February 20, 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 Call to Confession: Romans 13:1-7

The Prayer of Confession:
Forgive us, O Lord, for everything that spoils our witness for you. Forgive us when our words and our actions are not the same. We are sorry when our example makes it easier for people to criticize your church rather than embrace it. Fill us with your Spirit, which enables us to love you above all and our neighbor as ourselves. Help us become more and more like Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Romans 13:8-10

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Your Hearts 876
"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

*The Confession of Faith: Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

Q. What is the rising-to-life of the new self?

A. Wholehearted joy in God through Christ and a love and delight to live according to the will of God by doing every kind of good work.

Q. What are good works?

A. Only those which are done out of true faith, conform to God’s law, and are done for God’s glory, and now those based on our own opinion or human tradition.

*The Doxology
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 Humbly Approach Our God
The Call to Confession: Romans 13:1-7

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children’s Moment
The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:
“Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord” (8:40)

David J. Evans, arr. Indra Hughes

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here, come, bow before him now with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground, be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around, he burns with holy fire; with splendor he is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light, be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place, he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace, no work too hard for him, in faith receive from him, be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place. Amen.

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“Little Innocent Lamb” (11:00)

African-American Spiritual arr. Marshall Bartholomew

Little Lamb, little lamb, little innocent Lamb, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. Hypocrite, tell you what he’ll do, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. He’ll talk about me and he’ll talk about you, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. Devil, he’s got a slippery shoe, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. Now if you don’t mind, he’s gonna slip it on you, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. ‘Cause there ain’t no dying over there in that heavenly land, there’ll be joy, joy, joy! Just take one brick from Stan’s wall, I’m a gonna serve God till I die. Satan’s wall gonna tumble and fall, I’m a gonna serve God till I die.

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God Speaks to Us
The Scripture: Matthew 22:15-22

The Sermon: “WINDOWS ON THE WORD: GIVING BACK TO CAESAR”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in Peace
*The Hymn of Response: Lift Your Hearts 877
“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

*The Benediction


*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”  
Johann Ludwig Krebs

Rev. Mike Hoogeboom – minister  
Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist  
Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Vocal Quartet, Dr. James Borst – director (8:40)  
Kathryn Becksvoot – soprano; Jess Hollenbach – alto  
Jim Elzinga – tenor; Peter Redder – bass

Chancel Choir, Dr. James Borst – director (11:00)

Barbara Boelkins and Rev. Mike Hoogeboom – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)  
Albert Doorn and Rev. Mike Hoogeboom – 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 (11:00)

As we continue to ponder stories in our stained-glass windows, we hear a movement from French organ composer Henri Mulet’s (1878-1967) ten-movement work Byzantine Sketches, written in memory of the Parisian Basilica of Sacré-Cœur which endured shelling during World War I. The first five movements are named after physical features of the monumental white-domed basilica atop a hill, the fifth titled Rosace (Rose Window). The intricate counterpoint in this piece evokes the tiny pieces of faceted glass in the church’s rose window.

The flowers on the chancel today are in loving memory of Andrea Dekker. They are given with gratitude for the love and joy Andi shared with Grace, Max, Anne, Sara, Jeff and Don Dekker.

The February special offering is for The Bridge of Arbor Circle (located in Grand Rapids), which offers emergency shelter for youth and additional counseling for the youth and their families.

This Evening, seminarian Chad Boorsma will be leading us in worship. He will be preaching on the scripture Psalm 88 and his sermon is entitled “In the Midst of Deep Darkness”.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live