

March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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:

“Andante espressivo” from *Piano Concerto in A Minor*

Robert Schumann

“See What His Love Can Do” from *Cantata 85*

Johann Sebastian Bach

“What Wondrous Love Is This?”

arr. Stephen Nielsen and Ovid Young

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit

“Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah”

Praise the Lord! Sing hallelujah! Come, our great Redeemer praise. I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days. Put no confidence in princes, nor on human help depend. They shall die, to dust returning; all their thoughts and plans shall end.

Praise the Lord! Sing hallelujah! Come, our great Redeemer praise. I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days. Over all God reigns forever; through all ages he is King. Unto him, your God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 566

“Give Praise to Our God”

(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: Ephesians 1:18-23

The Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, you have crowned Jesus as Lord over all. As we make choices about where to place our loyalty, help us to see that there is really only one choice, one path, and that is to follow and obey Christ Jesus as Lord. Forgive us when we give allegiance to the powers of this world. Help us to follow Christ into lives of justice, mercy, and love. Through Jesus we pray. Amen.

The Time of Silence – concluded with singing:

- 1. O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame, a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!**
- 4. The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be, help me to tear it from thy throne and worship only thee.**

LUYH 324:1,4

The Assurance of Pardon: Based on Revelation 5:9-10

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 175

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

We Celebrate God's Covenant Faithfulness

The Promises of Baptism (11:00)

The Baptismal Vows of Parents and Congregation (11:00)

James Xavier Havlicek, son of Corey and Amy Havlicek

Prayer Partner: Chad Boorsma

*The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 23:1-3 (11:00)

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem: “In Christ Alone”

arr. Lloyd Larson

In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song—this cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease. My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh—fullness of God in helpless babe!—this gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save. 'Til on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied. For every sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain; then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again! And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no human plan, can ever pluck me from his hand; 'til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

On Christ the solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand. 'Til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I stand!

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God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Daniel 6:1-14; Philippians 3:15-21

The Sermon: **“MODERN DAY IDOLS: THE IDOL OF NATIONALISM”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 162

“To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“We Are God's People (tune from Brahms' *Symphony No. 1*)”
Stephen Nielsen and Ovid Young

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord, born of his Spirit, established by his Word; our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

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

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Ruth Boven – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Linda Hoisington – pianist

Jennifer Schroder – vocalist

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

Marlene Padding and Rev. Ruth Boven – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

Music at LaGrave:

Near the end of Lloyd Larson's vocal solo arrangement of Keith Getty and Stuart Townend's hymn *In Christ Alone* is a transition into the 19th century hymn *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*. Both hymns speak of Christ as the cornerstone and solid rock of our hope and faith. “Til Christ returns or calls us home” to our true and eternal country, we stand in the power of that solid Cornerstone.

The March special offering is for **God's Kitchen** which is part of Catholic Charities under the Diocese of Grand Rapids. They provide noontime meals, serving people in downtown Grand Rapids, as well as six sponsored sites throughout West Michigan.

Banners: Purple is the color for the liturgical season of Lent. It symbolizes the suffering and sorrow of Jesus as he journeys to the cross. It also symbolizes the suffering of humanity and the world broken by sin. For Christians, this is a time for self-examination, repentance, and renewal. In sorrow we confess our sins and call on God, in Christ, to save us.

This evening, Rev. Boven will preach on Genesis 32:22-32; her sermon is entitled: “A New Name.”

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.