The Prayer of Confession:

Convicting God, your word tells us that the tongue is a fire, and we admit that it’s true. Our mouths sing your praise, but too often speak in ways that deny faith in you at all. We say things that we should not say, Words that tear down instead of building up. Phrases that divide rather than unite. We spread rumors and lies instead of stopping them. We are sorry for all of the times that our words drive people away from you, rather than encouraging faith in you. Forgive us, touch our lips and sanctify the words of our mouths. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Isaiah 6:6-8

The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 754

"Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak"

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children’s Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Choral Anthem:

"Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word"

Eric Harding Thiman

Blessed Jesus, at thy word we are gathered all to hear thee; let our mind and will be stirred now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teachings true and holy drawn from earth to love thee solely.

All our knowledge, sense and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded, till thy spirit breaks our night with the beams of truth unclouded; thou alone to God canst win us, thou must work all good within us. Glorious Lord, thyself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding, open thou each mind and heart, let us heed thy Spirit's pleading, hear the cry thy church now raises, Lord accept our prayers and praises. Amen.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663
Music: Gordon V Thompson Limited, 1959
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The Offertory:

The Wonder of God’s Word

“Wonderful Words of Life” Wilbur Held

“Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness” Wilbur Held

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: Isaiah 55:8-13 (pg.1150) and Jeremiah 23:29

The Sermon: “HOLY HABITS: THE WORD OF THE LORD”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 766

“Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness”

May the grace of Christ, our Savior, and the Father’s boundless love, with the Holy Spirit’s favor, rest upon us from above. May we now remain in union with each other and the Lord, and possess in sweet communion, joys that earth cannot afford.

*The Benediction


*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Prelude in C minor” Felix Mendelssohn

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist
Dr. Elizabeth West – organist
Chancel Choir, Dr. James Borst – director (8:40)
Vocal Octet, Dr. James Borst – director (11:00)
Kathryn Beckvoort, Carmen Kruyf – soprano
Jess Hollenbach, Renee VandeWege – alto
Zachary Kruyf, Ben VanHouten – tenor
Peter Redder, Karel Malefyt – bass
Joyce Jeltema and Dee DeKryger – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)
Marlene Padding and Carmen Day – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)
Music at LaGrave - Today’s choral anthem was written by British organist and choral composer Eric H. Thiman (1900-1975, pronounced “tea-man”), who composed over 1300 anthems and songs throughout his career. He was organist for several non-Anglican churches, professor of harmony at the Royal Academy of Music, and later Dean of Music at the University of London. The original German tune to the text can be found in the LUYH hymnal #763. Many 17th and 18th century organ composers used the tune for settings of chorale preludes.

The flowers in the chancel today are given by Marilyn DeJong and Skip and Mary VandenBerg in loving memory of husband and father, Wilbur (Bill) DeJong.

Ordinary Time, the liturgical season of spiritual growth, continues until Advent. The banners and parament reflect concepts from 2 Peter 3: 17-18. We are encouraged to continue our growth in the knowledge of our Lord, Jesus Christ and experience his grace. As we do, we will be prepared to face life’s challenges and remain firm in our faith.

The special offering for the month of September is for the Pregnancy Resource Center. PRC Grand Rapids provides care to the men and women in our community in a professional and respectful manner. They offer compassion and resources to those who seek support.

This evening, chaplain and LaGrave member Tricia Bosma will be preaching on 1 Corinthians 2:1-4.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live