



# Morning Worship

March 30, 2025 | 8:40 and 11:00 a.m.

[www.lagrave.org](http://www.lagrave.org)

# Order Of Worship

Morning Worship | 8:40 & 11:00 AM

Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship with a  
time of prayer and meditation

Welcome to worship at LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church.

Please follow this order of worship carefully as worship proceeds without announcement. There are **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 you are here.

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## God Calls Us to Worship

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The Prelude:

“Chorale Prelude and Fugue on *O Darkest Woe, O Heart’s Pain*”

Johannes Brahms

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Johannes Brahms

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Merciful God” (8:40)

Tony E. Alonso

*Gather your people, merciful God, gather the longing, the lost, the unsure. Gather your people, merciful God, name us and claim us as yours. Surely, you alone uphold us. You give us strength for all our needs. Shielding with a father’s favor, you bless us with pardon and peace.*

*Feed us and guide us, merciful God: Light, when the shadows of life cloud our view. Feed us and guide us, merciful God, people who hunger for you.*

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“Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land” (11:00)

*African American Spiritual*

*Refrain: Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in time of storm. No one can do like Jesus, not a mumbling word he said; he went walking down to Lazarus’ grave, and he raised him from the dead. (Refrain)*

*When Jesus was on earth, the flesh was very weak; he took a towel and girded himself, and he washed his disciples’ feet. (Refrain)*

*Yonder comes my Savior, him whom I love so well; he has the palm of victory and the keys of death and hell. (Refrain)*

\*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 137  
"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

\*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

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## We Humbly Approach God

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The Call to Confession: Ephesians 4:22-28

The Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God, in lavish creativity you made this world.

**You formed us fearfully and wonderfully.**

You scrawled your signature over us

**and appointed us stewards of resources and relationships.**

**All we have is yours, Lord; and all we are is yours.**

When we worry if there is enough

or take more than we need;

**when we withhold our energy and time,**

**or unjustly stockpile our things,**

**turn our hearts toward generosity.**

Root us again in your superabundance,

for you have loved us long, and your love knows no end.

*A time of silence*

*Prayer ends with sung response below*

*(translation: "Lord, have mercy")*

The image shows a musical score for the Kyrie eleison response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line is written in a soprano or alto clef, and the piano accompaniment is in a bass clef. The lyrics are: "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son." The first system covers the first two phrases, and the second system covers the second phrase with a long note on "son." followed by a rest.

The Assurance of Forgiveness: John 10:7-10

\*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 164:1,2,3  
"What Wondrous Love"

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## We Respond with Thanksgiving

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The Children's Message

The Reaffirmation of Faith (11:00)

*Kris Andrus*  
*Julie Farmer*

\*The Apostles' Creed: (11:00)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended to heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the  
Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*The Gloria Patri: Lift Up Your Hearts 961 (11:00)

"Glory Be to the Father"

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

“And Can It Be?” (8:40)

Dan Forrest

*And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be? And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me who caused his pain? For me who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

*He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace; emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race; 'tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?*

*No condemnation now I dread, Jesus and all in him is mine! Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. Amazing love, how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love!*

“Let All the People Praise!” (11:00)

Craig Courtney

*Refrain: Sing praise to the Father, sing praise to the Son, sing praise to the Spirit, our God, Three in One. Let all the people praise the name of the Lord.*

*All voices and instruments praising together; the people are many, the body is one. In singing and dancing, in writing and painting; one in the Spirit, the old and the young. (Refrain)*

*The Lord has been faithful to all generations, walking beside us through smoke and through flame. In sunshine and shadow, protecting, providing; in all times and seasons, ever the same!*

*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home! (Refrain)*

Based on Psalm 148. Words: Susan Bentall Boersma  
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The Offering

The Offertory:

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

\*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.**

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God Speaks to Us

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The Scripture: Exodus 20:15 (p.117), Ephesians 4:28 (p.1819)

\*The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 716  
"Love God with All Your Soul and Strength"

The Sermon: ***"The Shape of Love:  
You Shall Not Steal"***

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

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## We Go in His Peace

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\*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 863:1,2,4,5,6  
"Take My Life and Let It Be"

\*The Benediction

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

\*The Organ Amen

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

Jacobus Kloppers

"Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you."

Rev. Peter Jonker .....minister

Rev. Kristy Manion ..... liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser .....organist, pianist

Women's Trio (8:40)

Kathryn Becksvoort, Becky Rhoda—soprano, Jess Hollenbach—alto

Dr. Rob Hobgood ..... accompanist (8:40)

4-year-old—2nd Grade Choir, Jess Hollenbach..... director

Kathryn Becksvoort.....vocal soloist (11:00)

Clara Kruyf.....vocal soloist (11:00)

Rachel Scholten ..... accompanist (11:00)

Chancel Choir, 7-12 Grade Choir, 3-6 Grade Choir, Bells Jubilate,

Dr. Rob Hobgood .....director (11:00)

Jake & Molly Versluis ..... Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)

Becca & Ellie VandeGriend..... Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

**Lent** is the liturgical season beginning with Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. The ash-permeated sackcloth reminds us of our human mortality and our need for repentance and reconciliation with God. The ash sackcloth against the royal purple cloth symbolizes the suffering and sorrow that Jesus the King bore for the sin in our broken world and our own lives.

**Music at LaGrave: (11:00):** Hope College graduate Susan Bentall Boersma is a published sacred lyricist who has collaborated with several prominent choral composers. *Let All the People Praise!*, her paraphrase of Psalm 148, is a collaborative work with Craig Courtney. Combining children's and youth choirs, adult choir, handbells, and piano, this festive piece is a celebration of all generations praising the God who is the same forever. The hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* is also inserted into the anthem, a paraphrase of Psalm 90.

**The March special offering is for God's Kitchen.** God's Kitchen is part of Catholic Charities under the Diocese of Grand Rapids. They served over 175,000 meals to people downtown Grand Rapids last year.

**This evening,** Pastor Jonker will preach on Matthew 18:15-20.

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

# Today

**2 & 3s, Children's Worship, nursery will be provided today.**

There will be **no Children's Worship** (4-year-olds-2nd grade) on April 6.

**MSYG/CREW (6th - 12th grade): Both MSYG and CREW** meet tonight at Rebounderz from 5pm - 7pm. Drop off and pick up is at Rebounderz. Both groups are off next week Sunday, April 6, due to Spring Break.



The  
**Ten O'Clock Hour**  
Growing in Fellowship and Faith Formation

The Ten O'clock Hour is a time between morning services that LaGrave Members are able to gather together to grow in fellowship and faith formation.

**Opportunities this week:**

- Nursery offered for ages 0-3 in the 2/3s room
- Church School for grades 3-12: upstairs classrooms
- Littles Choir for ages 4-2nd grade, lower level Jr. Choir room
- Coffee and Fellowship: MPR
- Back Story Lenten discussion: lower level meeting room
- Book discussion on *The Great Divorce* by CS Lewis: Lower Level, Council Room

**Jesus' Journey to the Cross:** The artwork of Scott Erickson, is in the church sanctuary. Each of the twelve stylistic pieces is constructed using signs and symbols that represent a concept or event in Jesus' journey to the cross. Each piece encourages you to reflect on what Jesus endured to accomplish your



redemption. Then, consider the peace that is yours because Jesus has paid for all your sin. The installation begins in the back of the sanctuary on the LaGrave side and continues around to the parking lot side. A meditation guide is available in the wall box by the piece numbered I (one). This art installation is open weekdays during church office hours, Sundays before & after each church service, and Wednesdays during evening event hours. You're invited to use this installation to deepen your spiritual journey this Lenten season.

**Easter Flower Donations:** Every year we are grateful for the donations that so many of you have made for Easter Sunday. It is a beautiful visual reminder of rebirth and resurrection. Please note the choices:

1. 6" Hydrangeas Blue or Pink: \$27
2. 6" pot of tulips: \$15
3. 6" pot of daffodils: \$15
4. Single stem Easter lily: \$15
5. Double stem Easter lily: \$29

Your flower orders need to be placed with the church office no later than Friday, April 4. Either call the office or email Marie, [mjansen@lagrave.org](mailto:mjansen@lagrave.org) to let us know what flower and whose memory you would like to honor. You can take your flowers home on Easter after the 11:00 service or by the following Wednesday at the latest.

**Easter Flower Help:** If you or someone you know would like to order memorial flowers for Easter morning, but can't afford the cost, please contact the church office. Thank you!

**The Loeks Advisory Committee (LAC):** is accepting proposals for the care of women on or before April 15. A proposal must be approved by the appropriate standing committee before it reaches LAC and the LaGrave Council has final approval prior to any release of funds. Proposals for funding from the Ruth Loeks Women's Care Fund must intentionally focus on the care

of women. Further guidelines can be found on the application, which is on the church website, [www.lagrave.org](http://www.lagrave.org). Questions? Contact Kara VerMeulen at 616-581-6293 [karavermeulen@hotmail.com](mailto:karavermeulen@hotmail.com).

**Christian Summer Camp Support:** Do you wish you could send your child to a Christian summer camp, but the cost is challenging? The deacons may be able to assist with those camp fees. Contact your district deacon or Vicki Gelderloos at [gelderloosfam@mac.com](mailto:gelderloosfam@mac.com) for more information.

**The LaGrave Church Art Committee** is pleased to announce, **"Beauty is Everywhere"**: an art show by Connie Beale Kuhnle. The show runs until Sunday, May 4 in the Parlor. Award winning, local artist, Connie Beale Kuhnle conveys visual stories as portraits, still-lives, and landscapes. Beale Kuhnle expresses the beauty, character and truth in the life she discovers all around her; in the faces and character of the people she meets, in rural architecture and landscape, and simple objects. Beale Kuhnle studied fine art at MSU, and illustration at Kendall College of Art and Design.

# Upcoming Events



Scan the QR code to for more information or to sign-up

## Upcoming Worship:

**Next Sunday Morning** we will have a guest pastor. Reverend Scott Hoezee, the director for the Center for Excellence in Preaching at Calvin Seminary will lead us. He will preach on John 8:48-59 and his sermon title is "Who Do You Think You Are?"

**Next Sunday Evening** Chad Boorsma will lead worship, and we will have a "guest speaker" – Nicodemus, who will share his experiences as recorded in the gospel of John.

**Wednesday Night Programming:** Youth Outdoors and GEMS are off for the next 2 weeks due to Spring Break. We will resume on Wednesday, April 16. There will be NO grab 'n go for the next 2 weeks.

**Graduate survey:** If you or someone you know is graduating from 8th grade, 12th grade, or another degree program, please fill out the survey in the News & Opportunities email by Sunday, April 6. Contact Rachel Thorne if you have any questions.

**MercyMe Tickets:** If you signed up to go to the MercyMe concert, please bring payment and pick up your tickets from Rachel by Sunday, April 6. You can pick them up at church on Sunday mornings or during office hours on weekdays.

**Global Concerns Prayer Time:** Join us during the 10 o'clock hour **next week Sunday, April 6**, in the chapel for our monthly Global Concerns Prayer Time, which occurs each first Sunday of the month. We will pray for our missionaries, the

persecuted church, and worldwide concerns such as wars, injustice, and calamities.

LaGrave will host the **Raybrook Chapel Service** on Sunday, April 13, at 6:15 p.m. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper together, and Rev. John Steigenga will preach.

**Primers:** Signup today in the Multipurpose Room to attend the event at noon on Thursday, April 10, 2025. Our speaker will be Alissa Vanderkooi, the granddaughter of Henry Pestka, the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust. Alissa will trace Mr. Pestka's journey from four years in Auschwitz and other prison camps to Grand Rapids. She will also discuss the recent rise in antisemitism and the importance of Holocaust education. If you are unable to sign up for the luncheon, you are welcome to attend the presentation at 1:00pm. Hosts: Jack & Dottie Vande Gutche (616)209-2469 and Jim & Barb Boelkins (616)403-4031.

**All women of LaGrave:** Signups continue for the **floral arranging workshop** scheduled on **Saturday, April 19**. The 9:30 session is full; however, there are still spots open at 12:30. Thanks to the generous Loeks Fund, cost to create a beautiful centerpiece is \$10. Signup online today! Questions? Contact Cindy cbusscher@lagrave.org.

**Moms' Fellowship:** Join us on Friday, April 25 in the Library from 9:30-11am. Childcare will be available in the Nursery. We will also meet on Friday, May 16 at 9:30am. Any questions, please contact Alisha Doezema: alishadoezema@gmail.com

**Women's Book Club:** Please join us for the last meeting of the season on Monday, April 28 at 7:30pm in the Parlor to discuss the Wednesday Wars by Gary D Schmidt. Books are available at local libraries and Schuler Books.

## Save the Date

Want to plan further ahead? Make sure to mark these dates on your calendar!

**Advance Notice:** the Comfort and Care Team invites all Widowed Members of the church to a Cake and Ice Cream Hymn Sing that will take place on Thursday, April 24, at 2:00pm.

**LaGrave Night Out :** The next LaGrave Night Out is planned for **Thursday, May 1** at Condado Tacos at 449 Bridge St NW Grand Rapids. Anyone 21 & over are invited to enjoy dinner out, a beverage/apps, or simply drop by to say hi. This is a fun, casual time to meet new people while enjoying a night out. Questions? Contact Heidi 616-437-6830 or Cindy 616-481-7071.

# Calendar

## **Sunday, March 30**

Morning Worship .....	8:40 AM
10 O'clock hour .....	10:00 AM
Morning Worship .....	11:00 AM
Table Fellowship, room 200.....	11:15 AM
Bells Gloria.....	4:00 PM
Youth Choir,.....	4:40 PM
Evening Service .....	6:00 PM

## **Monday, March 31**

Executive Committee, Parlor .....	4:00 PM
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## **Tuesday, April 1**

Knitting Group, Parlor .....	1:15 PM
Bells Jubilate .....	6:15 PM
Comm. Engagement Search, Parlor .....	6:30 PM

## **Wednesday, April 2**

Men's Morning Bible Study, LL .....	8:00 AM.
Spiritual Journey Bible Study, LL.....	9:30 AM
Women's Mid Morning Study, Parlor.....	10:00 AM
Intercessory Prayer, Chapel .....	1:15 PM
Faith Journey Bible Study, Parlor.....	6:30 PM
GEMS Counselors, Council Room.....	6:30 PM
Chancel Choir .....	7:00 PM

## **Thursday, April 3**

Beth Moore & More Bible Study, Parlor...	9: 30 AM
Primers, MPR.....	12:00 PM

## **Friday, April 4**

Men's Bible Study .....	8:00 AM
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## **Assisting This Week: March 30**

### **Security:**

8:40: Justin Holford, Chris Weller

9:30: John Brandt

11:00: Loren Koeman, Ron Knoll

### **Greeters:**

8:40: Garry & Yvonne Ferwerda

11:00:

### **Ushers:**

8:40: Brad Post, Andrew Schimmel, Mike Schuitema

11:00: Matt Alcumbrack, Larry Bos, Marilyn Rottman,  
Dave Tornga.

6:00: Brad Schaap

## **Assisting Next Week: April 6**

### **Security:**

8:40: Zander Elenbaas, James VanHekken

9:30: Jon VanHekken

11:00: James VanHekken, Jon VanHekken

### **Greeters:**

8:40: Galen & Thelma Meyer

11:00: Bob & Linda Berkhof

### **Ushers:**

8:40: Peter Ackerman, Paul Stuit, James VanHekken,  
Sally Jonker

11:00: Matt Scholten, Jim Oppenhuizen, Jeff Scholtens

6:00: Pete Clover

# Prayer Concerns

## **We praise God for His faithfulness to:**

- **Iris June Albers, Adeline Joy Aleck, Jacob Dean Vandenberg and Janie Marie Velzen**, who received the sacrament of baptism last Sunday, March 23.

## **Let us faithfully pray for:**

- **Glenda Buteyn**, who is healing after back surgery on Tuesday, March 18.
- **Marsha Haan**, who continues receiving treatment for her cancer after receiving a good initial report.
- **Dirk Hollebeek**, twin brother of Matt Hollebeek, who was recently diagnosed with stage 4 liver and pancreatic cancer and is now receiving hospice care at home.
- **Mel Hugen**, who has moved to Raybrook nursing and is now receiving the services of hospice.
- **Helene Mitchell**, who was hospitalized for tests early this week and is now at Corewell Health-Leffingwell for rehab to gain strength.
- **Krista Schaafsma**, who had her knee manipulated under anesthesia on Thursday due to complications after knee replacement in early February.
- **Geri Tiggelman**, who will have total hip replacement surgery at Blodgett on Wednesday, April 2.
- **Bob VanWyk**, who has returned home after surgery and hospitalization for an infection in his knee.
- **George Zandt**, who has been hospitalized for several days with an undetermined illness.



## **We extend our Christian sympathy to:**

- **Skip & Mary Vandenberg**, in the death of Skip's father, Charles Vandenberg on Wednesday, March 19.

**As members of God's family**, remember those who face significant medical decisions, including those who need skilled end-of-life care.

### **Please pray for:**

**those receiving hospice services** – Rose Koning, Roger & Myrna Mulder, Bev Vandenberg, Bob VanderLey, Hank Zuiderveen

**those living with cancer** – Dan Beimers, Chris Hirt, Sherri Kanten, Jim Krol, Anita MacDonald (John Postmus' daughter), Beth Mulder, Sharon VanHouten, Jeanne Vandenberg, Barb Voskuil

**those with other continuing needs** – Sandy Buter, Sandra Destrempe, Rob Entingh, Marge Hoogeboom, Dan Hoogerhyde, Harris Kiekover, Rich & Mamuani Postma, Andy Tiggelman, Jim Vandenberg, Bill VanDyk, Paul Wright, Joyce Zwiers

**those actively serving in the military** – Blake Huizenga, Tim VanBeek

**Missionary of the Week: Steve & Jan Michmerhuizen**, who serve in Hungary and work with transformational networks for greater ministry impact. Thank God with them for the new believers baptized this past month by their partner in Romania, the Anchor Valley Church.

### **Thank You**

Thanks to the countless number at LaGrave who have provided encouragement, prayers and cards following my recent heart bypass surgery. I am now recovering at home, I am walking daily, and have not experienced setbacks. God is good. All the time. *Dave Baatenburg*

## **New Members**

**Jonathan Curlee**, who comes to LaGrave from Lakepoint Church, Dallas, TX.

**David & Sarah Gebben**, who transferred their membership from Church of the Servant, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Ted & Julie Oostendorp**, who come to LaGrave from Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, MI and Orchard Hill Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Conrad & Roberta VanHaitsma**, who transferred their membership from Discovery CRC, Grand Rapids, MI.

# Sermon Notes

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