March 9, 2025

The First Sunday of Lent

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:

"Priére á Notre-Dame," from *Suite Gothique* — Léon Boëllmann
Bryce Wick, organist

"Allemande," from *French Suite No. 4*, BWV 815
Julia Veldman, pianist — Johann Sebastian Bach

"Récit de Tierce en taille" — Nicolas de Grigny
Abe Hall, Organist

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

"Exultate Deo" — Giovannie Pierluigi da Palestrina

Exsultate Deo adjutori nostro Jubilate Deo Jacob, sumite psalmum et date tympanum, psalterium jucundum cum cithara, buccinate in neomenia tuba, insigni die solemnitatis vestrae

English translation:
Sing joyfully to God our strength; sing loud unto the God of Jacob!
Take the song, bring forth the timbrel, the pleasant harp, and the viol.
Blow the trumpet in the new moon, at the time appointed for our feast day.
Psalm 81:1-4

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 264:1,3,5,7
"Lift High the Cross"

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

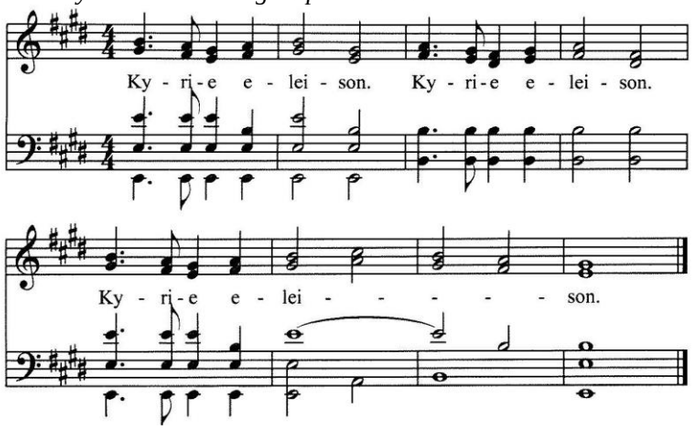
We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: 1 Peter 5:1-5

The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in this life it costs us to walk in humility, for the humble may be squashed and those who honor authorities may be mistreated.
Yet you, just and loving God,
are the ultimate Authority to whom all others answer.
So we honor your command to respect human authorities and the weight of responsibility they hold.
When our attitudes or actions toward parents; teachers; church and civic leaders are inappropriate,
forgive us.
Dispel the fear and pride that make us want to command our own lives.
And when human authorities act against your will for the good of those in their care,
give us—your people—wisdom and courage to respond as you would ask, promoting what is good when Christ and conscience demand.
Make our homes and communities sing with the harmonies of mutual respect.
We bow our heads to honor the One whose welcome of us lifts our hearts,
whose glory shines in the wounds of suffering love.

A time of silence
Prayer ends with sung response below



LUYH 635

The Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 84:11-12

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 221:1-4
"For the Honor of Our King"

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Blessing

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" — F. Melius Christiansen

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee; ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him. Alleluia!

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17 (p.116)

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

The Sermon: **"THE SECOND TABLE: HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER"**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 824:1,3,5
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

God Feeds Us at His Table

The Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
See Insert

During the passing of the bread and wine, the Dordt University Concert Choir will sing:

"O Sacrum Convivium" — Olivier Messiaen

O sacrum convivium, in quo Christus sumitur; recolitur memoria passionis ejus; mens impletur gratia; et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.

English translation:
O sacred banquet, wherein Christ is received; the memorial of his passion is renewed; the soul is filled with grace; and a pledge of future glory is given to us.

"Were You There" Traditional spiritual, arr. Kyle Pederson

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 175
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
stanza 3 a cappella
Congregation rises on the final stanza of this hymn.

(The thank-offerings for the General Fund & the Benevolence Fund will be received during this hymn.)

*The Benediction

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

*The Choral Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:
"Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543" Johann Sebastian Bach
Abe Hall, organist

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Rev. Kristy Manion – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist
Bryce Wick, Abe Hall – organists
Julia Veldman – pianist
Dordt University Concert Choir, Dr. Ryan Smit – director
Chad Boorsma & René Baatenburg – Cross and Bible Bearers (8:40)
Brad & Ruby VanHaitsma – Cross and Bible Bearers (11:00)

We welcome the Dordt University Concert Choir under the direction of Dr. Ryan Smit to worship this morning. The choir is currently on their spring tour throughout Iowa, Michigan, and Ontario, Canada. Dordt organ and piano students will also participate in the prelude and postlude.

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: The choir shares two communion anthems during the sacrament, one by French luminary Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) set to a Latin text from the traditional Roman Catholic church liturgy, and another by contemporary American composer Kyle Pederson, who arranged the traditional spiritual *Were You There?* These anthems draw us near to the cross and the passion of Christ as we are nourished at the table.

The flowers on the chancel today are dedicated to **Harry and Helen Boersma** in honor of their love and dedication to the Lord and their family. We miss them. **Matt and Jaclyn Alcumbrack Family**

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 13:33-35.

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live