

January 20, 2019

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:

“Adagio” Felix Mendelssohn; arr. Lee J. Afdahl
“Beautiful Savior” arr. David Cherwien
“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace” arr. Lloyd Larson

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Come Sing with Me”
Rejoice, rejoice, come sing with me: “This is the house of God!” The temple gates swing wide and free – this is the house of God! For every tribe and every race this is the house of God! God calls us to this holy place – this is the house of God!

In market square and city street we seek the peace of God. Before the ruler's judgment seat, we seek the peace of God. In joyful song and whispered prayer we seek the house of God. God's city can be anywhere we seek the peace of God.

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“In Thee Is Gladness”

In thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, Daystar of my heart! By thee are given the gifts of heaven, thou the true Redeemer art! Our souls thou wakest; our bonds thou breakest. Who trusts thee surely has built securely and stands forever; Alleluia! Our hearts are longing to see thy dawning. Living or dying, in thee abiding, naught can us sever: Alleluia!

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 511

“Amid the Thronging Worshipers”
(The congregation is asked to rise on the last line of the hymn introduction.)

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Celebrate God's Covenant Promises (8:40)

The Promises of Baptism

The Baptismal Vows of Parents and Congregation

The Sacrament of Baptism

(Children 4-2nd grade may come forward to witness the baptism.)

Oscar Nielsen Wieringa, son of Steve & MeiLi Wieringa
Prayer Partner: Heather Post
Josie Marie Elzinga, daughter of Aaron and Katie Elzinga
Prayer Partner: Kristin Ponstein

The Baptismal Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 804:1,3,4

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

The Baptismal Blessing

The Response: “Go My Children, with My Blessing”

**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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The Anthem: (8:40)

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” arr. Harold DeCou
*Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.*

*Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will; blessed Lord
and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill. Blessed Jesus,
thou has loved us, love us still.*

We Humbly Approach God (11:00)

The Children's Message

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

The Call to Confession: Luke 5:27-31 (pg. 1601)

The Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, You are the Master who invites us to follow, and the Healer who restores our souls. Your love crosses boundaries — drawing people in, showing them your path of life. Forgive us when we don't drink deeply from the well of your love and our love shrivels up, becoming timid or self-protective. Fill us to the brim with your love, Lord. Teach us how to serve in the way of Jesus. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Luke 15:20-24 (pg. 1626)

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts: 299
“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem: (11:00)

“We Turn to Christ Anew” Ian Kellam
We turn to Christ anew who hear his call today, his way to walk, his will pursue, his word obey. To serve him as our King and of his kingdom learn, from sin and every evil thing to him we turn. We trust in Christ to save; in him new life begins, who by his cross a ransom gave from all our sins. Our spirits' strength and stay, when all flesh is dust will keep us in that final day, in him we trust. We would be true to him till earthly journeys end, whose love no passing years can dim, our changeless Friend. May we who bear his name our faith and love renew, to follow Christ our single aim and find him true.

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The Offertory:

(8:40) “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” arr. Lloyd Larson
(11:00) “Psalm Nine” (I Will Praise Thee, O Lord, with My Whole Heart) Carl Wiltse

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: Acts 8:26-40 (pg. 1704)

The Sermon: **“PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 925
“Go to the World”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “A Trumpet Minuet”

Alfred Hollins

Dr. Reggie Smith – guest minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Laura Muresan – flutist

Calin Muresan – cellist

Becky Rhoda – vocalist (8:40)

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

Bells Jubilate, Kurt Stroh – director (11:00)

Ken & Mary Afman – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

Christine Hoekzema and Everett Smith – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

This morning, we welcome to our services Dr. Reggie Smith.

Reggie is the director of the office of Social Justice in the Christian Reformed Church and a longtime minister in our denomination.

Music at LaGrave (11:00)

English composer Ian Kellam’s (b. 1933) anthem *We Turn to Christ Anew* sets an inspiring text by retired English priest Timothy Dudley Smith (b. 1926), the author of hundreds of hymn texts. The text is a guide to daily living: walking with Christ, obeying his Word, serving him as King, turning from evil, following Christ. Kellam’s melody is a happy marriage to the text; the first stanza is sung in unison, the second in four-part harmony, and the third with a soprano descant.

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. Jonker will preach on Jeremiah 17:5-8. His sermon is entitled: “Roots by the Stream.”

Baptism Parament: The sacrament of Baptism is the sign of God’s covenant relationship with his people. Water is the primary symbol used in baptism. The parament is designed as a cascading waterfall symbolizing the washing away of our sins through the blood of Jesus Christ. A golden thread is woven in from top to bottom reminding us that God is with us from the beginning to the end of our lives and through all eternity. The crystal sparkles symbolizes the light of the Holy Spirit that guides us in every moment of our lives. The seashell holds the baptism water. The seashell has been used for baptism by the Christian church since the earliest centuries.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.