

September 17, 2023

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.

EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

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

The Prelude:

“Adagio, from Choral No. 3 in A Minor”

César Franck

“Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness”

Johannes Brahms

“Prelude on SLANE (Be Thou My Vision)”

Craig Phillips

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 558

“O Praise God’s Name Together”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Reading: Psalm 148

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 555:1,3

“Let All Creation’s Wonders”

*The Confession of Faith:

How does the article concerning “life everlasting” comfort you?

Even as I already now experience in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, so after this life I will have

perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise God forever.

With the whole creation we join the song:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

He has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God, and we will reign on earth.

God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish, everything will be made new, and every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God.

Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 58, Our World Belongs to God Paragraph 58

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 426:1,2,4

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

The Pastoral Prayer

concluded by singing our sung prayer of illumination

Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine. Voice of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Holy Spirit, power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine. Boldly may I always live, bravely serve, and gladly give.

Holy Spirit, peace divine, still this restless heart of mine. Speak to calm this tossing sea, grant me your tranquility.

LUYH 864:1,3,5

The Scripture: Revelation 5 (p.1918)

The Sermon: **“HE IS WORTHY”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 601

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Pièce d’Orgue”

J.S. Bach

Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits. Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.

Dr. Dan Kroeze – guest minister

Rev. Peter Jonker – liturgist

Dr. Rob Hobgood – organist

We welcome **Dr. Dan Kroeze** to our pulpit tonight. Dr. Kroeze is a professor of Biblical Studies at Kuyper College.

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. These banners, hung in diptych form, were thoughtfully designed by David Huizenga and fabricated in collaboration with Jan and Claude Bos.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **Jean and Melanie Scott** in memory of Don Scott, husband, father, grandfather, choral conductor, teacher, and friend, on his birthday.

The September special offering is for **Exalta Health**. Exalta Health provides medical, vision, dental, behavioral and spiritual care services with fees based on household income and number of members supported by that income.

Unemployment, lack of insurance or other financial factors are not barriers for service.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live