

Thanksgiving Day

November 24, 2022

10:00 AM

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. Because our worship proceeds without announcements, please carefully follow the order of worship printed below. An asterisk denotes standing for those who are able. We are glad that you are here. Let us worship God together.

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

The Prelude:

“Songs of Thanksgiving”

Douglas E. Wagner

(Let All Things Now Living/Sing to the Lord of Harvest/We Gather Together)

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Robert J. Powell

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Come, Let’s Rejoice”

John Amner

Come let’s rejoice, unto our Lord, let us make joy to God our Savior. Let us approach to his presence in confession, and in psalms, let us make joy to him. Alleluia.

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 543

“Now Thank We All Our God”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Call to Thanksgiving

Psalm 100

read by Ruby VanHaitsma

Philippians 4:4-7

read by Megan Molenbeek

*The Hymn Concertato:

“O Praise Ye the Lord”

Paul Sjolund

(See insert – Please rise at the conductor’s cue)

The Bible Reading: Psalm 147 (pg. 981)

The Meditation

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 353

“Rejoice, O Pure in Heart”

The Thanksgiving Prayer:

This is a day to thank God for all his many blessings in our lives. With gratitude we now say: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the supportive love of family, for brothers and sisters, for parents and children, and the easy company of people who know us best: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of friends who share our lives, who laugh with us, and who love us enough to tell us the truth: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For joys, successes, achievements, and accomplishments. For gifts you’ve given us that allow us to bless others: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For health and safety, for the gift of our bodies so fearfully and wonderfully made, for the gift of hard and meaningful work: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the way you enlarge our souls through struggles, sorrows, trials: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For tenderness and understanding, for patience and compassion: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For health care workers and social workers, for good teachers and faithful business leaders, for administrators and secretaries and people who take care of the details that make our society run: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For our homes, for food, warmth, and shelter. For tables overflowing with good food and drink. For sweetness of desserts, the comfort of coffee and the tang of fruit: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the joy of your creatures, for the intricacy of the butterfly, the majesty of the blue whale, and the good company of a family pets: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For our nation, for freedom and peace, for leaders and public servants, for soldiers and firefighters, for police officers and public servants who work for justice and stability: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the ability to say "I'm sorry," for the grace of repentance, for the forgiveness of others, for the

generosity of others: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For good advice, for the trust others put in us and for the opportunity to serve our neighbor: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For mentors and teachers. For those whose kindness and patience have sustained us during our hardest times: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the wonders of creation, for the beauty of a winter’s snow and a summer sunset: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of music, for the way sound, rhythm and melody open our hearts to joy and sorrow and hope: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of leisure. For picnics and parades, for baseball games and backyard barbecues, for pickleball and board games: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of art, for sculpture, and painting, for dance and theater, for poetry and prose, for the joy of creativity: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For our church Lord, this family of love and support which you have created through the blood of your Son. For the way your Spirit uses all our gifts to hold us together and bring you glory: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of faith and the sustaining presence of your Holy Spirit, for the way you hold on to us when we can’t hold on to you: **We thank you, O Lord.**

For the gift of Jesus Christ our Lord, for his exemplary life, for his saving death, for his glorious resurrection that destroyed the power of death and gave us everlasting hope: **We thank you, O Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen.**

The Anthem:

“O Be Joyful”

Philip WJ Stopford

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God. It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people

and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen, Amen!

Psalm 100

The Offertory: “We Gather Together”

Carolyn Hamlin & Richard A. Nichols

The Offering: Henry Beets Mission Society

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 5

“Let All Things Now Living”

(all sopranos are invited to sing the descant)

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Now Thank We All Our God”

J. S. Bach; arr. Virgil Fox

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Brass Ensemble, Dr. James Borst – director

Greg Wells, Aaron Good – trumpet

Leah Bouwman – french horn

Pete Tigchelaar – trombone

Mark Lago – tuba

Debra Vogel – timpani and percussion

Chancel Choir, Dr. James Borst – director

Celine Alcumbrack – First Fruits carrier

Dan and Natalie Molenbeek – Cross and Bible bearers

The **Thanksgiving Day offering** will be for the Henry Beets Mission Society (HBMS). HBMS is not part of the LaGrave budget, but is funded solely by your monetary support during its three annual special offerings, and through memorial and estate gifts. Increased missionary costs combined with decreased giving so far this year have created a great financial need. Thank you for supporting HBMS

missionaries as they share the gospel both in this country and around the world.

Greg Wells and **Mark Lago**, both instrumental teachers at Northview Public Schools, join LaGrave instrumentalists in providing the ministry of music. Musicians participating in this service receive honoraria from the **Sue Bos Muller Music Memorial Fund.**