

May 12, 2024

Ascension Sunday

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:

“The Head that Once Was Crowned with Thorns Is Crowned with Glory Now”

Alec Rowley

“Four Ascension Hymns”

Catherine McMichael

Crown Him with Many Crowns
O Worship the King
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own; awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified; no angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (11:00)

Cynthia Dobrinski

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own; awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 224

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

*The Greeting – concluded by the minister saying:

“Christ is risen!”

*The People's Response: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: 1 John 1:5-6

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

The Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, we long for fellowship with you. We want to walk as children of light. When we seek fellowship elsewhere, remind us that with you is fullness of joy. When walking in the shadows entices us, remind us that you are the light of life. Give us hearts that respond to the conviction of your Holy Spirit so that we may abide in you. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 John 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 730

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

We Celebrate God's Promises (11:00)

The Vows for Profession of Faith

Katherine Hoeksema

*Hymn of Dedication: Lift Up Your Hearts 682

“Before the Throne of God Above”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” (8:40)

Paul O. Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might be saved. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

Revelation 22. Adapted by P. O. M. Copyright © 1954 by Concordia Publishing House
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“Festival Sanctus” (11:00)

Cathy Molebust

Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isaiah 6:2-3)

The Offertory:

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

Dan Forrest

“...and crown him Lord of all!”

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: Acts 1:1-11(p.1689)

The Sermon: **“THE PROMISE”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 470

“View the Present Through the Promise”

*The Affirmation: Come, Lord Jesus
With the whole creation we join the song:
“**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!**”
He has made us a kingdom of priests who serve our God, and we will reign on earth. God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish, everything will be made new, and every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God.
Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus! LUYH 484

*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:
“Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns” David Chewien

Rev. John Steigenga – minister emeritus

Erin Alley – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Dr. Rob Hobgood – duet pianist

Isabella and Penny Redder – violinists

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

Bells Jubilate, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)

Chad Boorsma & Remington Stuit – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

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

The liturgical season of Easter is the fifty days from Easter to Pentecost. The white, gold, and crystals used in the paraments and banners reflect the glory of the resurrection. Jesus Christ, the King of kings, has won the victory over sin and death!

Music at LaGrave (8:40): Organist and composer Paul Manz (1919-2009) was a luminary figure in American church music for much of his long life. He held posts at Lutheran churches in Chicago and Minnesota. Manz’s most notable choral piece is his anthem based on Revelation 22 (*E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*), paraphrased by his wife Ruth. It was written in 1953 at a time in which their son John was critically ill. Knowing the severity of his condition, they committed all to God and said, “Lord Jesus, quickly come.” Their son survived and the Manz’s attributed his recovery to the power of prayer.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **William Stroo, Tom and Heidi Glover, Hannah Glover, Hillary and Dirk Tanis, and Dirk and Maria Glover**, in loving memory of **Marilyn Stroo**, wife, mother, and grandmother. Today, on Mother's Day, make sure you tell the women that are important to you how much you appreciate and love them. Prov. 31:30.

The May special offering is for **Safe Haven Ministries**. Safe Haven Ministries is a shelter providing counseling, support groups, case management and legal advocacy for domestically abused women and children.

This evening, Dr. Laura Smit will preach. Her sermon is “God in Your Midst” from Zephaniah 3:8-10 and Colossians 3:1-10.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live