

March 24, 2019

*Third Sunday of Lent
Christian Education 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, 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:

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”
“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

David Cherwien
David Cherwien

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Lux Aeterna”
*Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,
Cum sanctis tuis, in aeternum, quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

Frank Ticheli

English Translation:

“Eternal Light”
May eternal light shine upon them, O Lord,
with thy saints forever, for thou art kind.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

We Respond with Praise

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 111:1,2,4,6

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

(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: Lamentation 3:22-23 (pg. 1282)

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, we confess that we are not always faithful witnesses to your love and grace. At times we think too highly of ourselves and fail to follow Jesus into difficult places. At times we are quarrelsome and petty and do not extend the grace and generosity you have poured out on us. Forgive us, saving Lord. Heal us. Renew us. Fill us. And make us ever thankful for your mercy and your great faithfulness to us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(concluded by a time of silence)

The Anthem:

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Craig Courtney

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain) Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

(Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

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The Assurance of Forgiveness: Romans 8:34 (pg. 1756)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (pg. 1797)

Believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 833:1,2

“There Is a Redeemer”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

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

The Ministry Moment for Chr. Education Jordan Ezinga

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem: “Yours Is the Kingdom”

Cindy Berry

All praise I give to you alone, Father and Creator, Alpha and Omega, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Holy Lamb of God, blessed Prince of Peace, I will never cease to praise you, for yours is the kingdom, yours is the power, and the glory forevermore.

*I could never comprehend the grace you've freely given.
Wondrous is your love for me, higher than the heavens.
As I abide in you, as you live through me, may others see your glory, for yours is the kingdom, yours is the power and the glory forevermore.*

As I bow before you, I would give you praise, I would serve you only and walk in your ways. For yours is the kingdom, yours is the power, and the glory forevermore. Amen.

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The Offertory Anthem:

“It Is Well with My Soul”

arr. Mark Hayes

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

(Refrain)

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought: my sin, not in part, but the whole is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, “Even so,” it is well with my soul. (Refrain)

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 11:14-26 (pg. 1616)

The Sermon: **“FACES FIRMLY FIXED ON JESUS:
KEEPING HOUSE”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 356

“Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God”

*The Choral Benediction:

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You” Peter C. Lutkin
*The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his
countenance upon you; and give you peace, the Lord
make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto
you. Amen.* Numbers 6:24-26

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Lift High the Cross” John Eggert

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Rev. Ruth Boven – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
South Christian High School Madrigals, Holly Baar – director
Sharon VanderHeide – accompanist
Becca and Ellie VandeGriend – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Melanie and Jean Scott – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

We welcome the **Madrigals** from **South Christian High School** to worship this Christian Education Sunday. The choir is directed by Holly Baar, sister-in-law of Rev. Hoogeboom. LaGrave member Anneke Mensonides is a member of the madrigals. May the ministry that these young people bring this morning be a blessing to our worship.

The flowers today are given by **Ellie** to honor the life and passing of **Howie Vanderwell** one year ago yesterday.

Music at LaGrave: This morning’s prelude includes two arrangements by David Cherwien, church musician at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minnesota and director of the National Lutheran Choir. Set in a slow waltz-like rhythm, *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* quickly grows in intensity, dissonance and volume, symbolizing the agony of the cross, only to conclude peacefully. The slow movement and rhythm of *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* contributes to a very meditative setting, echoing the words of the hymn text, “a rest upon the way.”

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.