April 24, 2022

*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:

“All Halleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord”

Paul Bouman

“Partita on This Joyful Eastertide”

Aaron David Miller

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: (8:40)

“This Joyful Eastertide”

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sadness! Our Lord, the crucified, has filled our hearts with gladness. Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith would be in vain. But now has Christ arisen.

The Introit: (11:00)

“Firm Foundation”

Nancy Gordon, Jamie Harvill

Refrain: Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure; Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy Word.

I have a living hope, I have a future; God has a plan for me, of this I’m sure. (Refrain)

Your Word is faithful, mighty in power; God will deliver me, of this I’m sure. (Refrain)

The Welcome

*Jesus Calls Us to Walk with Him*

The GEMS Litany:

Leader: In John 16:33 Jesus said, “In this world you will have trouble.” We don’t have to look very far for very long to see the troubles that are shaking our world. But when we turn our eyes from our troubles to the truth of who God is and his unbreakable promises, everything changes.

GEMS Girl: God is who he says he is. It’s his unbreakable promise to us.

GEMS: God is unshakeable.

All: Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken (Psalm 62:2).

GEMS Girl: We are who God says we are. It’s his unbreakable promise to us.

GEMS: God promises you are loved.

ALL: See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God (1 John 3:1).

GEMS: God promises you are unclean.

All: Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you (Deut. 31:6).

GEMS: God promises you are strong.

All: In our concerns, circumstances, and contentment in this shaking world, we can do all things through God who gives us strength (Philippians 4:13).

GEMS: God promises you are forgiven.

ALL: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

GEMS: God promises you are a world changer.

*The People’s Response: Amen.*

The Anthem: “I’m Shouting and Laughing for Joy” from Cantata No. 15

I’m shouting and laughing, I’m shouting for joy. Away now with sorrow and crying, for evil is gone! I’m shouting and laughing, I’m shouting for joy! The power of evil is vanished away. Forever rejoicing with thanks we pray.

Refrain: Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior’s love. Through the storm, he is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)

When shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found. Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless stand before the throne. (Refrain)

*The Ministry Moment: Judy Eppinga (8:40)

Pat Trathen (11:00)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offertory:

“How Can I Keep from Singing?”

Benjamin Culli

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

All: He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8).

Leader: Thanks be to God for all His unbreakable, unshakeable promises to each one of us. Go tell a girl and go tell the world. In Christ, we will not be shaken.

*The Hymn of Commitment: “Shout with Joy” from Cantata No. 15

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

*The Hymn of Commitment: “Shout with Joy” from Cantata No. 15

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?
The Offering

*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.

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Psalm 62
The Sermon: “SOUL FORTRESS”
The Prayer

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 770
“In Christ Alone”

*The Benediction
*The People’s Response: Amen

*The Choral Amen (8:40)

*The Choral Benediction (11:00)

“On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.”

Music at LaGrave (8:40)
Part of J. S. Bach’s illustrious career was spent as music director of two Leipzig Lutheran churches simultaneously. During this time, he was responsible for composing a cantata each week to be included in the worship service. Some 200 cantatas survive, with several dozen that are lost. I’m Shouting and Laughing for Joy is a duet from Cantata 15. The English text is only a rough translation of the original German. There are two musical themes: a joyous theme with leaping intervals mimicking “shouting and laughing for joy” and a descending chromatic theme portraying “away with sorrow.”

The flowers on the chancel today are given in prayerful and loving support of the Ukrainian people.

The April special offering is for Family Promise of Grand Rapids.

This evening, Reverend Peter Jonker will be leading worship. His sermon is entitled “Holy War” and he will be using Revelation 11:15-19.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

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