

January 5, 2020

Epiphany Candlelight Service

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. Because our worship proceeds without announcements, please carefully follow the order of worship printed below. An asterick (*) denotes standing for those who are able. We are glad that you are here. Let us worship God together.

EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

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

The Prelude:

“How Bright Appears the Morningstar” Max Drischner,
David Bednall, Mark Sedio

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” Rebecca Groom teVelde

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Light Everlasting” Olaf C. Christiansen
O Light everlasting, O Love never failing, illumine our darkness, and draw us to thee. May we, from thy Spirit, receive inspiration, that brethren together thy wisdom may see. O Light everlasting, make known to all nations thy peace and salvation, and help us, O Father, thy temple to be. O Light everlasting, O Love never failing, illumine our darkness and draw us to thee.

*The Opening Hymn: **Worship & Rejoice:1-3, 6**

“The First Noel”

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

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Old Testament Reading:

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. Genesis 1:3,4

**The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?** Psalm 27:1

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,” even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. Psalm 139:11

He says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.” Isaiah 49:6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Isaiah 60:1-3

The Hymn of Response: **Lift Up Your Hearts 38:1, 3**

“In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness”

The Gospel Reading: John 1:1-4 (pg. 1646)

*The Hymn of Response: **Worship & Rejoice 235:1,2,4**

“Brightest and Best of the Stars”

The Epiphany Prayer:

Lord, we praise you because you have come to earth and become one of us.

Your light has shone out in the darkness.

All the ends of the earth have seen your salvation!

Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

O Christ, let your gospel shine in every place where the Word of life is not yet received.

Draw the whole creation to yourself, that your salvation may be known through all the earth.

God of all mercies, hear our prayer.

O Christ, Savior and Lord, extend your church to every place.

Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue.

God of all mercies, hear our prayer.

O Christ, Ruler of rulers, direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations, that they may seek justice and further peace and freedom for all.

God of all mercies, hear our prayer.

O Christ, Master of all, support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted, strengthen the tempted and raise the fallen.

Watch over the lonely and those in danger.

Give hope to the despairing and sustain the faith of the persecuted. Lord God, we lift them all to you.

After a brief silence, the leader concludes the litany.

O Christ, light made manifest as the true light of God,

gladden our hearts on the joyful morning of your glory, call us by our name on the great Day of your coming, and give us grace to offer, with all the hosts of heaven, unending praise to God, in whom all things find their ending, now and ever.

Amen.

The Concertato: “Arise, Shine, for Your Light Is Come”

arr. Davis Folkerts

Behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the people, but the Lord shall arise upon you and his glory shall be seen upon you.

Refrain: Arise, shine, for your light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen. O arise, shine, for your light is come, and the glory of the Lord is upon you.

The nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. And they shall call you the City of the Lord, O Zion of the Holy One of Israel. (Refrain)

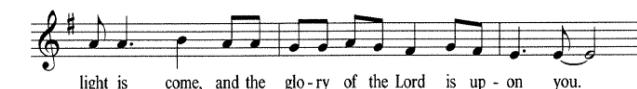
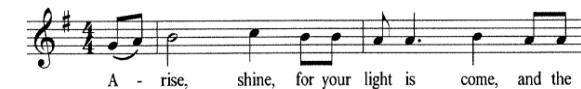
Lift up your eyes round about and see: all gather themselves together; and they shall come, your sons from afar and your daughters shall be carried at your side.

Then you shall see and be filled with joy, and your heart shall thrill with rejoicing. The abundance of the sea will be brought unto you, and the wealth of the nations unto you.

(Congregation join on refrain below)

The sun shall no more be your light by day, nor moon your light by night, for the Lord shall be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.

(Congregation join on refrain below)



The Offertory: "Once in Royal David's City" Lee Dengler

Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er;
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing,
 than all the an - gels in the sky,
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

The Offering:

Today's offering is for Inner City Christian Federation 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 Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture: Luke 6:6-11 (pg. 1501)

The Sermon: "OUT OF THE MANGER AND INTO THE WORLD"

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 101

"How Bright Appears the Morning Star"

The Lighting Ceremony:

As a symbol of our commitment to follow the Light of the world, we will light individual candles with the light spread from the Christ Candle. Please tip your candle toward the lighted candle that is offered to you. As we hold up our lights we will rise and sing the following verses of *Beautiful Savior*:

*Verse 1 all in harmony

*Verse 2 all a cappella in harmony

*Verse 4 all a cappella in harmony

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flowers of bloom - ing
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

*The Benediction

*The People's Response: Amen.

*The Choral Response

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning"

Wayne L. Wold

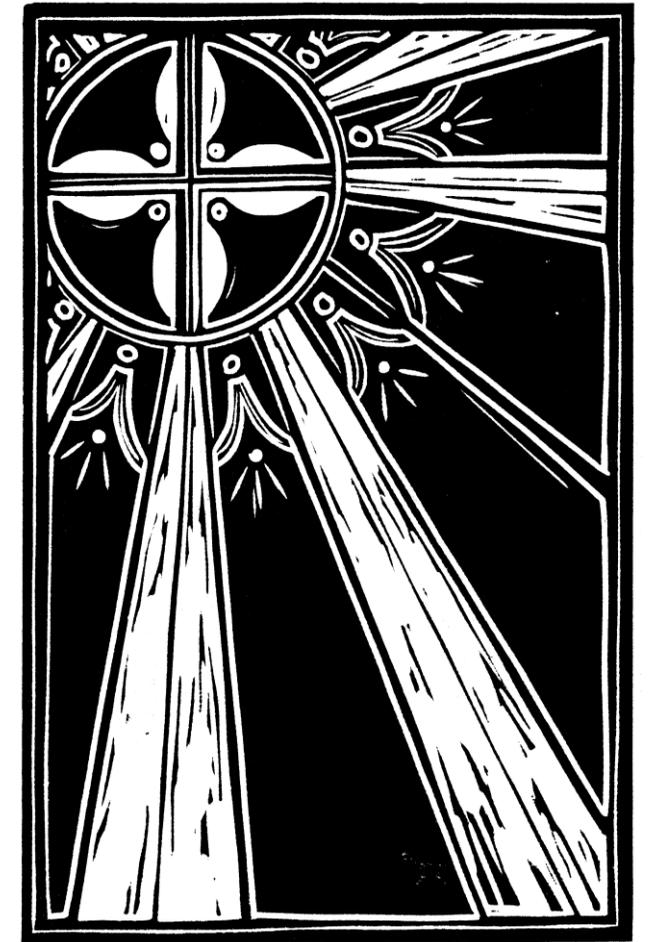
Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
 Rev. Ruth Boven – liturgist
 Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist
 Laura Schipper – flutist
 Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director
 Glenda Buteyn – assistant director
 Isabella & Penelope Redder, Everett & Desmond Smith – Acolyte Lighters

The flowers in the sanctuary today have been given in loving memory of my beloved husband **Tom Hoozeboom** on his Epiphany birthday. **Marge Hoozeboom**

The January special offering is for Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF) which provides housing opportunities, home ownership counseling, home repairs and maintenance for families who otherwise cannot afford a home.

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Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.



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