We Approach God with Penitence

The Prayer of Confession:
Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon: John 14:23; 25-27

The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 256
*They’ll Know We Are Christians

The Apostles’ Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Hymn of Response:
Come, then living church of Jesus, covenant with him anew. Unto him who conquered for us may we pledge our service true. May our lives reflect the brightness of God’s love in Jesus shown. To the world we then bear witness: we belong to God alone.

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:
"Lord, Make Me an Instrument" Jonathan Willcocks
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, may there be union, where there is doubt, faith; Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is despair, let there be hope, where there is darkness, light, where there is sadness, may there be joy!
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. May we all be in peace, and only peace, and may that peace come unto each of us.

The Children’s Message

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: Romans 12:9-21

The Sermon: “BE DEVOTED TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word
Great God, Your love has called us here, as we, by love, for love were made. Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonored, disobeyed. We come, with all our heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own, not through some merit, right or claim, but by your gracious love alone. We strain to glimpse your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread, and humble us, and call us friends. Suffer and serve till all are fed, and show how grandly love intends to work till all creation sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share. Give us your Spirit's liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair and offer all that faith can do while love is making all things new.

Music at LaGrave
Jonathan Willcocks (b. 1953), son of the late British musical luminary Sir David Willcocks, is a composer and conductor known around the world. His setting of the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, sung as a solo this morning, was originally written for four-part choir. The beautiful melody supports St. Francis' prayerful text seeking peace in every heart and with each other.

The flowers on the chancel in the sanctuary today are given by Marge Penning in loving memory of James Penning, who died on July 13, 2010.

The special offering for the month of July is for Westminster Food Pantry. The downtown food pantry provides an emergency supply of food and personal care items to people in need while also promoting self-sufficiency through referrals and education.

This evening, Rev. Peter Jonker will lead us in worship.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live

Ordinary Time is the liturgical season from Pentecost to Advent. This season for spiritual growth is represented in the liturgical colors of blue and green. The banners and parament reflect concepts from Psalm 1. Like trees firmly rooted by the stream, we strive to be firmly rooted in God's word. By doing so, we find life, experience deep spiritual growth, and live grateful lives.

Music at LaGrave

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