

December 27, 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:

"Noel on *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*" Larry Visser
"What Child Is This?" Richard Purvis
"Sonatina on *God's Time Is Best*" Johann Sebastian Bach

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light, dispelling care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright! A countless host of voices, this noble day of days, sing "Holy, Holy, Holy," in joyful thanks and praise.

By gospel truth enlightened, renewed by prayer and praise, this day, our vision brightened, we look to future days. Alert, and forward-facing, with awe and wonder filled, our daily world embracing, God's Sunday world we build.

st. 2, Raymond J. Lahey © c/o Diocese of Antigonish, P.O. Box 1330, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada B2G 1B1

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 348 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

(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

God Calls Us to Reflect on Time

The Wisdom of God: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

The Prayer for Wisdom: Psalm 90:12, 15, 17

The Good News: Galatians 4:3-7

The Hymn of Grace: Lift Up Your Hearts 691:1,2,4,5
"Amazing Grace"

The Pastoral Prayer

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

The Anthem: "Lord of all Hopefulness" arr. Alan Bullard
Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Psalm 126; Galatians 4:3-7

The Sermon: "IN THE MEANTIME"

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 405
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: "Festival Toccata on *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*"
Frederick Swann

*Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.
Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.*

Dr. Stan Mast – guest minister
Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Karel de Waal Malefyt – vocalist

Rev. Mike Hoozeboom and Chad Boorsma – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Rev. Mike Hoozeboom and Roland Lindh – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

This morning, we welcome **Dr. Stan Mast** to our worship. Dr. Mast is adjunct professor of preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary and former LaGrave minister. May God bless the preaching of his Word.

Music at LaGrave

The text of the hymn *Lord of All Hopefulness* was penned by Joyce Torrens-Graham in preparation for a 1931 English hymnal. She also wrote poetry, essays, and short stories. Each stanza of the text begins with addressing various attributes of God and concludes with asking for specific blessings at various times of the day: "break, noon, eve, end." This morning's solo arrangement was written by British composer Alan Bullard (b. 1947), a music educator who studied with Herbert Howells.

The December special offering is for Next Step of West Michigan which offers skill training and employment for the vulnerable population including ex-offenders and those in rehab. The organization engages in light wood working and assembly, general contracting and sub-contracting services to businesses, city entities and property owners.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.