

June 23, 2019

SERVE 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, 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 10:00 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 *Kum Ba Yah*”

John A. Behnke

- I. Someone's Praying, Lord
- II. Someone's Crying, Lord
- III. Someone's Singing, Lord

“Here I Am, Lord”

Robert Buckley Farlee

The Chiming of the Hour

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 559

“Ten Thousand Reasons”

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

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

God Calls Us to a Life of Service

The Call: Titus 2:11-14 (pg. 1856)

The Commitment: SERVE Litany – Go Do Good

Leader: SERVE team, the congregation of LaGrave CRC welcomes you to our church and to our city. In Ezekiel's day, God searched among humanity for someone who would go on his behalf but found no one. (Ezekiel 22:30). Today God continues to seek out those who would be his agents of

change and transformation. This year's theme, “Go Do Good,” expresses God's call on your life to be that person.

We pray that as you answer this call, you will:

Congregation: Go do good, not to earn God's favor, but out of love and gratitude to him for what he has done for you.

SERVE Team: We will remember to joyfully give thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. (Colossians 1:12)

Congregation: Go do good, not to win praise for your actions, but out of an authentic desire to be a servant and bless others.

SERVE Team: We will remember Jesus' words, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)

Congregation: Go do good, not relying on your own abilities and talents, but on the Spirit's power within you.

SERVE Team: We will remember Pentecost when Christ promised that the power of the Holy Spirit comes and enables us to witness to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Congregation: Go do good, because people need God's righteousness.

SERVE Team: We will remember that God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Leader: We charge you, then, to be a partner with God to bring his kingdom here. Go do good in God's name.

Congregation: Heal the wounded.

SERVE Team: Here I am, Lord, send me.

Congregation: Protect the vulnerable.

SERVE Team: Here I am, Lord, send me.

Congregation: Raise the cry for justice and righteousness.

SERVE Team: Here I am, Lord, send me.

Congregation: Share the good news of God's kingdom.

SERVE Team: Here I am, Lord, send me.

Leader: Go, then, with our blessing and our prayers to be God's servants, doing God's will, in God's place, for God's glory.

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 309

“Servant Song”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthems of Praise:

“Good Father”

Chris Tomlin

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like, but I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night, you tell me that you're pleased and that I'm never alone.

(Chorus) You're a good, good Father, it's who you are and I'm loved by you. It's who I am.

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide, but I know we're all searching for answers only you provide; because you know just what we need before we say a word.

You are perfect in all of your ways.

You are perfect in all of your ways to us.

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak; peace so unexplainable, I can hardly think as you call me deeper still into love. (Chorus)

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“Hosanna”

Brooke Fraser

1. *I see the King of glory coming on the clouds with fire.
The whole earth shakes.*

2. *I see His love and mercy washing over all our sin.
The people sing.*

Chorus: Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

3. *I see a generation rising up to take the place with selfless faith.*

4. *I see a near revival starting as we pray and seek; we're on our knees. (Chorus)*

Heal my heart and make it clean open up my eyes to the things unseen. Show me how to love like you have loved me. Break my heart for what breaks yours. Everything I am for your kingdom's cause as I walk from earth into eternity. (Chorus)

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The Offertory:

“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”

Dan Forrest

Today's offering is for the Cherry Street Health Services 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 Children's Message

(Children, 4s, K – 1st grade, may leave for Summer Program.)

The Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15, 4:1-13 (p. 89)

The Sermon: **“EXCUSES, EXCUSES”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go Out to Serve

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 925

“Go to the World”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Go to the World”

Charles Callahan

Jolene DeHeer – SERVE speaker

Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

SERVE Participants Choir

Olivia Huizenga and Marlene Padding – Cross & Bible Bearers

This morning we welcome **Jolene DeHeer** to our pulpit. Jolene is an author and well-known communicator. She is also our SERVE speaker this week.

Music at LaGrave:

American composer Dan Forrest (b. 1978) has been described as having an “undoubted gift for writing beautiful music that is truly magical.” Though he is best known for his choral

music, he is equally gifted in writing instrumental music. His piano solo (adapted from his choral anthem) based on an English folk song was meant to be paired with the text *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, but this morning we reflect on the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, *Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace* (LUYH 904).

The flowers on the chancel are in honor of **Warren & Virginia Haan** as they celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary today. We thank and praise our Heavenly Father for all the blessings and good health He has provided for us. To God be the glory.

The Special Offering for the month of June is for Cherry Street Health Services.

This evening, Rev. Kathy Smith, Associate Director at Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, will preach on Matthew 5:1-12. Her sermon is entitled, “An Avalanche of Mercy.” May God bless the preaching of his Word.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org