

February 23, 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:

“Cantabile”

César Franck

“When Jesus Wept”

Charles Callahan

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“What Wondrous Love Is This?” (8:40)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM — while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

“What Wondrous Love Is This?” (11:00)

Anna Laura Page

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 672:1,2,3,5

“O Come, My Soul, Sing Praise to God”

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: Colossians 3:12-14

The Prayer of Confession

Father, thank you that we are your chosen people, holy and dearly loved by you.

Yet despite your love for us, we confess that we don't always love you or others as you call us to do.

Forgive us for our lack of compassion and kindness, our lack of humility and gentleness, and our lack of patience and forgiveness.

Show us your mercy, Lord, and empower us to live as your examples.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: from Psalm 86

Among the gods, there is none like you, Lord;

no deeds can compare with yours.

For you, Lord, are forgiving and good,

gracious and compassionate,

slow to anger,

and abounding in love and faithfulness.

*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 127

“Jesus Heard with Deep Compassion”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

The Pastoral Prayer

Prayer will include this response from Psalm 145:8

You, Lord, are gracious and compassionate,

slow to anger and rich in love.

The Anthem:

“When Jesus Wept” (8:40)

William Billings, arr. Gwyneth Walker

When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound. When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around. My Son, my Son, my only Son, the falling tear in mercy flowed, in mercy flowed beyond all bound. My Son, my only Son, the falling tear.

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (11:00)

Dan Goeller; transcribed by Kimberlee Strepka

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

The Offering

The Offertory:

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Matthew H. Corl

*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: Luke 19:41-44 (p.1634)

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

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 568:1,2,4

“I Will Sing of My Redeemer”

*The Benediction

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

*The Choral Amen (8:40)

*The Organ Amen (11:00)

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Praeludium in C Minor”

Vincent Lübeck

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Chad Boorsma – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (8:40)
Linda Hoisington – pianist (8:40)
Deb Vogel – timpanist (8:40)
Bells Jubilate, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director (11:00)
Alanna Rynders – oboist (11:00)
Jonathah Bouwman – French horn (11:00)
Deb Vogel – timpanist (11:00)
Jacob Vogel – percussionist (11:00)
Dan & Linda Slotsema – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)
Brad and Ruby VanHaitsma – 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: (8:40)

Based on a tune by the 18th century American composer William Billings, *When Jesus Wept* is a unique anthem combining drones, imitative and antiphonal choral parts, cluster chords, piano and timpani, all evoking the agony of Christ’s suffering on the cross. Twice, the music swells into a strong climax at the words “My Son, my only Son.” In the final measures of the anthem, each section of the choir sings a falling melodic line symbolizing Christ’s “falling tear” of suffering and the piece fades away in unresolved dissonance.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of **Terry Hoeksema**, who passed away one year ago on February 14. Loved by his wife **Joyce, children, grandchildren** and many friends.

The February special offering is for **Wedgwood Christian Services**, which provides social services and treatment to meet the needs of hurting children, youth and families in the community who are struggling with a wide range of issues.

This evening, Pastor Jonker will preach on John 14:1-7.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live