The Prayer of Confession:
O Lord God Almighty, you let go of the glory of heaven and made your dwelling with us. You reveal yourself in the hungry and thirsty. Your face can be seen in the homeless stranger and the vulnerable infant. You suffer with those in hospitals and prisons. We confess that we are blind to your presence in the poor, and we look away from the widow, orphan, and foreigner. Forgive us for neglecting your sisters and brothers in need. Fill us with compassion that is nurtured by service to others. Give us eyes that seek out people who are poor in our city. Give us feet to walk into hospitals and prisons where your presence dwells. Give us hands to embrace the lonely stranger. Give us a new heart of love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon:
There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
Through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set us free from the law of sin and death.
Friends believe the good news of the gospel!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The Call to New Obedience:
The Spirit gathers people from every tongue, tribe, and nation into the unity of the body of Christ. Anointed and sent by the Spirit, the church is thrust into the world, ambassadors of God’s peace, announcing forgiveness and reconciliation, proclaiming the good news of grace. Going before them and with them, the Spirit convinces the world of sin and pleads the cause of Christ. Men and women, impelled by the Spirit, go next door and far away into science and art, media and marketplace—every area of life, pointing to the reign of God with what they do and say.

Our World Belongs to God art. 30

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:
“The Good Shepherd”
“Sinfonia in D”

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:
“Lead Me, Lord”
Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that maketh me dwell in safety.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 518
“Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah”

*The Greeting

The Welcome

We Approach God with Penitence

The Call to Repentance: Matthew 25:31-46

*The Call to New Obedience:
The Spirit gathers people from every tongue, tribe, and nation into the unity of the body of Christ. Anointed and sent by the Spirit, the church is thrust into the world, ambassadors of God’s peace, announcing forgiveness and reconciliation, proclaiming the good news of grace. Going before them and with them, the Spirit convinces the world of sin and pleads the cause of Christ. Men and women, impelled by the Spirit, go next door and far away into science and art, media and marketplace—every area of life, pointing to the reign of God with what they do and say.

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 109:1-3
“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Ministry Moment – Megan Ribbens

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:
“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”
Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home when Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is he. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
Refrain:
I sing because I’m happy. I sing because I’m free. For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, when songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies, I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Refrain.
For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he’s protecting, and I know that he’s loving, and I know he watches me.

The Children’s Moment

The Offertory: Beneath Thy Wings O’ershading

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 Sermon: “AN UPSIDE DOWN LIFE”
The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 299
“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

*The Benediction


*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude: “Tuba Tune in D Major”

Craig Stellar Lang

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.

There is no evening service.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live