

December 22, 2024

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
Family Carol Sing*

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.*

“CHAPTER AND VERSE: CHRISTMAS IN TEXT, POETRY, AND SONG”

The Prelude:

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

French Processional, 15th-Century

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Polish Carol

“The Holly and the Ivy”

English Carol

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Henry Smart

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship

*The Opening Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 76:1-3
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

A SHOOT SPRINGS UP

The Reading:

Isaiah 11:1-4 (p. 1077)

John Watson

The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 79:1-3
“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

A PROPHET’S MESSAGE

The Reading:

“The Coming”

Char Gelderloos

R. S. Thomas

*The Carol Lift Up Your Hearts 70
“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

A MOTHER’S SONG

The Reading:

“A New Ordering of Things”

Luke 1:51-55 (p. 1592)

Claude Bos

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 383
“My Spirit Glorifies the Lord”

A SHEPHERD’S STAFF

The Reading:

Luke 2:8-14 (p. 1593)

Seth Ondersma

*The Carol: ***Worship & Rejoice 228:1-4***
“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

THE ANGELS’ SINGING

The Reading:

“A Son Given by God”

Lisa Snapper

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Carol Lift Up Your Hearts 82
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

THE HUMBLE TOWN

The Reading:

Luke 2:1-7 (p. 1593)

Collins Veldkamp

*The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 88
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

A MANGER BED

The Reading:

“The Lamb Was Bleating Softly”

Jaun Ramon Jimenez

The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 86
“Away in a Manger”

THE MAGI GIFTS

The Reading:

Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 1501)

Olivia Ackerman

The Carol: ***Worship & Rejoice 233***
“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

A RAGING KING

The Reading:

Matthew 2:13-18 (p. 1502)

Marc Hoeksema

*The Carol:

“Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child”

**1. Lullay, thou little tiny Child, by, by, lully, lullay;
lullay, thou little tiny Child, by, by, lully, lullay.**

**2. O sisters, too, how may we do, for to preserve this
day; this poor Youngling for whom we sing, by,
by, lully, lullay.**

**3. Herod the king, in his raging, charged he hath
this day; his men of might, in his own sight, all
children young, to slay.**

**4. Then woe is me, poor Child, for thee, and ever
mourn and say; for thy parting nor say nor sing,
by, by, lully, lullay.**

A RECONCILING KING

The Reading:

“An Excerpt from Sermon on the Nativity”

John Chrysostom

*The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 95
“What Child Is This”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Felix Mendelssohn; adapt. William H. Cummings

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

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

The LaGrave Orchestra, Dr. Rob Hobgood – conductor

Mia Ackerman, René Baatenburg, Ruth Bylsma, Laura Muresan,

Amber Schaap, Laura Sutherland, Rachel VanWingerden,

Lydia Wodarek – flute

Connor Borgman, Orin Gelderloos, Sarah Horton, Natalie Oosterhouse –
clarinet

Andrea Oosterhouse, Alanna Rynders – oboe

Ella Busscher, Mary Worst – alto saxophone

Becky Rhoda – bassoon

Karel de Waal Malefyt, Alisha Doezema, Norah Hollenbach,

Preston Hollenbach, Tess Oppenhuizen, Emily Redder, Isabella Redder,

Penny Redder, Audrey Schaap, Bennett Snapper, Barbara Swinehart,

Justin Triemstra, Maddox Veldkamp – violin

Zander Elenbaas, Polly Slotsema, Patricia Stephenson – viola

Anneka Bos, Zach Kruyf, Ethan Snapper, Isaac Snapper,

Christina Leigh Stephenson – cello

Joellah Bouwman, Micah Manion, Bob Otte – trumpet

Joel Bouwman, Jonathah Bouwman, Leah Bouwman, Susan McMartin,

Jacob Oosterhouse – french horn

Leah Nagel, Keegan Liles, Ike Schaap – trombone

Donna Bakker, Peter Jouvstra, Nick Rozema – euphonium

Gord Bylsma, Andy Kamper, Rich Postma – tuba

Perrin Rynders, Debra Vogel – timpani & percussion

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

The Advent banners and parament reflect the message from Isaiah 9:6, “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.” In Advent we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus, the light of the world, breaks through the world’s darkness with his glory bringing to us the light of salvation. **The Advent Wreath** is a circle which reminds us of God who is eternal with no beginning and no end. The four ring candles represent the light of God coming into the world. They also represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent. The pink candle symbolizes the joy of the eminent coming of the Christ. The white, center candle is the Christ candle. It reminds us that the incarnation is the heart of the

Christmas season. Jesus, the light of the world, comes into the darkness of our lives and brings new life and hope.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of **Rev. Herman Keizer** from his wife, **Ardis Keizer**. Seven years ago Herman met his Savior whose name he proclaimed all his days.

The December special offering is for **Camp Tall Turf**. Camp Tall Turf is a 40-year-old Christian camp offering leadership training and mentoring for inner city and greater Grand Rapids youth.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live