

January 14, 2024

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:

“Andante Sostenuto, from *Symphonie Gothique*”

Charles Marie Widor

“Meditation on *Ubi Caritas*”

(Where Charity and Love Prevail)

Larry Visser

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” (8:40)

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast unmeasured, boundless, free! Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me! Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love—leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

“Love the Lord Your God” (11:00)

Jean and Jim Strathdee

Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart. Love the Lord, your God, with all your soul. Love the Lord, your God, with all your mind. Love the Lord, your God, with all that you are.

Deut. 6:5; Matt. 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27. ©1991 Desert Flower Music. Used with permission under OneLicense #707908

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 111:1,3-6

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: Matthew 7:24-27

The Prayer of Confession:

Prayer begins with singing, continues with brief silence, and concludes with unison spoken prayer when led by the liturgist

“Take, O Take Me as I Am”

D G/D Em/D A/D D G/B Asus A

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;

G A/G D Bm Em D Asus A

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Words and Music (TAKE ME AS I AM 7.7.7.4): John L. Bell (b. 1949) © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent

LUYH 741. Used with permission under OneLicense #707908

Jesus, you are bedrock for us—the foundation that cannot be shaken. Like your first disciples, we hear your call to lifelong following. We listen to your words, we watch you in action, and we rise to our feet, wanting to keep in step with you. Help us leave behind everything that hinders and the sin that easily entangles. Give us grace to cast ourselves on your bottomless mercy and turn all our striving into an offering of love. For our offering can never match the one you’ve already given, Lord; so we thank you for giving us yourself. In your name we pray, amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Philippians 1:6

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 427

“How Firm a Foundation”

verse 3 women and girls

verse 4 men and boys

We Celebrate God’s Promises in Baptism (11:00)

The Meaning of Baptism

The Vows

The Baptism of **Julia Claire Cook**, daughter of

Ryan and Mary Cook

Prayer Partner: Deb Nuiver

The Adult Baptism of **James Webb**

Children are invited to come forward for the baptisms, and leave during the song of response

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 256:1,3-4

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children’s Message (8:40)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments” (8:40)

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, e’en the Spirit of truth.

John 14:15-17

“The Greatest of These Is Love” from *A New Creation*

(11:00)

René Clausen

If I speak in tongues of men and angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong, or a clanging cymbal; and if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mystery, and all knowledge, and if I have faith to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. Love is patient, patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude; love does not insist on its own way; love does not rejoice in the wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

The Offertory:

“The Gift of Love”

Dan Forrest

The Offering

*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: Matthew 22:34-40 (p.1539)

The Sermon: **“FORMED BY JESUS:
THE LOVE COMMAND”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 351
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*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:
“Toccata on *Hyfrydol*”
(Love Divine, All Loves Excelling) J. Christopher Pardini

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)

Emily DuPont Peterson – vocalist (11:00)

Chad Boorsma & Rene Baatenburg – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Ruby VanHaitsma & Brad VanHaitsma – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

Emily DuPont Peterson is the co-owner of West Michigan Music Therapy, sings in VoxGR, is a teaching artist at Civic Theater, and maintains her own private voice studio. We welcome Emily to worship this morning!

Epiphany is the liturgical season from Christmastide to Lent. During this time we focus on Jesus Christ, the Savior, who is the manifestation of God’s light in our dark and sin-filled world. As we grow in our knowledge of God’s redemptive acts through Jesus Christ, we are called to respond by bringing the light of the gospel to our neighborhoods and the world. These concepts are reflected in the symbol of the Trinity and the gold and white colors used in the banners and paraments.

Music at LaGrave (8:40)

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585) was one of the most important English composers of the High Renaissance period. He worked at the Chapel Royal starting in 1543, performing for several Kings and Queens. His anthem *If Ye Love Me* (John 14:15-17) was one of the first English anthems written for the new Anglican liturgy. The piece was composed with mostly one note per syllable so that the text was clearly heard and accentuated.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of Marvin DeWinter. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart.”

The January special offering is for **Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF)** which provides housing opportunities, home ownership counseling, home repairs and maintenance for families who otherwise cannot afford a home.

This evening we will meditate on the parable of the lost coin from Luke 15:8-10. Rev. Jonker will preach.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live