

Thanksgiving Day

November 26, 2020

10:00 AM

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

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

The Prelude:

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Harald Rohlig

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Dallas Blair

“Come, You Thankful People, Come”

David Cherwien

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Give Thanks to God, for Good Is He”

Give thanks to God, for good is he: his love abides forever.

To him all praise and glory be: his mercy lasts forever.

His wondrous works with praise record: his love abides forever. The only God, the sovereign Lord: his mercy lasts forever.

He helped us in our deepest woes: his love abides forever.

He ransomed us from all our foes: his mercy lasts forever.

Each creature’s need he will supply: his love abides forever.

Give thanks to God, enthroned on high: his mercy lasts forever.

The Call to Worship: Psalm 100

Ethan Schimmel

*The Opening Hymn: **Worship & Rejoice 81**

“We Gather Together”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome and Introduction

By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life.

Psalm 42:8

The Anthem:

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

Healey Willan

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing song of love and praise;
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise! By him the
rolling seasons in fruitful order move; sing to the Lord of
harvest a song of happy love.*

*By him the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and
spring, the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and
sing. He filleth with his fullness all things with large
increase; he crowns the year with goodness, with plenty,
and with peace.*

*Heap on his sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls he died to save.
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet ye fall,
and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.*

Songs in the Night – Yesterday

The Reading:

I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember
your miracles of long ago.

Psalm 77:11

The Meditation

The Choral Response:

“My Song in the Night”

Paul Christiansen

*O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night, come to us with thy
tender love, my souls delight, my comfort and joy, my souls’
delight, O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night.*

The Responsive Reading – Psalm 77:4-15

led by Jonathah Bouwman

I remembered you, God, and I groaned; I meditated, and my
spirit grew faint. You kept my eyes from closing; I was too
troubled to speak. I thought about the former days, the years
of long ago; I remembered my songs in the night. My heart
meditated and my spirit asked:

**“Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his
favor again? Has his unfaithful love vanished forever?
Has his promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to
be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?”**

Then I thought, “To this I will appeal: the years when the
Most High stretched out his right hand.

**I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will
remember your miracles of long ago.**

I will consider all your works and meditate on all your
mighty deeds.”

**Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as
our God?**

You are the God who performs miracles; you display
your power among the peoples.

**With your mighty arm you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.**

The Response: “Father We Thank Thee”

sung twice, first by quartet then by worshippers

Father we thank thee,

Father we thank thee

Father in heaven, we thank thee.

Songs in the Night – Today

The Reading:

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call
forth songs of joy.

Psalm 65:8

The Meditation

The Choral Response: “My Song in the Night”

The Responsive Reading – Psalm 65:4, 8-13

led by Chad Scholtens

Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in
your courts! We are filled with the good things of your
house, of your holy temple.

**The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
where morning dawns, where evening fades, you
call forth songs of joy.**

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it
abundantly.

**The streams of God are filled with water to provide
the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.**

You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften
it with showers and bless its crops.

**You crown the year with your bounty, and your
carts overflow with abundance.**

The grasslands of the wilderness overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

Response: “Father We Thank Thee” *sung by worshippers*

**Father we thank thee,
Father we thank thee,
Father in heaven, we thank thee.**

Songs in the Night – Forever

The Reading: Isaiah 35:4

Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.”

The Meditation

The Choral Response: “My Song in the Night”

The Responsive Reading – Isaiah 35:4-10

Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.”

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way.

The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

The Response: “Father We Thank Thee” *sung by worshippers*

**Father we thank thee,
Father we thank thee,
Father in heaven, we thank thee.**

The Thanksgiving Prayer

The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 5

“Let All Things Now Living”

The Organ Response: “Now Thank We All Our God”

J. S. Bach; arr. Virgil Fox

The Benediction

The Choral Response: “Father, We Thank Thee”

*Father, we thank thee,
Father, we thank thee,
Father in heaven, we thank thee.*

The Postlude:

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Sue Mitchell-Wallace, John Head

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Aaron Good – trumpet

Kathryn Becksvort – soprano; Renee Vande Wege – alto

Jim Elzinga – tenor; Peter Redder – bass

Musicians for this Thanksgiving Day worship service receive honoraria from the **Sue Bos Muller Music Memorial Fund.**

Music at LaGrave

The Thanksgiving hymn *Sing to the Lord of Harvest* is derived from Psalm 65:8-13, a text thanking God for the harvest. The final hymn stanza speaks of offering the harvest of our lives to God. The text was written by John S. B. Monsell, a chaplain and rector at many churches in Ireland and the writer of 300 hymns. His text was set to a tune from 1575 which was originally a secular love song. Today, it remains a favorite melody to sing at Thanksgiving time.