

March 15, 2020
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, 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

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

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude: "Arabesque No. 1" Claude Debussy
"Sonatina in C Major" Tobias Haslinger
"Thine Be the Glory" from *Judas Maccabeus* G. F. Handel
"Be Thou My Vision" arr. Catherine McMichael
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (11:00) arr. Randolph Currie

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" (8:40)
You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave. You, peacemaker and sword bringer of the way you took and gave. You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ! Worthy your defeat and victory. Worthy still your peace and strife. You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

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"From All That Dwell Below the Skies" (11:00) William Billings
From all the dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise. Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land by every tongue.
Paraphrase of Psalm 117

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 604

"To God Be the Glory"
(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 Repentance: Job 28:12-15, 23-28a

The Prayer of Confession:

Jesus, Word of God, your voice calls order out of chaos and insight into perplexity. When we put too much trust in human capabilities, or cling to half-truths because our own understanding is partial, forgive us. Remind us that you are the source of knowledge and wisdom. Help us to believe you, in order that we may understand; and may our ultimate trust in you unify us with each other. Lead us by the light of your Word in the guidance of your Spirit. In your name, amen.

*Concluded by a time of silence followed by:
Sung by woman and girls*

O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Sung by men and boys

O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Sung by all

O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us your peace. Amen. LUYH 630

The Assurance of Forgiveness:

A broken spirit and a contrite heart our God will not despise.

God showed his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

On the cross, he washed away our sin and freed us from our shame.

Thank you, Lord Jesus. We give our lives to you.

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts: 693

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Ministry Moment

The Children's Message

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

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" (8:40) Dan Forrest
My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine. For thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou, if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death, and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath; and say when the death dew lies cold on my brow, if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory, and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright. I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow, if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

"Teach Me, O Lord" (11:00) Philip W. J. Stopford
Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. O turn away mine eyes lest they behold vanity; and quicken me in thy way. O establish thy word in thy servant, that I may fear thee. Amen. Psalm 119:33-39a

The Offertory: (8:40)

"Holy, Holy, Holy" arr. Ted Hunter
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr. Randolph Currie

The Offertory Anthem: (11:00)

"God of Grace and God of Glory" Dan Forrest
God grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power. Crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn our Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore.

Congregation join:

God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power. Crown your ancient Church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Choir only: **Amen.**

The Offering

Today's offering is for Mel Trotter Ministries 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 Scripture: Colossians 1:13-23 (pg. 1829)

The Sermon: **“PROCLAIMING THE LORD’S DEATH:
RECONCILING ALL THINGS TO HIMSELF”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 175

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Sing vs. 1 & 2 in harmony

Sing vs. 3 a cappella

Sing vs. 4 in unison

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Lift High the Cross”

Donald Busarow

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Norah Hollenbach, Isabella Redder, Penny Redder – violinists

Jonathah Bouwman – pianist, organ duetist

Joellah Bouwman – pianist

Jason Reiffer – vocalist (8:40)

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

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

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

grace Irish composer Philip W. J. Stopford’s anthem *Teach Me, O Lord*. The music, while simple, straight-forward and uncluttered, accentuates the profundity of the text, and travels through various keys and voicings (unison, two and four-part harmony). The piece was commissioned in honor of an Irish Bishop and first sung by the choir at St. Anne’s Cathedral in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 2007.

Five LaGrave children and youth participate in this Christian Education Sunday by offering their musical gifts of piano, violin, and organ playing. May God be glorified through their ministry this morning.

The March special offering is for Mel Trotter Ministries – a shelter for individuals and families with services including day center, meals, emergency shelter, transitional housing assistance, and case management.

This evening there will not be a service.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.

Music at LaGrave: The words of Psalm 119:33-39a are especially appropriate for Christian Education Sunday and