

December 30, 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.

MORNING WORSHIP 8:40 & 11:00 AM

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| "Let All Together Praise Our God" | Dieterich Buxtehude |
| "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come" | Johann Pachelbel |
| "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come" | J. S. Bach |
| "Noel on <i>Once in Royal David's City</i> " | Larry Visser |

The Chiming of the Hour

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 87
"Once in Royal David's City"

(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

The Call to Confession: Psalm 139:1-6 (pg. 974)

The Prayer of Confession:

Faithful loving Father who knows us better than we know ourselves, we confess that our thoughts are not always pure, our words are not always true, and our actions are not always right. Forgive us, Lord. With your Holy Spirit's strength, use our thoughts, words, and actions to bring honor and glory to you. Remind us, your children, that you always love us, and made each of us in

your image. Help us find our identity in you and become everything you created us to be. Amen

The Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 5:17 (pg. 1796)

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 23
"Children of the Heavenly Father"

The Promises of Baptism (11:00)

The Baptismal Vows of Parents and Congregation (11:00)

The Sacrament Baptism (11:00)
(Children 4-2nd grade may come forward to witness the baptism)

Sophia Jo Guinn, daughter of Anthony and Stephanie Guinn
Prayer Partner: Heather Scholma
Cooper James Nuiver, son of Chris and Samantha Nuiver
Prayer Partner: Kris Huizenga

The Baptismal Hymn: Lift Up Your Heart 790 (11:00)
"Baptized in Water"

The Blessing (11:00)

The Response: "Go My Children, with My Blessing" (11:00)
**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine
forever. Go, my children, with my blessing;
you are my own.**

LUYH 946
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We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message (8:40)
(Children, 4-1st 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 Offertory:
"Lullaby" Louis Vierne

The Offering:

*Today's Offering is for Camp Tall Turf 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: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:1-4

The Sermon: **"THE MYSTERY OF OUR IDENTITY"**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 351:1,3,4
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*The Benediction

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

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: "Prelude in C Major" J. S. Bach

Rev. Duane Kelderman – guest minister
Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist
Norene Walters – organist
Dee and Perry DeKryger – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Andrea and Christine Hoekzema – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

The morning we welcome to our pulpit **Rev. Duane Kelderman**, former Vice President of Administration at Calvin Theological Seminary and former interim pastor at LaGrave CRC.

The flowers are given in gratitude for the privilege of celebrating our 50th anniversary and the blessings of family, health, this church home, and a faithful God. **Jim & Linda Heeres**

The December special offering is for Camp Tall Turf. Camp Tall Turf reaches youth and families through camp experiences. CTT instills the biblical message of reconciliation to campers through sessions that are specifically designed to teach children about the value of diversity by creating cross cultural experiences and relationships.

Baptism Parament: Baptism signifies the saving work of Jesus in the water, reminding us that God is the golden thread in our lives, from the beginning to the end, through all eternity, bringing light in the darkness. The guiding light of the Holy Spirit shines through the calm and rough places of our lives. The seashell has been associated with baptism since the first centuries of the Christian church.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.