

January 9, 2022
Epiphany Candlelight Service

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. Because our worship proceeds without announcements, please carefully follow the order of worship printed below. An asterick (*) 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:

“How Bright Appears the Morningstar” Charles Ore
“We Three Kings” Paul Manz
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” Rebecca Groom teVelde

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “O How Beautiful the Sky” Danish Folk Melody
O how beautiful the sky, with the sparkling stars on high, how they glitter, brightly gleaming, how they twinkle, gladsome beaming, as they draw our hearts to heaven.

In the midst of Christmas night, while the stars were shining bright, of a sudden, clear and radiant, one appeared and shone resplendent with the luster of the sun.

Long ago it was foretold by God’s chosen men of old, when at midnight such a wonder did appear in heaven up yonder, born should be a Savior King.

Wisemen by this star were led to the Christ-child’s lowly bed. Guiding star, O may we heed thee, may we know we ever need thee, lead us to our heavenly King.

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 374
“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”
(The congregation is asked to rise on the last line of the hymn introduction.)

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Anthem: “Arise, Shine, for Thy Light Is Come” George Elvey
Arise, shine, for thy light is come,, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness, the people, but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Arise, shine, for thy light is come. Isaiah 60:1-3

The Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 105
“As with Gladness Men of Old”
(sopranos are invited to sing the descant on verse 5)

We Celebrate God’s Covenant Faithfulness

The Promises of Baptism
The Baptismal Vows of Parents and Congregation

The Sacrament of Baptism:
Maxima Bossenbroek, daughter of Steve & Allison Bossenbroek

Prayer Partner: Ann VanEerden

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 790
“Baptized in Water”

The Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

The Scripture: Isaiah 59:20-6:6

The Sermon: “**BAPTISM AND CHRISTMAS**”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn Concertato:
“Brightest and Best of the Stars” arr. Larry Visser

- All:
- Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid. Star of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**
 - Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining; low lies his head with the beasts of the stall; angels adore him**

in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Men:

- Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion, fragrance of Edom and offerings divine; gems of mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?**

Choir:

- Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favor secure; richer by far is the heart’s adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.*

(Organ Interlude)

All:

- Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid. Star of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

The Lighting Ceremony

As a symbol of our commitment to follow the Light of the world, we will light individual candles with the light spread from the Christ Candle. Please tip your candle toward the lighted candle that is offered to you. When all candles are lit, we will rise and sing the following verses of *Beautiful Savior*:

*Verse 1 all in harmony

*Verse 2 all a cappella in harmony

*Verse 4 all a cappella in harmony

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! King of cre - a - tion!
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flowers of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er;
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er;
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

*The Benediction

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

*The Choral Response

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning"
 Wayne Wold

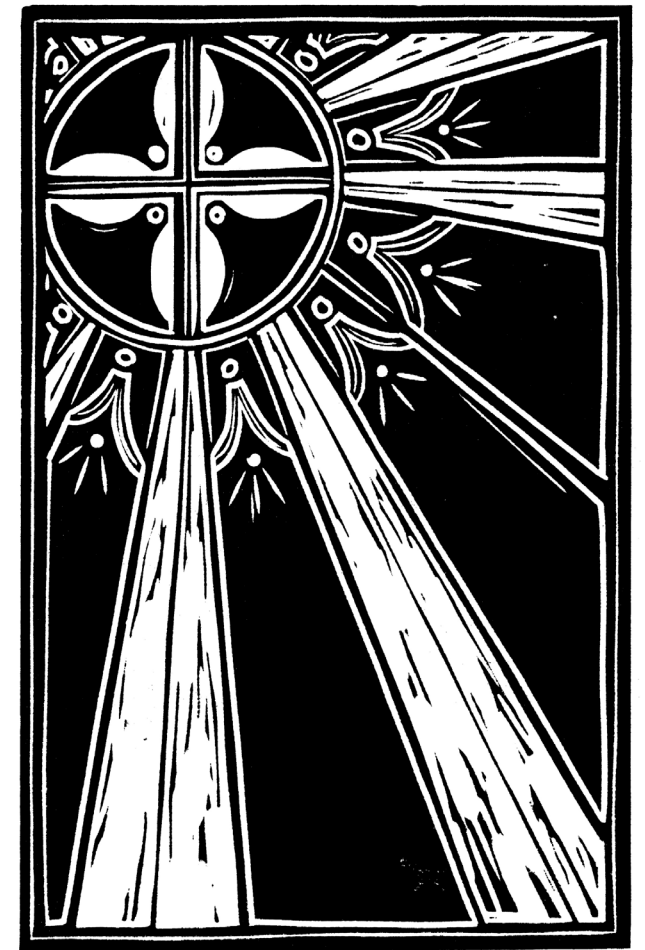
Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
 Dr. Larry Visser – organist
 Chancel Choir, Dr. James Borst – director
 Adrian & Zachary Buter, Asher Konyndyk, Jacob Vogel – Acolyte
 Lighters

The flowers in the sanctuary today have been given in loving memory of my beloved husband, **Tom Hoogeboom**, on his Epiphany birthday. **Marge Hoogeboom**

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.

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Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.



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