

May 1, 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:

“Chant de Mai (Song for May)”

Joseph Jongen

“Spring, from *The Four Seasons*” Antonio Vivaldi; arr. S. Drummond Wolff

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: (8:40)

“Lord God, We Worship Thee”

harm. J.S. Bach

Lord God, we worship thee. Our highest praise we offer. Thy love is ever sure. Thy watchful care is ever near. Let all the earth sing forth, then echo to the sky. Receive our thankful song. Lord God, we worship thee.

The Introit: (11:00)

“O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns Be Rising”

O Jesus Christ, may grateful hymns be rising, in every city for your love and care; inspire our worship, grant the glad surprising that your blest Spirit rouses everywhere.

Words: Bradford Gray Webster

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*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 204

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna”

*The Greeting—concluded by the minister saying

“Christ is risen!”

*The People's Response: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach Our God

The Call to Confession: Matthew 5:43-45a

The Prayer of Confession:

Father, we confess we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Lord, show us your mercy.

We confess that we have found it hard at times to love our neighbors and even harder to love our enemies.

Lord, show us your mercy.

We confess the times when we have failed to pray for others, especially those that are hostile to us and to the work of your kingdom.

Lord, show us your mercy.

We confess that too often we are a self-centered people, concerned more for ourselves than the needs of others.

Lord, show us your mercy and cleanse us from our sin.

In Jesus' name, and by the power of your Spirit, Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 John 4:9-11

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 869:1-2

“Here I Am, Lord”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“If You Search with All Your Heart”

Craig Courtney

When you seek me, you shall find me if you search with all your heart.

For I know the plans I have for you: plans of welfare, not of evil. For I know the plans I have for you: plans of hope and a future. I will bring you out of bondage to the land I have prepared. I will bring you out of bondage, I will bring you home to me.

Based on Jeremiah 29:11-14 Words: Craig Courtney

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The Offertory:

“When God First Brought Us Back from Exile”

John Innes

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: Jeremiah 29:4-14 (pg. 1223)

The Sermon: “**WISDOM FOR EXILE**”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 925

“Go to the World”

*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:

“Go to the World!”

Albert Travis

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Chad Boorsma – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Jessica Klooster – vocalist (8:40)

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

Avery Walcott and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Heidi Brandt and Rev. Peter Jonker – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

Jessica Klooster is a graduate of Calvin University where she sang in the Capella. She remains active as a soloist and is a member of First Reformed Church in Holland. We welcome Jessica's return to share her gifts with us this morning in worship.

Music at LaGrave

Brenda Wassink, a Jenison native and member of Ridgewood CRC, was tragically shot and killed at age 22 while working in Kansas City, just three months before she was to be married. In the months after her death, her family clung to the words of Jeremiah 29:11-14 and chose to commission Craig Courtney to compose a choral anthem in memory of Brenda. The anthem stands as a testament to God's sustaining mercy in times of deepest grief and sorrow.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **Joady Hoekstra, the John Schat family** and the **Jon VanHekken family** in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather, **Jim Hoekstra**.

The May Special Offering is for **Safe Haven Ministries**. **Safe Haven Ministries** is a Christ centered ministry, helping prevent and end relationship abuse. Residential and non-residential services are available to individuals and families who have experienced or who are experiencing domestic abuse, human trafficking, and exploitation.

This evening, Reverend Peter Jonker and Dr. Larry Visser will be leading us in a hymn sing service.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live