

November 8, 2020

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:

“Abide with Me”

Paul Basler

In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

“Deep River”

David Marlatt

I want to cross over into campground.

“You Are My All in All”

Dennis Jernigan

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “If You Are Near”

Johann Sebastian Bach

If you are near, I go with gladness to death and to eternal rest. Ah, pleasant thought would be my ending: by touching with your loving hands my faithful eyes to gently close.

*The Call to Worship: Psalm 27:1-4

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?

When the wicked advance against me to devour me,
it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.
**Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.**

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 182:1,4

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

(Because we are not able to sing yet, please reflect on the hymn texts or hum along while the vocalist leads us.)

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

The Table Fellowship (11:00) Natalie Oosterhouse

Daughter of Andrew & Andrea Oosterhouse

We Humbly Approach our God

The Call to Confession: Psalm 30:9-10

The Prayer of Confession:

Lord, we are a moment; you are forever. We confess that facing our mortality unsettles us. We squint at death, our old enemy, through questions and fears--but not without faith. When we comfort each other in times of grief or doubt, help us recognize that we carry around the death of Jesus in our own bodies, so that the life of Jesus might be clearly seen in us too. For the lives we live in our bodies, we live for your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Sung Response: *(sung by the vocalist)*

“Kyrie”

Jay Althouse

Kyrie eleison.

Translation: Lord, have mercy on us.

The Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 30:2-5

Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.
**You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 465:1,3

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

We Celebrate God's Faithfulness

The Call to Stewardship: 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9

*The Response:

What do you believe concerning “the holy catholic church”?

I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

What do you understand by “the communion of saints”?

First, that believers one and all, as members of this community, share in Christ and in all his treasures and gifts. Second, that each member should consider it a duty to use these gifts readily and joyfully for the service and enrichment of the other members.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. & A. 54, 55

*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.**

The Children's Message

(Children, 4s, K – 2nd grade, may come forward.)

The Anthem:

“Give Me Jesus”

Tom Trenney

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus. O when I am alone, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, you may have all this world, give me Jesus. Dark midnight was my cry, ah, Jesus! O when I come to die, give me Jesus.

The Pastoral Prayer (concluded by the Lord's Prayer)

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (pg. 1796)

The Sermon: **“PERPLEXING BIBLE TEXTS: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Confession:

Our hope for a new creation is not tied to what humans can do, for we believe that one day every challenge to God's rule will be crushed. His kingdom will fully come, and the Lord will rule. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

We long for that day when our bodies are raised, the Lord wipes away our tears, and we dwell forever in the presence of God. We will take our place in the new creation, where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, and the Lord will be our light. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Our World Belongs to God, par. 55 & 56

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 488:1,4
"Jerusalem the Golden"

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Richard Elliott

Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Leah Bouwman, Jonathah Bouwman – French horn

Jan Doornbos Zandt – vocalist

Merv Kemper and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)

Joyce Waalkes and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

Music at LaGrave

In his arrangement of the African-American spiritual *Give Me Jesus*, Tom Trenney creatively weaves the Largo theme from Antonin Dvořák's *New World Symphony* (sometimes sung to the text *Goin' Home*) into both the vocal line and the

piano accompaniment. Both these songs are based on the themes of death and dying and express a deep longing to be with God.

The November special offering is for World Renew, a CRC sponsored organization providing domestic/international disaster response, community development in 30 countries, and partnering with over 130 churches to address illiteracy, hunger, malnutrition, unemployment, child mortality, HIV/Aids and injustice.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.