

## February 25, 2024

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:

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Albert Travis

The Chiming of the Hour

\*The Call to Worship

\*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 507  
“How Lovely Is Your Dwelling”

\*The Greeting

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Reading: John 15:1-5a

The Anthem:

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

Elizabeth Poston

*The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.*

*His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne’er can tell, the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

*For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see ‘tis found in Christ the apple tree.*

*I’m weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

The Reading: Colossians 1:15-20

The Anthem:

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

John Rutter

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.*

Refrain:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Refrain.*

*For the joy of human love, brother sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Refrain.*

*For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven: Refrain.*

\*The Confession:

What do you believe when you say, “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?”

**That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ the Son. I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this sad world. God is able to do this because he is almighty God and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 26

\*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 443

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

The Pastoral Prayer

*Prayer concluded by singing:*

**Blessed Jesus, at your word we are gathered all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek**

**and love and fear you. By your gospel pure and holy, teach us, Lord, to love you solely.**

**Glorious Lord, yourself impart; Light of Light, from God proceeding, open lips and ears and heart; help us by your Spirit’s leading. Hear the cry your church now raises; Lord, accept our prayers and praises.**

LUYH 763:1,3

The Scripture: Colossians 1:3-14 (p. 1828)

The Sermon: **“THE WILL AND THE WAY”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

\*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 329  
“Lead Me, Guide Me”

\*The Benediction

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

\*The Choral Benediction:

“Peace I Give to You”

Larry Visser

*Peace I give to you; my peace I leave with you; not as the world gives, not as the world gives do I give to you. Peace I give to you; my peace I leave with you.*

John 14:27

Copyright ©2006 by GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved  
Used with permission under OneLicense #707908

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“Processional in C”

Hal Hopson

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

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Sara Good – organist  
Calvin Christian High School Chorale  
Karel de Waal Malefyt – director  
Anna Marie Adema – accompanist

We welcome to worship tonight the **Calvin Christian High School Chorale** under the direction of **Karel de Waal**

**Malefyt.** LaGrave members **Avery Hollebeek and Mason Elliott** sing in the Chorale. May God bless their ministry through music.

**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.

**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.

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