

November 21, 2021

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 AM & 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:

“Thanks Be to Thee”

G.F. Handel

“We Gather Together”

Wilbur Held

“A Thanksgiving Prelude for Flute and Organ” Charles Callahan
(Let All Things Now Living/Come, You Thankful People, Come)

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here”

Your love, O God, has called us here, for all love finds its source in you, the perfect love that casts out fear, the love that Christ makes ever new.

O gracious God, you consecrate all that is lovely, good, and true. Bless those who in your presence wait and everyday their love renew.

Words: Russell Schulz-Widmar © 1982 Hope Publishing Company
Used with permission under One License #707908

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 531

“God, You Call Us to This Place”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8,13

The Prayer of Confession:

Jesus, our Savior,

You have engraved us on the palms of your hands and loved us with an everlasting love. Yet we confess that sin blinds us to the love you show to us and stunts the love we cultivate for each other. Self-satisfaction constricts the generosity of our spirits; our instinct for self-preservation triumphs over giving ourselves away freely and wisely. Forgive us and make us new. Shape us into vessels filled with your love—a love that chases sin and fear away. In the name of Jesus, who gave himself for us. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 John 4:9-10

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 351:1,3,4
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*The Confession of Faith (8:40)

In our world, where many journey alone,
nameless in the bustling crowd,
Satan and his evil forces
seek whom they may scatter and isolate;
but God, by his gracious choosing in Christ,
gathers a new community —
those who by God's gift put their trust in Christ.

**In the new community
all are welcome:
the homeless come home,
the broken find healing,
the sinner makes a new start,
the despised are esteemed,
the least are honored,
and the last are first.**

Here the Spirit guides and grace abounds.

**The church is the fellowship of those
who confess Jesus as Lord.
She is the bride of Christ,
his chosen partner,
loved by Jesus and loving him:
delighting in his presence,
seeking him in prayer —
silent before the mystery of his love.**

Our World belongs to God Paragraphs 34 & 35

*The Doxology (8:40)

**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.**

We Celebrate God's Covenant Faithfulness

The Meaning and Promises of Baptism (11:00)

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

Anika Leigh Verhey, daughter of Jake & Lauren Verhey
Prayer Partner: Marcia Pater

The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 770:1,4 (11:00)
“In Christ Alone”

The Children's Message (8:40)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“The Greatest of These” (8:40)

Jane Marshall

*Love is kind, and suffers long; love is meek, and thinks no wrong;
love than death itself more strong; therefore, give us love.*

*Prophecy will fade away, melting in the light of day; love will ever
with us stay; therefore, give us love.*

*Faith will vanish into sight; hope be emptied in delight; love in
heaven will shine more bright; therefore, give us love.*

*Faith and hope and love we see, joining hand in hand, agree; but the
greatest of the three, and the best, is love.*

“Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels” (11:00)

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 Corinthians 13, Timothy Dudley-Smith. Words © 1985, Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission under One License #707908

God Speaks to Us in His Word

The Scripture: Romans 13:8, 1 John 4:7

The Sermon: **“LOVE ONE ANOTHER”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 264: 1,2,6,7
“Lift High the Cross”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen (8:40)

*The Choral Amen (11:00)

*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
Heidi Brandt – flutist

Patrick and Mary Tuuk Kuras – vocalists (8:40)
Chancel Choir Men, Dr. James Borst – director (11:00)
Carmen Day and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (8:40)
Albert Doorn and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross & Bible Bearers (11:00)

Ordinary Time, the liturgical season of spiritual growth, continues until Advent. As you look at the banners and paraments, reflect on these concepts from Colossians 2:6&7: “Remain rooted in Jesus Christ and in the faith you were taught. Let the spirit of thanksgiving overflow in your life.”

Music at LaGrave:

The “Love Chapter” (1 Cor. 13) has been set to music by several composers. Two versions are used in worship this morning. Jane Marshall, a Methodist composer of over 200 hymns and anthems, lived to be 94 years old. Her lyrical anthem *The Greatest of These* is based on her own original hymn tune. The melody appears in unison, in the bottom voice, the top, and with a soprano descant. CRC composer Roy Hopp’s setting is also lyrical and hymn-like, each stanza ending with the words, *May love be ours, O Lord.*

The flowers in the sanctuary are presented in cherished memory of the life of **Calvin Lenard Hoeksema**, our beloved husband, father, and bucca. He is lovingly remembered by **Norma, Marc, Christine Hoeksema and family**. Rev. 21:1-5.

The November Special Offering is for **World Renew**: Over the last decade, World Renew supporters have met the needs of 6 million disaster survivors, providing more than immediate relief. In order to help alleviate suffering in Haiti our contributions will be designated for Disaster Response.

This evening is the annual Pre-Thanksgiving service. Seminarian **Chad Boorsma** will be preaching. His sermon is entitled **“First Things First.”**

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live