

**January 5, 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:

“How Bright Appears the Morning Star”

Dietrich Buxtehude, David Bednall

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“All Beautiful the March of Days” (8:40)

*All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and go; the hand that shaped the rose hath wrought the crystal of the snow, hath sent the hoary frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed, and laid a silent loveliness on hill and wood and field.*

*O thou from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty flows, thyself the vision passing by in crystal and in rose, day unto day doth utter speech, and night to night proclaim, in ever-changing words of light, the wonder of thy name.*

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (11:00)

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 557

“O God Beyond All Praising”

\*The Greeting

\*The People's Response: Amen.

The Welcome

***We Humbly Approach God***

The Call to Confession: Deuteronomy 6:4-6, 13-15

The Prayer of Confession:

**God of love, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you. Our hearts have turned away from you because we have made idols of possessions and people. Our eyes have turned away from you because we have permitted our schedules and the demands of this world to come first. And our minds have turned away from you because our focus has been on worldly things rather than on you. Forgive us, Lord, for losing sight of you and turn our hearts and minds back to you. Amen.**

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 103:8-13

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 859

“Be Thou My Vision”

The Celebration of Table Fellowship (8:40)

Evelyn Holford

Caleb VandenBerg

Mason VandenBerg

Analeigh VandenBerg

Autumn VandenBerg

The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 543:1 (8:40)

“Now Thank We All Our God”

***We Respond with Thanksgiving***

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright?” (8:40)

Howard Helvey

*What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light? 'Tis sent to announce a newborn King, glad tidings of our God to bring.*

*'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, “From Jacob shall a star proceed;” and lo! the eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.*

*While outward signs the star displays an inward light the Lord conveys and urges them, with tender might, to seek the Giver of the light.*

*O Jesus, fount of boundless grace, your star calls us to seek your face; prepare our hearts to fully shine, and share your light and love divine.*

“Thee Will I Love, My Strength” (11:00)

J. B. König

*Thee will I love, my strength, my tower; thee will I love, my joy, my crown! Thee will I love with all my power, in all thy works, and thee alone; thee will I love, till the pure fire fills all my soul with chaste desire.*

*I thank thee, uncreated sun, that thy bright beams on me have shined; I thank thee, who hast overthrown my foes and healed my wounded mind; I thank thee, whose enlivening voice bids my freed heart in thee rejoice.*

*Uphold me in the doubtful race, nor suffer me again to stray; strengthen my feet with steady pace still to press forward in thy way, that all my powers, with all their might, in thy sole glory may unite.*

*Thee will I love, my joy, my crown; thee will I love, beneath thy frown or smile, thy scepter or thy rod. What though my flesh and heart decay? Thee shall I love in endless day!*

The Offertory:

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Dan Forrest

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: John 2:13-22 (p.1649)

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

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

## *We Go in His Peace*

\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 618  
“Spirit of God, Who Dwells Within My Heart”

\*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:  
“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

Wane L. Wold

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Rachel Thorne – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist

Dr. Rob Hobgood – pianist

Jason Reiffer – vocalist (8:40)

Melissa Reiffer – violinist (8:40)

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

Sheryl VanEck & Chad Boorsma – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Olivia Alcumbrack & Celine Alcumbrack – 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 our knowledge of God’s redemptive acts through Jesus Christ, we are called to respond by bringing the light of the gospel to our neighborhoods 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 (8:40)**

Charles Coffin, in his 1736 hymn text *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright?*, recounts the fulfillment of the prophecy “From Jacob shall a star proceed” (Num. 24:17), the visit of the Magi to the newborn King, and calls us to follow the star, seek Christ’s face, and let our lives shine with God’s love. This Epiphany carol is set to music by American composer Howard Helvey, who includes a beautiful violin part which plays the main theme of the vocal solo throughout the anthem.

**The flowers on the chancel today** are given by **Marge Hoogeboom**, in loving memory of my husband **Tom Hoogeboom**, who the Lord blessed me with for 53 years of marriage.

**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. Jonker will preach on** John 3:1-9, 16:12-14. His sermon is titled “The Life of the Spirit.”

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