

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

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:

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

J.S. Bach, David Cherwien

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

C. Hubert H. Parry

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights” (8:40)

Throughout these Lenten days and nights we turn to walk the inward way, where, meeting Christ, our guide and light, we live in hope till Easter day.

We bear the silence, cross, and pain of human burdens, human strife, while sisters, brothers help sustain our courage till the feast of life.

And though the road is hard and steep, the Spirit ever calls us on through Calvary's dying, dark and deep, until we see the coming dawn.

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“God Is Our Refuge” (11:00)

Allen Pote

God is our refuge and strength. A present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Psalms 46:1-2

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*The Processional Hymn: ***Worship & Rejoice 90:1,3,5***

“Jesus! What a Friend of Sinners”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession:

Isaiah 53:6

“Come to the Savior Now”

**Come to the Savior now, all who have wandered far:
renew your solemn vow, for his by right you are;
come like poor, wandering sheep returning to his fold;
his arm will safely keep, his love will ne'er grow cold.**

The Prayer of Confession

Shepherd Jesus,

in this world, things do not always make sense.

Our wonderful, weak bodies show their mortality.

Treasured dreams shatter on the rough edges of reality.

And in our fallen humanity our hearts' compasses cannot point the way to you.

We wander – yet we are not lost.

For you have walked this way ahead of us,

And you who knew no sin have freed us from its power.

You died to save us. You set us on our feet, hearts at rest in your holy presence, somehow redeeming

even our sufferings, welcoming us into life found now and forever with you. Thank you. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon: based on Isaiah 53:3-5

Jesus was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,

smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;

the punishment that brought us peace was on him,

and by his wounds we are healed.

*The Hymn of Commitment: ***Lift Up Your Hearts 168***

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

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

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

*The Hymn of Response: ***Lift Up Your Hearts 859:1,2,4***

“Be Thou My Vision”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message (8:40)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“To the Cross, Lord, Lead Us Singing” (8:40) David Lantz III

To the cross, Lord, lead us singing, to the cross where you have died; where your blood flows like a river, that we may be purified. To the cross, Lord, lead us singing, singing with the hosts on high, Calvary's anthem of redemption, ransomed sinners justified.

Refrain:

Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, God's own Son has paid the price. Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, sinless Lamb, the sacrifice.

Yours the victory at Calvary, suffering there to end the strife. In your wounds we now find healing, in your fearful death, our life. Refrain.

To the cross, Lord, lead us singing, singing to the Great I Am; Calvary's anthem of redemption, songs of praise to Christ the Lamb.

Inspired by Hebrews 12:2. Susan Bentall Boersma © Copyright 2008 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. Used with permission under OneLicense #707908

“Peace, Peace, Be Still” (11:00)

Katherine Wright

When upon the rising seas the angry billows roll, My Savior is the refuge and the harbor of my soul. For when the tempest rages; when night grows dark and chill, he comes to bid my fearful heart, “Peace, peace, be still.”

When before a rising tide of pain or grief I flee, the Lord will hear my anguished cry and haste to rescue me. For he can calm the tempest according to his will, or come and bid my fearful heart, “Peace, peace, be still.”

He who made the rising storm can bid its fury fail, or bear me up and give me strength to stand before the gale. I'll wait upon his kindness and trust in him until he calms the wind or bids my heart, “Peace, peace, be still.”

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The Offertory:

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Michael Burkhardt

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: Romans 8:14-17, Colossians 1:24 (p.1755)

The Sermon: **“MAN OF SORROWS:
IF WE SHARE IN HIS SUFFERING”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 440
“He Leadeth Me”
verse 3 a cappella

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Choral Response

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:
“Grand Plein Jeu on *O Love, How Deep,
How Broad, How High*”

Mary Beth Bennett

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)
7-12 Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)
Jess Hollenbach – accompanist

Rachel Rynbrandt & Merv Kamper – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)
Marlene Padding & Carmen Day – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

The liturgical season of Lent is the time from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. The sackcloth permeated with ashes against the royal purple cloth symbolize the suffering and sorrow that Jesus the King bore for the sin in our broken world and our own lives. And it reminds us of our need for humble self-examination and sorrowful repentance before God.

Music at LaGrave (8:40): The poetic text of Hope College alumnus Susan Bentall Boersma tells of the song of redemption ransomed sinners sing to the holy and worthy Lamb of God. Her text is inspired by Hebrews 12:2, “For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Bentall Boersma’s text is set to music by David Lantz III in a hymn-like fashion, first heard in quarter notes, busier rhythms on the final verse, then ending quietly and simply as the anthem began.

The flowers on the chancel today are in loving memory of **Andrea Dekker**, with gratitude for the love and joy she gave to **Grace, Max, Anne, Sara, Jeff and Don Dekker.**

The February special offering is for **The Bridge**. The Bridge is part of Arbor Circle, which offers emergency shelter for youths, and additional counseling for youths and their families.

This evening, Pastor Jonker will preach and we will enjoy the presence of the Calvin Christian High School Chorale.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live