

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday of Lent

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, 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:

“Suite No. 1 for *Solo Cello*”

J. S. Bach

Minuet

Sarabande

“Andante”

Gabriel Fauré

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: (8:40) “God So Loved the World” from *The*

Crucifixion

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

“Come, Sing a Joyful Alleluia!” (11:00)

Dan R. Edwards

Praise our God, the living Lord! Come, sing a joyful alleluia! Lift your voice in one accord, come, sing a joyful alleluia! Bow before him, praise, adore him. Let your heart give thanks in joyful song!

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We Respond with Praise

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 137

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

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

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: Galatians 3:26-29 (pg. 1810)

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, by water and the Spirit you claimed us as your own, cleansing us from sin and giving us new life. You made us members of your body, the church, calling us to be your servants in the world. Renew in us the covenant you made in our baptisms. Continue the good work you have begun in us. Send us into the world in the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Concluded with Lift Up Your Hearts 613:4

“Come to the Savior Now”

Come to the Savior, all, what'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.

The Assurance of Forgiveness:

A broken spirit and a contrite heart our God will not despise.
God showed his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
On the cross, he washed away our sin and freed us from our shame.

Thank you, Lord Jesus. We give our lives to you.

We Celebrate God's Covenant Promises

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 baptisms.)

(8:40) **Jesse Richard Horton**, son of James & Sarah Horton
Prayer Partner: Ruth Vis

(8:40) **Ollivette Lynn Stuit**, daughter of Mark & Kara Stuit
Prayer Partners: Bill & Laurie Boer

(11:00) **Samuel Martin Bielecki & Louis George Bielecki**, sons of Dave & Emily Bielecki
Prayer Partner: Kristin Batts

(11:00) **Weston Alexander Borgyos**, son of Andrew & Megan Borgyos
Prayer Partners: Dan & Julie Molenbeek

(11:00) **Isla Elizabeth Heeringa**, daughter of Lee & Erin Heeringa
Prayer Partner: Emily Redder

Adult Baptism: (11:00) **Heather Alexander**

*The Baptismal Hymn: ***Worship & Rejoice 677***
“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: “Jesus Loves Me” (11:00)

Betty Bertaux

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me, (3xs) the Bible tells me so.

Congregation Join:

Jesus loves me he who died, heaven's gate to open wide; he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. (Refrain)

Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all the way; if I love him when I die, he will take me home on high. (Refrain)

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“God of Grace and God of Glory” (8:40) arr. Dan Forrest
God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power. Crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn our Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore. Amen.

The Offertory:
(8:40) “Arioso”
(11:00) “Requiem”

J. S. Bach
William Payn

The Offering:
Today's offering is for the LaGrave General Fund and God's Kitchen. 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: Luke 18:1-9 (pg. 1630)

The Sermon: **“PERSISTENT FAITH”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 479:1,3,4
“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

*The Benediction

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

*The Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:
“Toccata on *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*” David Cherwien

Rev. David Bast – guest minister
Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Alicia Eppinga – cellist
Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director (8:40)
Junior Choir, Marcia Pylman – director (11:00)
Karen Schipper – accompanist
Bells Jubilate, Kurt Stroh – director (11:00)
Laura Muresan – flutist; Alanna Rynders – oboist
Tom & Laurie Bosma – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Dan & Julie Molenbeek – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

This morning we welcome **Rev. David Bast** to our worship.
Rev. Bast is a retired minister in the Reformed Church of

America. He was president of Words of Hope ministries for 23 years. He also served as one of our interim ministers back in 2012-2013.

Music at LaGrave: (11:00) A Requiem is a musical piece that honors and memorializes those that have died. William Payn, recently retired choral professor at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, wrote an instrumental Requiem for handbells that is both mournful and majestic. The main melody of the piece is played intermittently by oboe, flute, and handbells, and expresses both sadness and joy. The piece's middle section is in 5/4 meter and is cast in a brighter, major key. The piece reaches a climax near the end with the bells and instruments playing together at full force, but soon reverts back to a hushed conclusion, recalling the eternal rest of departed saints.

The designated offering for the month of **March** is for God's Kitchen. God's Kitchen served over 175,000 meals last year to hungry people throughout West Michigan. A noontime hot meal is served daily at God's Kitchen in the Heartside Neighborhood.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.