

August 18, 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:

“Allemande, from *Unaccompanied Cello Suite No. 4*”

Johann Sebastian Bach

“In the Half-Light”

William Lloyd Webber

“Andante”

Gabriel Fauré

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Speak, O Lord”

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word; take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the Light of Christ may be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Words (SPEAK, O LORD 8.10.8.10.10.10.8.9): Keith Getty, Stuart Townend ©2006 Thankyou Music, admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com (excl. Europe admin. by Kingswaysongs) Used with permission under CCLI#461624

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 21

“This Is My Father's World”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: 1 Corinthians 3:1-4

The Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

You made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you.

But, as mere human beings, our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete.

Day by day, we rely on ourselves instead of relying on you.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us for trusting ourselves more than you.

May we remember, today and every day, that you are God and that all is yours.

Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 Corinthians 3:5-6, 21-23

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 23

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Missionary Moment – Emily DeRuiter

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“O Love”

Elaine Hagenberg

O love, that will not let me go, O love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O joy, that seeks me through the pain, O joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be. O Love, that will not let me go.

The Offertory:

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Richard A. Nichols

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 Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:6-22 (p. 1853)

The Sermon: “**LAST LETTER**”

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go Out to Serve

*The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 660

“Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer”

*The Benediction

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

*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Sortie (Postlude)”

César Franck

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rachel Thorne – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Christina Leigh Stephenson – cellist

Women's Chorus, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director

Albert Doorn & Olivia Alcumbrack – Cross and Bible Bearers

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:

Elaine Hagenberg's music is performed around the world and has become popular among professional, academic, and church choirs. Her music "soars with eloquence and ingenuity." Her setting of George Matheson's hymn *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* displays that eloquence with beautiful melodic lines, and an elegant piano and cello accompaniment. Matheson (1842-1906) suffered complete blindness at age 18, yet became a minister in the Church of Scotland. He wrote this text the day of his sister's wedding when severe mental suffering overcame him.

The August special offering is for Home Repair Services.

Home Repair Services provides lower income families housing support, home repairs, financial counseling and home maintenance education and classes.

This evening, Rev. Jonker will preach on Matthew 14:22-33, the story where Jesus walks on water and Peter tries to follow him.