

July 16, 2023

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:

"Psalm-Prelude No. II (Second Set)"

Herbert Howells

Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and the light to thee are both alike (Psalm 139:11)

"O God, Beyond All Praising, We Worship You Today"

Robert Buckley Farlee, David Lasky

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

"Unbounded God, Whom Yet We Seek"

*Unbounded God, whom yet we seek in meeting house and shrine, reveal your presence in our midst as prayers and praise combine. Within these walls bestow anew fresh whispers of your will, through reading, silence, psalm, and song help us to hear you still.*

*Incarnate God, whose cleansing showed the temple's true intent, renew this house of prayer to make its mission evident. Continually perfect your Church that gathers in this place, and from our varied lives build up fresh witness to your grace.*

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\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 511

"Amid the Thronging Worshipers"

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

### We Humbly Approach Our God

The Call to Confession: Hebrews 12:1-2a

The Prayer of Confession:

Lord, we confess that too often we have taken our eyes off you and have gone our own way.

For the times we have said what we should not have said...

**We seek your grace.**

For the times we have done what we should not have done...

**We seek your mercy.**

For the times we have thought what we should not have thought...

**We seek your forgiveness.**

Lord, empower us to lift our eyes to you, the One who is our help. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Sung Response:

"He Looked Beyond My Sin"

arr. David Carle

*"Amazing Grace" shall always be my song of praise, for it was grace that bought my liberty; I do not know just why he came to love me so; he looked beyond my sin and saw my need. I shall forever lift my eyes to Calvary, to view the cross where Jesus died for me; how marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul; he looked beyond our sin, and saw our need.*

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The Words of Assurance: based on Hebrews 12:2b-3

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 334

"May the Mind of Christ, My Savior"

*all who are able, please sing the descant on stanzas 4 and 5*

### We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

*The Pastoral Prayer begins and ends with the song below:*

**To the hills I lift my eyes; where shall help for me arise?**

**From the Lord comes all my aid, who the heav'ns and**

**earth has made.**

LUYH 331:1

The Offering

The Offertory Anthem: "The Lord Is My Light"

Frances Allitsen

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom, then, shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom, then, shall I be afraid? Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; and though there rose up war against me, yet I will put my trust in him. For, in the time of trouble, he shall hide me in his tabernacle, yea, in the secret places of his dwelling shall he hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.  
(from Psalm 27)

\*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.**

The Children's Message

### God Speaks to Us

The Prayer for Illumination:

Lord, open my eyes

that I may see wonderful things in your book.

**For your word is a lamp to my feet and a light on my path.**

Lord, open my heart

that your truth would be my joy and my delight.

**For your word is a lamp to my feet and a light on my path.**

Lord, open my mind

that you would show me the way to live.

**For your word is a lamp to my feet and a light on my path.** Guide me by your Spirit. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

The Scripture: Psalm 27 (p.862)

The Sermon: "**PSALMS FOR THE SUMMERTIME:  
PSALM 27**"

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### We Go in His Peace

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 730

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Organ Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Laudate Dominum (O Praise Ye the Lord)” Francis Jackson

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height; rejoice in his Word, ye angels of light;  
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made, and worship before him in brightness  
arrayed.

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Chad Boorsma – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Jonathan Bratt Carle – vocalist

Ruby & Brad VanHaitsma – Cross and Bible Bearers

**This evening, Dr. Steve VanZanen** will lead us in worship. His sermon, "New Birth into a Living Hope" will be based on 1 Peter 1:1-9. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

Livestreaming worship is available at [lagrave.org/live](http://lagrave.org/live)

After completing a Master of Divinity at Vanderbilt University in 2015, **Jonathan Bratt Carle** served for several years in parish ministry and is currently a hospice chaplain in Grand Rapids. Prior to realizing a call to ordained ministry, he enjoyed many years in the performing arts as an operatic baritone. We welcome Jonathan to worship this morning.

**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**

The solo anthem *He Looked Beyond My Sin* is a collaboration between an American gospel singer's text, an English Folk tune, and an American arranger's creativity. Dottie Rambo (1934-2008) was a gospel singer and songwriter whose claim to fame in the 60s and 70s was her hit song *He Looked Beyond My Sin (Fault) and Saw My Need*. Dottie's daughter happens to be country singer Reba McIntire. Vocalist Jonathan Bratt Carle's father, David, is a gifted arranger and received permission to set Dottie's text to the beloved English folk tune, *O Danny Boy (Londonderry Air)*. This piece is appropriately placed in this morning's service of confession.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of **Jim Penning** by his wife, **Marge**. Jim went to his heavenly home on July 13, 2010.

**The July special offering** 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.