

August 7, 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 10:00 AM

Please prepare your heart and mind for worship with a time of prayer and meditation.

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Georg Böhm, Dietrich Buxtehude
Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; curb those who by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Clay Christiansen
Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Our Help Is in the Name of God the Lord”

Our help is in the name of God the Lord, the one who made the heavens with a word; Creator of the world, each living thing. Come, bless the Lord, lift up your hearts and sing: “Our help is in the name of God the Lord.”

When evil seems to have the upper hand, call on God's name: the Lord, the great “I AM.” When troubles rise and all around gives way, remember God stays with us night and day. Our help is in the name of God the Lord.

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*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 575

“Praise to the Lord the Almighty”

*The Greeting

*The People's Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

We Approach God with Penitence

The Call to Repentance: Matthew 5:43-48

The Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you alone make us whole—bodies, minds, and spirits. In our own strength, the best we can do is answer others in kind: Love for love, hate for hate. But, in you, everything changes. In Christ and by the Spirit, your love makes its home in us and is made complete in us. Grace us to answer animosity with gentle strength; and empower us with Holy-Spirited kindness when we feel threatened. For while we were your enemies, you died for us. Cover our defenseless heads under the shadow of your wings, for we trust in you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Anthem:

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Terre Johnson

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high; hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee; spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity. Jesus, lover of my soul.

The Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 53:4-6

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 175

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

stanza 3 a cappella

*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.**

Lift Up Your Hearts 727:3
Tune: Ode to Joy

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Children's Moment

The Offertory: I Need Thee Every Hour

Richard Elliott

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: “**BLESS THOSE WHO PERSECUTE
YOU**”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 904
“Lord, Make Us Servants”
sopranos are invited to sing the descant on verse 5

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:
“A Mighty Fortress”

Charles Ore

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist
Kim DeStigter – vocalist
Evan and Susan Roelofs– Cross and Bible Bearers

Ordinary Time, the longest liturgical season, is a season of spiritual growth. The banners and parament for this season reflect concepts from Isaiah 12:2-3. We come to know the Lord more deeply as our strength and our salvation. With joy we grow spiritually by being rooted in God’s Word.

Music at LaGrave

Written a year after his 1738 conversion, *Jesus Lover of My Soul* is one of Charles Wesley’s most well-known hymn texts. The text may have been a reflection on his turbulent transatlantic crossing three years prior. Though ill and frightened during the storm, his faith carried him through this trial. Terre Johnson’s (b. 1959) career has combined conducting choirs, composing, and teaching; his arrangement of this hymn mimics the rolling waves through the flowing triplet piano accompaniment.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of **Philip P. Versluis**. A life well lived and a life well loved!

The special offering for the month of August is for Home Repair Services of West Michigan. This organization offers educational and repair services for vulnerable Kent County homeowners.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live