

July 28, 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 10:00 AM

Please prepare your heart and mind for worship with a time of prayer and meditation.

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
“Now the Silence”

Leo Sowerby
Charles Ore

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Adore and Quiet Be”

Charles Gounod

From heaven above to earth descending, the peace of God be with you now! O Love Divine! Mysterious Presence, now adore, my soul, and quiet be.

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 565
“God Himself Is with Us”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: James 1:17-27

The Prayer of Confession

Gracious and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sin. Forgive us for being too busy to notice the needs in the hurting world that surrounds us, the world that begins at our doorsteps. Equip us to be patient and compassionate listeners, proclaiming the gospel not in overbearing ways with impatient speech but sensitively and lovingly. Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to be fruitful and active witnesses to Jesus in all we do and say. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 103:8-12

*The Hymn of Commitment: Worship & Rejoice 477
“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Now the Silence”

Carl. F. Schalk

Now the silence, now the peace, now the empty hands uplifted. Now the kneeling, now the plea, now the Father's arms in welcome. Now the hearing, now the power, now the vessel brimmed for pouring. Now the body, now the blood, now the joyful celebration. Now the wedding, now the songs, now the heart forgiven leaping. Now the Spirit's visitation, now the Son's epiphany, now the Father's blessing. Now, now, now.

Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1968. ©1969 Hope Publishing Co.
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The Offertory:

“God Himself Is with Us”

Piet Kee, Roberta Bitgood

God is in his temple; all within keep silence,
prostrate lie with deepest reverence.

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.**

The Children's Message

God Speaks to Us

The Sung Prayer for Illumination: Worship & Rejoice 480:2
“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

The Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5 (p.1);
Ecclesiastes 3:1,7b (p. 1038)

The Sermon: **“A RHYTHM AS OLD AS THE WORLD”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Respond with Praise

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 821
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*The Benediction

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

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:
“Procesión Alegre”

Garry A. Cornell

Rev. Dr. Neal Plantinga – guest minister
Erin Alley – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Kathryn Becksvoort – vocalist
Joellah & Joel Bouwman – Cross and Bible Bearers

Rev. Dr. Cornelius Plantinga Jr. is the former president of Calvin Theological Seminary, and before that served as the Dean of the Chapel at Calvin University. Neal currently works with the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship.

Ordinary Time, the longest liturgical season, is a time of spiritual growth. The banners are hung in the diptych form but instead of being attached together they are side by side yet separated. Both the banners and paraments reflect concepts from Isaiah 12:2-3. We come to know the Lord more deeply as our strength and our salvation. With joy we grow spiritually by being rooted in God's word.

Music at LaGrave:

Born to Czechoslovakian parents, Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919-2008) was an American hymnist associated with the Lutheran Church. He was an ordained minister and served churches in Pennsylvania and Indiana. His hymn texts have found their way into many hymnals. His 1968 hymn *Now the Silence* is a unique, one-stanza hymn which lists several of the elements of worship: silence, speech, kneeling, welcome, hearing the Word, communion, celebration, singing, forgiveness, the presence of the Spirit, and the Father's blessing.

The July special offering is for Westminster Food Pantry.

The downtown food pantry provides an emergency supply of food and personal care items to people in need while also promoting self-sufficiency through referrals and education.

This evening, Erin Alley will preach on 1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-21. Her sermon is titled "The Lamp of God."