

February 20, 2022

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:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Piet Post

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 511

“Amid the Thronging Worshipers”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

*The Confession: The Nicene Creed: Our Faith, page 16

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 540

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

The Welcome

The Reading based on Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 117

What is the kind of prayer that pleases God and that he listens to?

We must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, revealed to us in his Word, asking for everything God has commanded us to ask for.

Sung Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 897:1

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear—all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

What must we also do to please God when we pray?

We must fully recognize our need and misery, so that we humble ourselves in God’s majestic presence.

Sung Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 897:2

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged—take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer.

How can we be assured that God listens to us?

We must rest on this unshakable foundation: even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ our Lord.

That is what God promised us in his Word.

Sung Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 897:3

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he’ll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

The Pastoral Prayer

Prayer will begin with singing the song below. The song will also be sung at the end of each of the three sections of the prayer.

When We Call to You

Psalm 4:1

Chad Boorsma

105

An-swer us when we call to you. Have mer-cy and hear our

4

prayer. Bring re-lief to our di-stress. Have

7

mer-cy and hear our prayer.

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture: Psalm 88 (p. 925)

The Sermon: **“IN THE MIDST OF DEEP DARKNESS”**

The Prayer of Response:

Lord, you are the God who saves. May our prayer come before you. Turn your ear and hear our cry. When we are weary and overwhelmed with waves of trouble,

empower us to keep praying, for you are the God who saves.

When we are depressed, discouraged, and seem to reside in a pit of darkness,

empower us to keep praying, for you are the God who saves.

When friends and neighbors seem distant and far removed,

empower us to keep praying, for you are the God who saves.

When we are facing death or the death of others,

empower us to keep praying, for you are the God who saves.

When we feel forgotten and cut off from your care,

empower us to keep praying, for you are the God who saves.

Lord, we lift our hands and cry to you for help. We cry for you to save.

Turn your ear, Lord, and hear our cry in the name of Jesus,

the one who defeated the darkness, **Amen.**

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 191

“Praise the Savior, Now and Ever”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Trumpet Tune”

Charles Callahan

Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.

Chad Boorsma – minister

Sara Good – organist

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.

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.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live