

**October 22, 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:

“From God Will Nothing Part Me”

Johann Gottfried Walther, Johann Sebastian Bach, Johann Ludwig Krebs

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“O Seed of Israel's Chosen Race”

*O seed of Israel's chosen race now ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.*

*Let every tongue and every tribe on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 261:1,2,4,5

“Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns”

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

***We Approach God with Penitence***

The Call to Confession: Romans 7:19-24

The Prayer of Confession:

**Merciful God,**

**we confess we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.**

**We confess we have strayed from your teachings and have walked in the way of death.**

**We confess we have failed to do good, and have turned our eyes toward sin.**

**Give us the vision and courage to pursue you, and rescue us from the sin that entangles us.**

**Amen.**

The Assurance of Pardon: Ephesians 2:8-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.

**For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 675:1-3

“By Grace We Have Been Saved”

***We Respond with Thanksgiving***

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“And Can It Be?” (8:40)

Dan Forrest

*And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me who caused his pain? For me who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace; emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race; 'tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. No condemnation now I dread, Jesus and all in him is mine! Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown through Christ my own.*

“Creator God” (11:00)

Carole Halmekangas

*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born, I called you by name. Lord, Lord! You created my being, you knit me together in my mother's womb; my frame was not hidden from you, when I was formed, you were there. Long before I knew you, you reached down and touched me, loving me before I was born; Elohim Jehovah, Creator God, my Father, praise and blessed be your holy name.*

*I am fearfully and wonderfully made, my soul knoweth that full well; Lord, your thoughts ever are upon me, and all my days are written in your Book.*

*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and I loved you!*

Jeremiah 1:5, Psalm 139

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The Offering

The Offertory:

“I Sought the Lord, and Afterward I Knew” (8:40)

David Cherwien

“Who'll Be a Witness?” (11:00)

African American Spiritual, arr. Sondra K. Tucker

\*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.**

***God Speaks to Us***

The Scripture: Romans 8:26-32 (p.1755)

The Sermon: **“I WAS JUST WONDERING...HOW DO I UNDERSTAND PREDESTINATION?”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

***We Respond with Praise***

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 251:1-4

“The Church's One Foundation”

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Choral Amen (8:40)

\*The Organ Amen (11:00)

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Church of God, Elect and Glorious” Gordon Young, Austin Lovelace

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Rachel Thorne – liturgist  
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist  
Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)  
Becky Rhoda – vocalist (11:00)  
Bells Jubilate, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)  
Rachel Rynbrandt and Merv Kamper – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)  
Marlene Padding and Carmen Day – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

### **Music at LaGrave (8:40)**

Dan Forrest (b. 1978) has become one of the leading church music composers of our time. One of his most beloved anthems is an arrangement of Charles Wesley’s timeless text from 1738, *And Can It Be That I Should Gain?* While Forrest’s pianistic gifts are shown in the beautiful piano accompaniment, his gift for melody is evident in the flowing melodic lines sung by the choir. Like Wesley’s prolific output of more than six thousand hymn texts, Forrest’s growing body of works are contributing enormously to the Church’s mission.

**The flowers on the chancel today** celebrate the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Faith Hondorp** on October 21, 2023 and are given by the **Phil Huizenga family**. Faith is a lifelong member of LaGrave! Thanks be to God.

**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 youth in Roosevelt Park Community and surrounding areas.

**This evening** Rev. Jonker will preach on John 1:19-28 and his sermon is titled “Prophet, Priest, and King.”

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