

July 30, 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:

“Morning Hymn”

Lani Smith

“Jesus, Joy of Our Desiring”

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Beautiful Savior”

F. Melius Christiansen

Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 572:1,2,3,5

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach Our God

The Call to Confession: Ephesians 4:22-27

The Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, you call us to put on our new self which speaks truthfully to our neighbors and repairs relationships impacted by anger. We confess that in our own strength we fall short of your standard of righteousness and holiness. We embellish the truth to feel more confident and we hold onto anger because it feels good. Holy Spirit, empower us to rely on you for true transformation, to the glory of God, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 667

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Dan Forrest

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears: the bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears: Before the throne my surety stands. My name is written on his hands.

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary, they pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me: “Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry, “nor let that ransomed sinner die.”

God is reconciled; his pardoning voice I hear; he owns me for his child, I can no longer fear. With confidence I now draw nigh, and “Father, Abba, Father,” cry. Arise, my soul, arise!

The Offering

The Offertory:

“Brother James' Air (Psalm 23)”

Raymond H. Haan

*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 Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9 (p.1528)

The Sermon: **“THE FATHER'S BELOVED”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 351:1,3,4
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Hymn of Rejoicing”

Nicolai Rimski-Korsakov

Rev. David Bast – guest minister
Erin Alley – liturgist
Jonathan Tuuk – organist
Kathryn Becksvoort – vocalist
Jess Hollenbach – pianist

Rene Baatenburg & Andrea Hoekzema – Cross and Bible Bearers

Rev. David Bast is former president of Words of Hope and former interim preaching pastor here at LaGrave.

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

Three hymns penned by Charles Wesley who, with his brother John, founded the Methodist Church, are included in worship this morning: the opening hymn, the responsorial hymn, and the anthem. Wesley wrote more than 6,000 hymn texts during his

lifetime. *Arise, My Soul, Arise* (1742) recounts the confidence we have in approaching the throne of the One who redeemed us with his blood. By writing the line “My name is written on his hands,” Wesley was surely referring to Isaiah 49:16: “See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.”

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.

This evening, Rev. John Steigenga will lead us in worship. He will preach from Joshua 2, and his sermon title is "Rahab Redeemed."

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live