

October 1, 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 8:40 & 11:00 AM

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

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

“Clothe Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness” Johann Sebastian Bach
“...with this heavenly food now feed us. May we, when by life discouraged, by this cup of life be nourished, thankful that our Friend invites us and with God himself unites us.”

“Gift of Finest Wheat”

Jeffrey Honoré

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Come, Let Us Sing” (8:40)

Jody W. Lindh

Come, let us sing to the Lord, make a joyful noise to the God of our salvation. Make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord everyone! Sing to the Lord, bless the name! Tell what God has done!

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“We Come as Guests Invited” (11:00)

We come as guests invited when Jesus bids us dine, his friends on earth united to share the bread and wine; the bread of life is broken, the wine is freely poured for us, in solemn token of Christ our dying Lord.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith
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*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 594

“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Approach God with Penitence

The Call to Confession: Galatians 3:28, 5:19-23

The Prayer of Confession

Gracious and merciful God, you have called us to a life of love, peace and patience, but we confess that these fruit do not yet fill our hearts. We acknowledge that we are too inclined towards anger, jealousy and revenge. We often harbor ambition and pride. Instead of producing the fruit of the Spirit, we have produced bitter feelings and harsh words. Forgive us, we pray. Uproot our bitterness. Pull down our pride. Make our branches heavy with your Spirit's fruit, so that we might glorify you with lives of joyful service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon: Revelation 7:9-10

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 268:1-4

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“The Words of My Mouth” (8:40)

Ruth Elaine Schram

My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord. Let all creatures praise your name forever. Let all creatures praise your holy name. For you, O Lord, are my Rock, and you, O Lord, are my Redeemer.

Words: Ruth Elaine Schram, based on Psalms 19:14 and 145:21
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“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” (11:00)

Kevin Robison

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face; here would I touch and handle things unseen; here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace, and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God, here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven; here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but thine, nor do I need another arm save thine to lean upon; it is enough my Lord, enough indeed; my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

This is the hour of banquet and song; let feasting still prolong this hour of fellowship with thee. Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness; mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood. Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace; thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-5, 11-16 (p.1157)

The Sermon: **“THE GLORY OF THE NATIONS IN THE CITY OF GOD”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 254:1,4,5

“For All the Saints”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Liturgy of the Lord's Supper – *See Insert*

During the passing of the Bread, the congregation sings:

Lift Up Your Hearts 764:1-3

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

During the Passing of the Wine the organ plays while we quietly meditate

The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 775

“Across the Lands”

Congregation remains seated during offering, and rises on final stanza

*The Benediction

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

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior, Hath Redeemed Us”

Johann Sebastian Bach

Christ our Savior hath redeemed us, turned his Father’s anger from us, by the bitter cross he bore, and saved us from Satan’s power. That we never should forget it, giveth he his flesh to eat it, hid in bread and feast divine, is precious blood to drink as wine.

Dr. Neal Plantinga – guest minister

Rev. Peter Jonker – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

3-6 Grade Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)

Jess Hollenbach – accompanist (8:40)

Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)

Joel and Joellah Bouwman – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Olivia and Celine Alcumbrack – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

We welcome **Dr. Cornelius Plantinga Jr.** to our pulpit this morning. Neal is the former president of Calvin Theological Seminary, and before that served as the Dean of the Chapel at Calvin University. Neal currently works with the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship.

Ordinary Time, the liturgical season of spiritual growth, continues until Advent. Notice that the liturgical colors for Ordinary Time, blue and green, are now lighter and changing in color. Along with the addition of texture, they symbolize elements of growth and the passage of time. As we continue through this time, reflect on these 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.

Music at LaGrave:

Scottish Presbyterian minister Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) was also the writer of numerous hymn texts and poems which remain in hymnals to the current day. Bonar’s text *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face* is an emotionally-charged and devotional paraphrase on the meaning of the sacrament of communion. For Bonar, the most important element of communion was a personal encounter with Christ. The musical setting of this text is set to a hymn tune with chant-like characteristics by Warren Swenson, arranged by Kevin Robison.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are presented in loving memory of **Dick (Pop) Gootjes and granddaughter Olivia Ann Hoffman**, who are praising and singing together eternally with the Heavenly chorus. **Carol Gootjes.**

The October special offering is for Roosevelt Park Ministries.

Roosevelt Park Ministries is a separate non-profit organization originally established by Deacons of Roosevelt Park Community CRC in conjunction with World Renew and which provides various community services and support programs for families, individuals and youths in Roosevelt Park Community and surrounding areas.

This evening, Reverend Jonker will preach on John 2:13-25 and his sermon is titled “Jesus and the Temple.”

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live