 117

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 897

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

The Pastoral Prayer concluded with:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Anthem: "Assurance"

arr. John Ness Beck
trans. Craig Courtney

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (Refrain)

The Offertory:

"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Raymond H. Haan

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word,
just to rest upon his promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

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 Prayer for Illumination

The Catechism:

Q. What does that little word "Amen" express?

A. **"Amen" means: this shall truly and surely be! It is even more sure that God listens to my prayer than that I really desire what I pray for.**

Heidelberg Catechism Q. & A. 129

The Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 (pg. 1793)

The Sermon: **"42 GENERATIONS"**

The Prayer of Dedication

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 219:1,2,3,5

"Jesus Shall Reign"

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (in the style of Bach)

Let the amen sound from his people again! Larry Visser

Rev. Emily VandenHeuvel – guest minister
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Renee VandeWege – vocalist

This evening we welcome **Rev. Emily VandenHeuvel** to our worship. Rev. Vanden Heuvel is a member of our church and the leader of our Middle School Ministries.

Renee VandeWege is the Freshman Choir director at Rockford Public Schools. She also teaches elementary music and maintains a private voice studio. Renee attends Calvary Church. Welcome, Renee, to worship at LaGrave and may God bless your music ministry among us this evening.

The flowers on the chancel are given by **Chris and Kara VerMeulen** in celebration of their daughters **Alexandra, Anneka,** and **Charlotte's** birthdays.

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.