

**October 8, 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:

“Tierce en taille”

Nicolas de Grigny

“Meditation on a Theme from *Messiah*”

Gordon Young

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

George Frideric Handel  
arr. G. Wintson Cassler

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship: Psalm 145:10-12

All your works praise you, Lord;

**your faithful people extol you.**

They tell of the glory of your kingdom

**and speak of your might,**

so that all people may know of your mighty acts

**and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

**and your dominion endures through all generations.**

\*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 590:1-5,8

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

\*The Greeting

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Reading: based on Romans 8:31-34

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these?

If God is for us, who can be against us?

**He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**

Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?

**It is God who justifies.**

Who then is the one who condemns?

**No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is interceding for us.**

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 796

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

\*The Reading: Based on Romans 8:35-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**

For we are convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation...

**will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

\*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 23

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

The Pastoral Prayer

*Prayer will include this response from Psalm 16:1*

Leader: Keep us safe, O God,

**People: for in you we take refuge.**

The Song of Illumination: Lift Up Your Hearts 762

“Ancient Words”

The Scripture: Psalm 16 (p. 850)

The Sermon: **“ETERNAL OPTIMISM”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

\*The Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—**

**body and soul, in life and in death—**

**to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way**

**that not a hair can fall from my head**

**without the will of my Father in heaven;**

**in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,**

**assures me of eternal life and makes me**

**wholeheartedly willing and ready**

**from now on to live for him.**

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 191

“Praise the Savior, Now and Ever”

\*The Benediction

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

\*The Organ Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Praise to the Lord”

Paul Manz, G. Winston Cassler

*Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.*

*Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.*

Chad Boersma – minister

Dr. Rob Hobgood – organist

**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.

At an inaugural service, on Sunday, October 10, 1920 at LaGrave, Dr. Henry Beets delivered a sermon commissioning Dr. Lee Huizenga as foreign missionary of the CRC to China. LaGrave had called Dr. Huizenga as their missionary partner, and for 25 years faithfully pledged their financial and spiritual support. **The flowers on the chancel today** are given in loving memory and recognition of that day 103 years ago by the **Huizenga Family**. Thanks be to God for his faithfulness through all generations.

**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.

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