

May 19, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

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

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

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

“Pièce Héroïque” (Heroic Piece) César Franck

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord”
Aaron David Miller

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Rejoice, O Pure in Heart”

*Rejoice, O pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your
King. Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!*

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 199

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

(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 Our God

The Call to Confession: John 20:24-27 (pg. 1686)

The Prayer of Forgiveness:

Loving Father, we confess that many times we are like Thomas. We have a hard time believing unless we see for ourselves. We know you arose from the grave but we do not live in that resurrection power. You ask us to trust you, yet many times, we do not fully commit to living for you. Forgive us, Lord. By your Spirit, enable us to stop doubting, to fully believe, and live each day as your committed followers. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: John 20:28-29 (pg. 1689)

*The Hymn of Assurance: Lift Up Your Hearts 170

“Man of Sorrows – What a Name”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message:

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

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“The Lord Is My Shepherd” from *Requiem* John Rutter
The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. Thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23

The Offertory: “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Richard Hudson, Homer Whitford

The Offering:

*Today's offering is for the LaGrave General Fund and In the Image.
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 26:12-29, Acts 25:19 (pg. 1738)

The Sermon: **“WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 351

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing”

Healey Willan, John Leavitt

Rev. David Bast – guest minister

Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Chancel Choir Ensemble, Merle Mustert – director (8:40)

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

Marge Hoogeboom – oboist

Tom & Laurie Bosma – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

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

This morning we welcome guest minister **Rev. David Bast**, retired president of Words of Hope, to our worship.

Music at LaGrave:

There are few choral settings of Psalm 23 more beautiful than English composer John Rutter's setting, a movement within his larger 1985 work, *Requiem*. Originally composed as a completely separate anthem in 1976, *The Lord Is My Shepherd* and one additional movement (Psalm 130, *Out of the Deep*) are atypical texts for a Requiem mass, but often sung at English funeral services. The beauty of Rutter's work is captured through fluid melodic lines, text painting, and a restful oboe accompaniment.

The flowers today are provided by **Curt and Ruth Witte** in loving memory of **Gayla Witte**, who joined her Lord and Savior Jesus in heaven eleven years ago today; and to honor the life and passing of **Rev. Wilmer Witte** three years ago this month.

The Special Offering for the month of **May** is for **In The Image**. *In the Image* provides hope, dignity and respect through the best shopping experience money does not have to buy. They provide a department store experience where any member of our community in need of clothing and household necessities shops for free. The *Free Store* is available to families and individuals who are in crisis. This may be due to a house fire, flood damage, job loss, homelessness, domestic abuse, etc. The *Shoes Help Our Elementary Students* (S.H.O.E.S) program inspires confidence, physical activity, and inclusion by providing a new pair of back-to-school athletic shoes for free to elementary students in need.

In this evening's worship service, Rev. Ruth Boven will preach on John 21:1-14. Her sermon is entitled, "Come and Have Breakfast." Also, the **Hudsonville Christian School Eighth Grade Girls Ensemble**, directed by LaGrave member Jess Hollenbach, will provide the ministry of music.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.