

January 16, 2022

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:

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (Partita)” Johann Pachelbel
“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God” Larry Visser

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“The Kingdom of God” (8:40)
The kingdom of God is justice and joy; for Jesus restores what sin would destroy. God's power and glory in Jesus we know; and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal; in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole. The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call; and all things cry “Glory!” to God all in all.

Text: Bryn A. Rees, 1911-1983, ©1973, Alexander Scott

“O God, Our Father, We Come” (11:00)
O God, our Father, we come into your presence, here in your courts to lift our hearts in praise. Vast is your mercy, rich your great forgiveness, bounteous your favor; bless us all our days.

Not unto us, Lord, but unto you be given praise for the Lamb, who died upon the tree; praise for your great love, which no sin can sever; praise for your Son, who sets the prisoner free!

Text: John H Kromminga, 1957; rev. Psalter Hymnal, 1987.
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*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 557
“O God Beyond All Praising”

*The Greeting

*The People's Response: Amen.

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach Our God

The Call to Confession – Matthew 18:1-5

The Prayer of Confession:

Gracious and loving God, we turn to you seeking your mercy. You call us to focus on you, but we focus on ourselves instead. You call us to be humble, but we gloat in our pride. You call us to abandon ourselves, but we cling to our achievements. You invite us to decrease as you increase and to disappear as you become more visible. Forgive us for our boasting and bragging. Help us remember that our true worth comes from you and you alone. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Micah 7:18-19

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 755:1-2
“Speak, O Lord”

*The Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 755:3
“Speak, O Lord”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Moment

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Bring Forth the Kingdom” (8:40)
You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the kingdom of God! Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the kingdom of God!

(Refrain)
Bring forth the kingdom of mercy; pray for the kingdom of peace; work for the kingdom of justice; hope for the city of God!

You are a light on a hill, O people: light for the city of God! Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the kingdom of God! (Refrain)

You are a seed of the Word, O people: live for the kingdom of God! Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the kingdom of God! (Refrain)

Words: Scripture adapt. Marty Haugen © GIA Publications
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“You Who Were God” (11:00) arr. Katherine K. Davis
You who were God before the earth was space, ere you did fashion sun and moon and race, you who did shine before the dawn of day, shine in our hearts with your redeeming ray.

You dwell forever in the holy height, known to our hearts, but hidden from our sight. You are the Lord to whom our vows are given, who by your love does lift us up to heaven.

You are our God, our Lord forevermore. Here at your feet we worship and adore. All folk and nations lift their hearts to sing praise to the Lord, our great and glorious King, Amen.

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Matthew 13:31-32

The Sermon: **“WINDOWS ON THE WORD: THE MUSTARD SEED”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in Peace

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 684:1,2,4-6
“There in God’s Garden”

*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:
“Fiat Lux (Let There Be Light)” Théodore Dubois

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist
Chase & Chad Scholtens – vocalists (8:40)
Chancel Choir, Dr. James Borst – director (11:00)
Dee DeKryger and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)
Albert Doorn and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

Epiphany: The Season from Christmas to Lent

The liturgical season after Christmastide to Lent is called Epiphany. During this time, we celebrate Jesus Christ, the Savior, who is the manifestation of God’s light in our dark and sin-filled world. As we grow in our knowledge of Jesus, we are called to reflect his light in our lives in our neighborhoods and the world.

Music at LaGrave (8:40)

The three stanzas of Marty Haugen’s song *Bring Forth the Kingdom* are based on Matthew 5:13, 5:14, and Luke 8:11, respectively. Haugen is a well-known liturgical composer, recording artist, and workshop leader. His over 400 songs often paraphrase Scripture, are lyrical and memorable, and have found their way into many new hymnals. Haugen’s refrain text commands us to “bring forth...pray for...work for the kingdom of God, and hope for the new kingdom.”

The flowers in the sanctuary today have been given in loving memory of **Marvin DeWinter**, by his family. “Even so, it is well with my soul.”

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

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live