

October 3, 2021

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.

EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

*Please prepare your heart and mind for worship
with a time of prayer and meditation.*

The Prelude:

Variations on “Old Hundredth”

Martha Sobaje

The Chiming of the Hour

*The Call to Worship (from Psalm 100)

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 599

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

(The congregation is asked to rise on the last line of the hymn introduction.)

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Reading: Psalm 15

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 623

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

*The Confession:

In the beginning of human history, our first parents walked with God. But rather than living by the Creator’s word of life, they listened to the serpent’s lie and fell into sin.

In their rebellion they tried to be like God.

As sinners, Adam and Eve feared the nearness of God and hid.

Fallen in that first sin, we prove each day that apart from grace we are guilty sinners: we fail to thank God, we break God’s laws, we ignore our tasks.

**Looking for life without God, we find death;
grasping for freedom outside the law, we trap ourselves in Satan’s snares; pursuing pleasure, we lose the gift of joy.**

While justly angry, God did not turn away from a world bent on destruction but turned to face it in love. **With patience and tender care, the Lord set out on the long road of redemption to reclaim the lost as his people and the world as his kingdom.**

Standing in our place, Jesus suffered during his years on earth, especially in the tortures of the cross. He carried God’s judgment on our sin—his sacrifice removed our guilt.

**God raised him from the dead: he walked out of the grave, conqueror of sin and death—Lord of Life!
We are set right with God, given new life,
and called to walk with him in freedom from sin’s dominion.**

The Contemporary Testimony, Paragraphs 13,14,18, and 25

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 191

“Praise the Savior, Now and Ever”

The Pastoral Prayer: *concluded by singing our sung prayer of illumination:*

Lift Up Your Hearts 565 (stanza 3 sung a cappella)
“God Himself is With Us”

God himself is with us; let us now adore him, and with awe appear before him. God is in his temple; all within keep silence, prostrate lie with deepest reverence. Him

alone do we own as our God and Savior; praise his name forever.

**God himself is with us; hear the harps resounding!
See the crowds the throne surrounding! “Holy holy, holy,” hear the hymn ascending, angels, saints, their voices blending! Bow your ear to us here; hear, O Christ, the praises that your church now raises.**

Fount of every blessing, purify my spirit, trusting only in your merit. Like the holy angels who behold your glory, may I ceaselessly adore you, and in all, great and small, seek to do most nearly what you love so dearly.

The Scripture: Psalm 24

The Sermon: **“LIFT UP YOUR HEADS,
O YOU GATES”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 167
“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Fanfare”

Richard Purvis

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

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Sara Good – organist

Ordinary Time, the liturgical season of spiritual growth, continues until Advent. The banners and parament now reflect concepts from 2 Peter 3:17-18. We are encouraged to continue our growth in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and experience his grace. As we do, we will be prepared to face life's challenges and remain firm in our faith.

The flowers on the reredos today are given by **Glenda Buteyn** in loving memory of her sister, **Kathy Buteyn**, who went to Heaven on October 6, 2016.

The October special offering is for Roosevelt Park Ministries: a separate non-profit organization originally established by Deacons of Roosevelt Park Community CRC in conjunction with World Renew which provides various community services and support programs for families, individuals and youths in Roosevelt Park Community and surrounding areas.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live