

May 16, 2021

Ascension Sunday

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:

“Chorale-Fantasia on *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*”

Harold Darke

“The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns Is

Crowned with Glory Now”

Christopher Tambling

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,

Refrain: Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light, (Refrain)

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 209

“Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise”

(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: Isaiah 1:18

The Prayer of Confession:

Forgive our faithlessness, O faithful God! And see beyond our apathy, our thoughtlessness, our self-centeredness, our wrong choices. See into our hearts. Forgive our sins. Clothe us with the righteousness of Christ. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Romans 5:8-9

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 351:1,2
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

We Celebrate God's Covenant Faithfulness

The Meaning and Promises of Baptism (8:40)

The Baptismal Vows of Parents and Congregation (8:40)

Riggins Thomas Stuit, son of Mark and Kara Stuit

Prayer Partners: Bill & Laurie Boer

The Baptismal Blessing (8:40)

The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 790 (8:40)

“Baptized in Water”

The Children's Message

The Children's Hymn: (11:00)

“Rejoice in the Lord Always”

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice!

Philippians 4:4

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“All things Bright and Beautiful”

Ruth Morris Gray

(Refrain) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings

The purple headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning, that brightens up the sky. (Refrain)

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell, how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. (Refrain)

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Colossians 3:1-14

The Sermon: **“WHERE CHRIST IS”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 223

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

“Peal on *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*”

Charles Ore

James Biery

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

Rev. David Bast – guest minister
Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Children's and Youth Choirs, Renee Vande Wege – director
Merv Kamper and Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Albert Doorn and Rev. Mike Hoozeboom – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

This morning, we welcome Rev. David Bast to our worship. David Bast has been a minister of the gospel in the Reformed Church in America since 1976. Following pastorates in three different churches, he served as president of Words of Hope from 1994-2017. In January of this year, he stepped down as co-host of Groundwork, a Bible-teaching program produced by Back to God Ministries.

Music at LaGrave

Our Children's and Youth Choirs help us celebrate the season of spring by singing the creation hymns *For the Beauty of the Earth* and *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. The latter text was written by Cecil Alexander (1818-1895) to teach children the articles of the Apostles' Creed. This hymn explains "Maker of heaven and earth." Ruth Morris Gray's joyful and energetic original anthem based on this text helps the text come alive, celebrating all of God's good creation.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **Jean and Melanie Scott** in loving memory of husband and father, **Don Scott**.

The May special offering is for In The Image, a free store serving thousands of individuals and families by offering clothing, shoes, household goods, bedding, furniture, toys, etc. The S.H.O.E.S. program provides a new pair of back-to-school athletic shoes for free to elementary students in need.

This evening, Rev. Ruth Boven will preach on John 21:15-19. Her sermon is titled, "Failure and Following Jesus."

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.