

**March 31, 2019**

*Fourth 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

### *God Calls Us to Worship*

The Prelude:

*Please prepare your heart and mind for worship  
with a time of prayer and meditation.*

“Variations on *There in God's Garden*”

John Eggert, Robert Buckley Farley

Its name is Jesus, name that says, “Our Savior!” There on its branches see the scars of suffering; see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its life-blood.

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“O Jesus, We Adore You”

*O Jesus, we adore you, upon the cross, our King. We bow our hearts before you; your gracious name we sing. That name has brought salvation, that name in life our stay, our peace, our consolation, when life shall fade away.*

*The world does yet disdain you, still passing by the cross;  
Lord, may our hearts retain you; all else we count but loss.  
Ah, Lord, our sins arraigned you and nailed you to the tree;  
our pride, O Lord, disdained you, yet you have set us free.*

### *We Respond with Praise*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 583:1-3,5,7

“O Love of God, How Strong and True”

*(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 Repentance: 1 Peter 2:1-3 (pg. 1888)

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

**Holy God, love and faithfulness go ahead of you,  
beauty and truth are your ways. We stop to recognize  
your overflowing goodness today, and remember times  
when we have missed the mark. For times when we have  
shaded the truth, or wanted someone else to fail so we  
could seem more successful, or misrepresented ourselves  
because acknowledging our brokenness was too painful,  
forgive us by the precious blood of Jesus. Help us to grow  
up in our salvation, walking in the glorious freedom you  
promise your children. Amen.**

*(concluded by a time of silence)*

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: 1 Peter 1:18-19 (pg. 1887)

\*The Hymn of Praise: Lift Up Your Hearts 168:1,3

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

*(sing verse 3 a cappella)*

### *We Respond with Thanksgiving*

The Children's Message

*(Children, 4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, may leave for Children's Worship)*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“And Can It Be?” (8:40)

Dan Forrest

*And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be? And can it be  
that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he  
for me who caused his pain? For me who him to death  
pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God,  
shouldst die for me?*

*He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his  
grace; emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's  
helpless race; 'tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my  
God, it found out me. And can it be? Amazing love,  
how can it be?*

*No condemnation now I dread; Jesus and all in him is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness  
divine. Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the  
crown through Christ my own. Amazing love, how can it be  
that thou, my God shouldst die for me? Amazing love!*

“Solus Ad Victimam” (11:00)

Kenneth Leighton

(Alone to Sacrifice Thou Goest, Lord)

*Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord, giving thyself to death  
whom thou hast slain. For us thy wretched folk is any word?  
Who know that for our sins this is thy pain? For they are  
ours, O Lord, our deeds, why must thou suffer torture for  
our sin? Let our hearts suffer in thy passion, Lord, that very  
suffering may thy mercy win.*

*This is the night of tears, the three days' space, sorrow  
abiding of the eventide, until the day break with the risen  
Christ, and hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied. So may  
our hearts share in thine anguish, Lord, that they may  
sharers of thy glory be; heavy with weeping may the three  
days pass, to win the laughter of thine Easter day.*

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The Offertory:

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

C. Hubert H. Parry

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 in His Word*

The Scripture: Luke 12:1-4 (pg. 1618)

The Sermon: **“FACES FIRMLY FIXED ON JESUS:  
LOSING IN LENT”**

*We Respond with Praise*

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 627  
“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

*God Sends Us into His World*

\*The Benediction

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

\*The Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:  
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Robert Hebble

Rev. Ruth Boven – minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Kathryn Becksvoort – vocalist (8:40)

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

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

Dee DeKryger and Joyce Jeltema – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

### **Music at LaGrave (11:00)**

The anthem *Solus ad Victimam* is a collaboration between

12<sup>th</sup>-century French philosopher and theologian, Peter

Abelard (1079-1142) and British composer Kenneth

Leighton (1929-88). The anthem is both a textual and

musical journey from Lenten sorrow to Easter joy.

Throughout the piece, the increasing dissonance symbolizing

Christ’s suffering gives way at last to a strong, final

consonant chord played by the organ, portraying the hope of

Easter.

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.

This evening, **Rev. Bob Arbogast**, pastor at Celebration Fellowship Christian Reformed Church at Handlon and Bellamy Creek Prisons in Ionia, will preach for us. He will preach from Luke 4:14-21 and his sermon is entitled, “All Heaven Breaks Loose.”

**LENT:** The Liturgical season of Lent is the forty days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. For Christians, it is a time of self-examination, repentance, and renewal as we identify with the journey of Jesus in his death and resurrection. The colors of purple used in the paraments and banners symbolize the suffering of Jesus. They also symbolize the suffering of humanity and the world under sin. But, purple also symbolizes royalty and Jesus the King. He is the ruler over all things.

Livestreaming worship is available at [lagrave.org](http://lagrave.org).