

August 20, 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:

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Wilbur Held, Robert Hobby, John Behnke

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Called to Gather as God's People”

*Called to gather as God's people, we assemble in this place to unite our hearts and voices in thanksgiving for God's grace: for the birthing of creation, for Christ's rising from death's hold, for the coming of the Spirit, week by week claimed and retold.*

*Taught and formed by proclamation, we await God's promised word: song and story, psalm and precept, all the range of scripture heard. By this ancient, living witness we are summoned to confess how we fall short, yet can trust that God will hear, forgive and bless.*

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\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 538

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

*Stanza 3 a cappella*

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

### *We Humbly Approach Our God*

The Call to Confession: based on Matthew 11:28-30

The Prayer of Confession:

**Merciful God, we live loud and tiresome lives. We push through our fatigue, certain that our world cannot go on without us. We confess that too often we look for shortcuts to rest rather than returning to you. We seek your forgiveness. Holy Spirit, in your loving kindness be our companion and help us practice real rest. Return us to stillness and rest that comes from your tender care. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.**

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 103:8-13

\*The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 23

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

### *We Respond with Thanksgiving*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“The Quiet Heart”

John Ness Beck

*The quiet heart knows the pace of kindness. The quiet heart measures love in gentleness. The quiet heart sees beauty in reality. The quiet heart survives in understanding. The quiet heart waits in yearning patience to find the mind of God.*

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The Offering

The Offertory:

“Be Still, My Soul”

Benjamin Culli

\*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 131 (p. 969)

The Sermon: “**PSALMS FOR THE SUMMERTIME:  
PSALM 131**”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### *We Go in His Peace*

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 329

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Organ Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

Paul Launbengayer

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Erin Alley – liturgist

Sara Good – organist

Renee VandeWege – vocalist

Merv Kamper and Marlene Padding – Cross and Bible Bearers

**Ordinary Time**, the longest liturgical season, is a time of spiritual growth. The banners are hung in the diptych form but instead of being attached together they are side by side yet separated. Both the banners and paraments 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.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **Pat and Pete Tigchelaar** with gratitude to God for 60 years of marriage.

**The August special offering** is for **Home Repair Services**. They offer educational and repair services for vulnerable Kent County homeowners.

**This evening**, Chad Boorsma will lead us in worship. He will preach a series of meditations around the theme "Away from the Hustle and Bustle."

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