

January 31, 2021

A Service of Holy Communion

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:

"Pastorale"

Alexandre Guilmant

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Charles Callahan

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

Fred Bock

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: "Out of Need and Out of Custom"

Out of need and out of custom we have gathered here again. To the gathering we are bringing love and laughter, grief and pain. Some believing, some rejoicing, some afraid, and some in doubt; now we come our questions voicing, we would search these matters out.

We have heard the glowing stories of the things that God has done, of his power and of his glory, of his love in Christ, his Son. God of human transformation, for your presence now we pray; lead us ever on the journey as we gather here today.

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*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 581

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

(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 Confession Litany: Lift Up Your Hearts 722

The Ten Commandments 3 – Responsive Reading

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

Jesus, our Savior and Lord, you call us to be yours and show us the way to walk. Yet some of your ways are easier for us than others. Returning love to those who love us is easy; extending love to those who hate us is hard. Our hearts and our flesh fail, but you are our strength—you've poured out your own strong love into our hearts. Make us channels of your peace, that we may see our enemies as friends of God. In Christ's name, Amen.

Prayer concluded with:

**Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart (*in my heart,*) in my heart, (*in my heart,*)
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.**

W&R 457:3

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Colossians 1:21-23

The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 256:1,3,4

"They'll Know We Are Christians"

The Children's Message

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

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

"Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels" Roy Hopp
*Not for tongues of heaven's angels, not for wisdom to discern,
not for faith that masters mountains, for this better gift we
yearn: may love be ours, O Lord.*

*Love is humble, love is gentle, love is tender, true, and kind;
love is gracious, ever patient, generous of heart and mind:
may love be ours, O Lord.*

*Never jealous, never selfish, love will not rejoice in wrong;
never boastful nor resentful, love believes and suffers long:
may love be ours, O Lord.*

In the day this world is fading faith and hope will play their part; but when Christ is seen in glory love shall reign in every heart: may love be ours, O Lord.

para. of 1 Cor. 13
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God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Matthew 5:43-48

The Sermon: **"GOING DEEPER: SHINING ON THE EVIL AND THE GOOD"**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 168

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

The Lord Feeds Us at His Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

We praise you that in his life and his teaching, Jesus leads us in paths of righteousness and hope..

We praise you for sending your Holy Spirit who forms your life in our hearts, and changes us from one degree of glory to the next.

Therefore, we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

we sing

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 Prayer of Consecration

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Sharing of Christ's Body

The Sharing of Christ's Blood

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 833
"There Is a Redeemer"

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"
David Schelat, Wilbur Held

*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
Laura Muresan – flutist
Jason Reiffer – vocalist

Chad Boorsma and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Rachel Rynbrandt and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

Music at LaGrave:

The pairing of Timothy Dudley-Smith's 1984 text *Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels* and Roy Hopp's 1988 tune REINLYN resulted in a lovely setting of the love chapter, I Corinthians 13. Dudley-Smith is a retired bishop in the church of England and Hopp is a Grand Rapids CRC composer. While each verse begins with a description of the various aspects of love, each verse concludes with a prayer that love becomes ours and dwells within our hearts.

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

This evening, Reverend Jonker will preach on Matthew 14:13-21, his sermon is entitled, "Bring Them Here to Me."

The liturgical season of Epiphany is a time of joy and thanksgiving. We celebrate Jesus Christ who is the manifestation of God's light in our dark and sin-filled world. And as we grow in our knowledge of Jesus, we are called to reflect his light in our lives.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.