

## September 15, 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 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:

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

Randall Thompson, Craig Phillips

“...He fills your needs to fullest measure with what discerning love has sent.”

“We Praise You, O God”

Matthew H. Corl

“...when perils o’ertake us, you never forsake us, and with your help,  
O Lord, our battles we win.”

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“All on Earth and All in Heaven”

*All on earth and all in heaven raise to God a song on high; strength unmeasured, love unbounded, God alone we glorify. At God's voice the clouds assemble, thunder roars, and torrents fall; earth shall quake before God's presence, mountains tremble at God's call.*

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\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 2

“O Worship the King”

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

### *We Approach God with Penitence*

The Call to Confession: Jeremiah 17:5-6

The Prayer of Confession:

We come to you today, Lord, as people who have fallen short. We have put our hope and strength in mere flesh. We have trusted ourselves more than we have trusted you. In the quiet of this moment, we name before you the sins of our hearts and minds.

*(A time of silence)*

Hear us as we confess:

**Have mercy, O God, in your loving-kindness,  
in your compassion blot out my offenses.  
Thoroughly wash me from my evildoing;  
from my sin cleanse me.**

We come to you today, Lord, as people who have fallen short. We have sung praises for our own actions and deeds, rather than singing praises to you. We have become prideful rather than humbling ourselves before you. In the quiet of this moment, may we turn our hearts back to you.

*(A time of silence)*

Hear us as we sing:

**Open my lips, Lord, help me sing your praises.  
Burnt sacrifices offer you no pleasure,  
but you will not scorn humble, contrite spirits:  
such will you welcome.**

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The Assurance of Pardon: Ephesians 3:20-21

\*The Hymn of Assurance: Lift Up Your Hearts 356

“Fill Thou My Life, O Lord My God”

### *We Respond with Thanksgiving*

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“The Lord Is My Light” (8:40)

Craig Courtney

*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me, when adversaries attack me, they stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, though war break out against me, my heart will not fear. One thing I ask, one thing I seek of the Lord: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will hide me in his dwelling, and he will set me high upon a rock. Then shall my head be exalted above my enemies round about me; I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.*

Psalms 27:1-6

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” (11:00)

Alfred V. Fedak

*O Love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy, that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake.*

*For us baptized, for us he bore his holy fast and hungered sore. For us temptations sharp he knew, for us the tempter overthrew.*

*For us to evil pow'r betrayed, scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed. He bore the shameful cross and death; for us gave up his dying breath.*

*For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign; for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to comfort and to cheer.*

The Offertory:

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

Robert Elmore

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 Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 20-29, 34-50 (p. 442)

The Sermon: **“DAVID, GOLIATH, & THE LIVING GOD”**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

### *We Respond with Praise*

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 193:1,2,3,5

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Organ Amen (8:40)

\*The Choral Amen (11:00)

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You” Johann Ludwig Krebs

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rachel Thorne – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Aaron Polet – vocalist

Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)

Linda & Dan Slotsema – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Dee DeKryger & Joyce Jeltema – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

**Aaron Polet** teaches vocal music at Spring Lake Public School, has music degrees from Calvin University and Michigan State University, sings in the Calvin Alumni Choir and VoxGR, serves on the Michigan ACDA board, and lives in Grand Rapids with his wife Rebecca and their son, Elias. We welcome Aaron and ask God’s blessing on his music ministry.

**Ordinary Time**, the liturgical season of spiritual growth, continues until Advent. Notice the liturgical colors for Ordinary Time, blue and green, are now lighter and changing in color. Along with the addition of texture, they symbolize elements of growth and the passage of time. As we continue through this time, reflect on these concepts from 2 Peter 3: 17-18. We are encouraged to continue our growth in the knowledge of our Lord, Jesus Christ and experience his grace. As we do, we will be prepared to face life’s challenges and remain firm in our faith.

#### **Music at LaGrave (11:00)**

Hope College alumnus Alfred Fedak has composed a significant amount of sacred choral and organ music. His anthem set to the words of 15<sup>th</sup>-century Dutch/German canon and author Thomas à Kempis reminds us of the unmeasurable love of God. Each stanza is composed to reflect the mood of the text. Listen for the strong dissonance in verse four recounting Christ’s suffering and crucifixion. A new tune in a major key is introduced in the final two stanzas, reflecting the texts of resurrection and doxology.

**The flowers on the chancel today** are in celebration of **Rev. Gerald Paul Vander Hart’s 90th birthday.**

**The September special offering** is for the **Pregnancy Resource Center.** Services include abstinence education, testing, prayer, consultation, information about pregnancy/birth control/adoption, and the distribution of food/formula/diapers/baby clothes.

**This evening,** Chad Boorsma will preach a series of meditations on the theme of "Praying Like Paul." We will consider some of Paul's recorded prayers in Ephesians, Colossians, and 2 Thessalonians as we think about how they can impact our own prayer life.