

**January 19, 2025**

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:

“Sheep May Safely Graze”

J.S. Bach; arr. Virgil Fox

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

Aaron David Miller

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Jesus Loves the Little Children,” from *Jesus and the Children* (8:40)

arr. Cathy Moklebust

“O Come, Ye Servants of the Lord” (11:00)

Christopher Tye

*O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name, from early morn to setting sun, his might on earth proclaim. His laws are just, and glad the heart; he makes his mercies known. Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before his throne.*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 109

“Hail to the Lord's Anointed”

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

### ***We Humbly Approach God***

The Call to Confession: Philippians 2:1-8

The Prayer of Confession:

Lord, you showed us true humility by becoming one of us, **yet too often we are selfish and practice pride.**

You had compassion on those who were weak, sick, or cast out,

**yet too often we focus on our own interests rather than on the interests of others.**

You freely made yourself nothing, taking on the nature of a servant,

**yet too often we fail to serve those around us.**

Forgive us, Lord, and help us to have the same mindset as you.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Romans 6:1-5

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 334:1-4

“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

### ***We Respond with Thanksgiving***

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“Jesus Loves Me,” from *Jesus and the Children* (8:40)

arr. Cathy Moklebust

Jesus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying “Let them come to me.”  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

“Children of the Heavenly Father” (11:00)

arr. Mack Wilberg

*Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.*

*God his own doth tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish. From all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.*

*Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever; unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.*

*Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh; his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy. Amen.*

The Offertory:

“The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want”

Charles Ore, Dale Wood

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: Matthew 18:1-5 (p.1530)

The Sermon: **“THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD:  
GOD OF THE VULNERABLE”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

### ***We Go in His Peace***

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 590:1,2,4,5,7,8

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*Stanza 5 Women and Girls*

*Stanza 7 Men and Boys*

\*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:

“The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want”

Larry Visser

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rachel Thorne – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Bells Jubilate, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)

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

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

Marlene Padding & Joyce Jeltema – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

**Epiphany is the liturgical season from Christmastide to Lent.** During this time we focus on Jesus Christ, the Savior, who is the manifestation of God's light in our dark and sin-filled world. As we grow in knowledge of God's redemptive

acts through Jesus Christ, we are called to respond by bringing the light of the gospel to our neighbors and the world. These concepts are reflected in the symbol of the Trinity and the gold and white colors used in the banners and paraments.

**Music at LaGrave (11:00):** Carolina Sandell Berg was Sweden's greatest hymn text writer in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As a child, she was bedridden with paralysis, but experienced a miraculous healing and went on to write several hymns of trust in God's loving power. The consoling text of *Children of the Heavenly Father* is just one example of her creative work. Mack Wilberg, music director at Utah's Mormon Tabernacle, heightens Carolina's text through a beautiful and contemplative anthem of peace and consolation.

**The flowers on the chancel** today are given in loving memory of our dear mom, mother-in-law, sister and grandmother, **Linda Nagel**. She entered into glory six years ago this month. *The Nagel Family*

**The January special offering** is for **Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF)** which provides housing opportunities, home ownership counseling, home repairs and maintenance for families who otherwise cannot afford a home.

This evening, **Rev. Bob Arbogast** will preach on Luke 3:15-23 and his sermon is titled "Jesus Repents."

Livestreaming worship is available at [lagrave.org/live](http://lagrave.org/live)