



Morning Worship

August 24, 2025 | 10:00 a.m.

www.lagrave.org

Order of Worship

Morning Worship | 10:00 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.

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

Partita on "CRYSTAL" (By the Sea of Crystal)

Larry Visser

- I. Saints in Glory Stand
- II. Out of Tribulation
- III. The Sea of Crystal
- IV. The Jubilant Chorus
- V. King of Kings

"Shall We Gather at the River"

Robert Hobby

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

"Unto Him That Loved Us"

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood and
hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, unto him be glory
and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Rev. I: 5&6

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 483

"Come, We That Love the Lord"

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness: 1 John 1: 7-9

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 478: 1-3
“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!”

*The Affirmation of Faith:

Our hope for a new creation

is not tied to what humans can do,

**for we believe that one day every challenge
to God’s rule will be crushed.**

His kingdom will fully come, and the Lord will rule.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

We long for that day when our bodies are raised,
the Lord wipes away our tears,

and we dwell forever in the presence of God.

We will take our place in the new creation,

where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or
pain, and the Lord will be our light.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

On that day we will see our Savior face to face, sacrificed
Lamb and triumphant King, just and gracious.

He will set all things right, judge evil, and condemn the
wicked.

**We face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior,
whose shed blood declares us righteous.**

We live confidently, anticipating his coming,
offering him our daily lives—

our acts of kindness, our loyalty, and our love—

**knowing that he will weave even our sins and sorrows
into his sovereign purpose.**

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Our World Belongs to God Paragraphs 55-57

*The Response:

So when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, dominion to the Father and the Son, with the everliving Spirit while eternal ages run.

Lift Up Your Hearts 478: 4-5

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

"Deep River"

Spiritual; arr. Harry Burleigh

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace? Oh, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

The Offering

**Please sign and pass the Welcome Register found on the pew in the middle aisle*

The Offertory:

"Oh, What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be"

David Cherwien, Raymond H. Haan

*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.**

The Children's Message

God Speaks to Us

The Scripture: Revelation 21: 1-8, 22: 1-5 (p. 1937)

concluded with:

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon: **“Faith 101: The Last Things”**

The Anthem of Response:

“At the River”

Aaron Copland

Shall we gather by the river, where bright angels feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God. Yes we'll gather by the river, the beautiful river, gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease, soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

We Go in His Peace

*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 488

“Jerusalem the Golden”

*The Benediction

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

Richard Elliott

- Rev. Peter Jonker..... minister
- Rev. Stan Kruis liturgist
- Dr. Larry Visserorganist
- Karen Albertvocalist
- Dan & Julie Molenbeek..... Cross and Bible Bearers

Karen Albert regularly sings with orchestras, ensembles, and in concert series and churches throughout the region. In addition to her work as a soloist, Karen also teaches voice at Calvin University and is an active church musician. This fall, she will begin a new role as Choral Resident at Park Church. We welcome Karen to worship this morning.

Ordinary Time, the longest liturgical season, is a time of spiritual growth. This second set of Ordinary Time banners and paraments reflect concepts from Isaiah 12:2-3. With joy we grow spiritually by being rooted in God’s word. And we come to know more deeply

that the Lord is our strength and our salvation. The banners were thoughtfully designed in collaboration with Claude and Jan Bos.

Music at LaGrave: Both of this morning's anthems stem from American roots and share the theme of the "river." The African-American spiritual *Deep River* recounts the longing of the slave to be released from captivity, and ultimately to be freed from the troubles of this world into the "campground" of heaven. Both the text and tune of *Shall We Gather at the River* are the creative efforts of preeminent 19th-century American gospel hymn writer Robert Lowry. In this text, Lowry creates the vision of the "river of life" flowing by the heavenly throne of God.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by **Jane Tol**, in honor and memory of ALL Moms, Dads, Grandparents and Greats who have gone before us demonstrating lives lived for Jesus. Blessings today.

The August special offering is for Home Repair Services, which provides lower income families housing support, home repairs, financial counseling and home maintenance education and classes.

This evening, Pastor Jonker will lead us in worship and will preach on Acts 8: 9-25. His sermon is titled "The Marketplace of Grace."

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org/live

Next Week's Worship

Next Sunday Morning Rev. Kristy Manion will preach on Ecclesiastes 5: 13-20.

Next Sunday Evening you are invited to Vespers, a service of song and prayer, that will be held in the chapel at 6pm.

Today

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

District Coffees: Members of District 1 (Paul Stephenson and Aaron Klop) are invited to meet in the Parlor following the morning worship service. Come to meet your elder/deacon and mingle with others from your district. Update your Elexio photo or order a nametag if needed.

Upcoming Events



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

LaGrave Night Out

Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30pm

LaGrave Night Out at Michigan Moonshine, located at 4005 Chicago Dr SW, Grandville. Anyone over 21 is welcome between 6:30-8:30pm!

Vespers

Sunday, August 31 at 6:00pm

Are you seeking an intimate service where you can be refreshed and renewed as you grow closer to the Lord? Join us for Vespers, a service of Word, song, and prayer that takes place in the chapel.

College/Career Ice Cream Social

Thursday, September 4 from 7:00-9:30pm

Eat treats in West Michigan's largest public native garden! Join us in Calvin's Ecosystem Preserve for an opportunity to connect with fellow college students and young adults. Address: 1750 East Beltline Ave SE. Contact Austin Kanis 616-498-6033 or Heidi 616-437-6830.

Friday Morning Men's Bible Study

Friday, September 5 at 8:30am

Men's Friday Morning Bible Study will return on **September 5**. Departing from our usual practice of considering books of the Bible, we will begin our year by using Timothy Keller's study guide including video presentations entitled "Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything". The course is "the gospel and how it is lived out in all of life—first in your heart, then in your community, and then out in the world." Contact Paul LaGrand at 616-780-0405 or plagrand@gmail.com if interested.

GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior)

September 5 & 6

GEMS Girls! SAVE THE DATE: The long awaited 4th-8th grade/CIT over-nighter will be September 5(pm) to 6(11am). We will be staying at Rooks' Guest House on Lake Michigan. You do not want to miss this fun event that kicks off our year! Watch for more information coming soon from your counselors and in this week's News and Opportunities.

Visitors/New Members Coffee

Sunday, September 7 at 10:00am

Calling all visitors, regular attenders and newer members of LaGrave (those who have been around for roughly two years or less)! You are

invited to attend a special coffee (with treats) in the parlor on Sep. 7 at 10 o'clock. This is a great opportunity to meet others at LaGrave. Welcoming Committee members will greet you.

Ministry Celebration

Sunday, September 7 after both morning services

This event, which takes place in the Multipurpose Room, provides an opportunity to learn more from, and to sign up with, ministries who are looking for more participants.

Fall Kick-Off

Wednesday, September 10 from 5:00-8:00pm

Save the date! Our all church Fall Kick-off returns on Wednesday, September 10, from 5-8 pm. This indoor church picnic will be fun for everyone of ALL ages! This fun evening will include dinner, milkshakes, a hymn sing, carnival games, bounce houses and more! Also included will be a Cornhole Tournament you can sign up to participate in, run by Peter Jonker from 6:30-8:00pm. Signups now available online for Cornhole. Sign up in teams of two or for yourself.

LaGrave at the Movies: The Sound of Music!

Saturday, September 13 at 3:00pm

To celebrate The Sound of Music's 60th anniversary, we have a private showing at Celebration Cinema South on September 13, at 3pm. Cost to attend is \$10. Signups are now available online, and the deadline to signup is August 29.

10 O'Clock Hour

Sunday, September 14 @ 10:00 am

Join us for another season of growing in fellowship & faith formation. Watch the bulletin for upcoming details!

Grand Rapids Active Commute Week

September 15-19

LaGrave is registering a team! Participants are encouraged to bike, walk, take the bus and carpool rather than drive alone from Sept 15-19. Log your trips to win prizes and attend an end of the week party at Founders. To join, contact Laura Muresan at Immuresan@yahoo.com.

Women's Book Club

September 22 at 7:30pm

Please join us for the first meeting of the season on Monday, September 22 at 7:30pm in The Parlor, to discuss *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick.

The Grand Lady: A Seniors Event

Friday, October 10 from 12:30-2:30pm

LaGrave Seniors are invited to a private sightseeing cruise on The Grand Lady on Friday, October 10 from 12:30-2:30 pm. A light lunch will

be provided once you board. Cost to attend is \$20. Sign ups and more information are now available on line.

Sinke Train

Saturday, October 25 from 1:30–4:00pm

Save the date! Don't miss the opportunity to ride the Sinke Train! More details coming soon.

Men's Adventure Weekend

September 26–28

All men of LaGrave are invited to the annual Men's Adventure Weekend in Arcadia for a time of fishing, kayaking, reading, biking, golfing, clay shooting, 4 wheeling and more. Signups are now available online. Questions? Contact Brent Busscher at brent.busscher@yahoo.com.

Women's Loeks Event–Chicago trip

Saturday, November 22

Women of all ages, there are just a few spots that remain! Signups are available online. Questions? Contact Cindy Busscher.

Announcements

Fall Sermon Series: Our fall sermon series will focus on the lives of Elijah and Elisha and how God used them as His voice during chaotic and challenging times.

Small Group Book Study: Coming this fall is an opportunity to study and discuss the book *Elijah: a Man of Heroism and Humility* by Charles R. Swindoll, which will tie in with our fall sermon series. Groups can meet during the 10 O'Clock Hour or additional dates/times will also be arranged. Copies of the book will be available to purchase for \$10 for those studying the book with a group or in personal study at home.

Other Small Group Opportunities: Are you looking for ways to meet and connect with other LaGrave members? Consider joining one of our various small groups! Small group options include dining out, dining in member's homes, outdoor small group, young adult small group, movie group, craft group and game groups. If you are interested in arranging or hosting the first meeting of a small group, please contact Cindy at cbusscher@lagrave.org. To join a new small group, sign up online by Sept. 15.

Renovation Fund: Some of you have asked how you can support the renovations happening around the church building. In addition to your General Fund giving, you are welcome to give an initial gift to the Renovation Fund. If you are inclined to give in this way, contact Amy Hermen at ahermen@lagrave.org.

Prayer Concerns

We praise God for his faithfulness to:

- **Mike Boerman and Deacon Broene**, who made their public profession of faith last Sunday, August 17.

Let us faithfully pray for:

- **Nancy Buth**, who has been in the hospital for 3 weeks dealing with complications from pneumonia.
- **Ellen Dekker**, who is home doing well after surgery to remove a small mass on her right jugular vein.
- **Ruth Diepenhorst**, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- **Rob Entingh**, who is hospitalized for pneumonia and sepsis.
- **Leon Hakes**, 2 month old son of Austin and Amanda, who has returned home.
- **Joady Hoekstra**, who has moved to assisted living at Raybrook.
- **Cobie Muller**, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- **Pat Peterson**, who continues in the hospital for care and observation. Visitors are welcome.
- **Clarence VanDyken**, who is receiving therapy at The Oaks of Byron Center after surgery for a broken hip.
- **Laura Verbridge**, who has been released from Mary Free Bed and is receiving a time of respite care at Raybrook assisted living.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

- **Mary Duthler, Jon Duthler, Amy & Ian Smith (Emma, Libby), Sara & Jeff Dekker (Anne, Max, Grace), Jared (Claire) Duthler**, in the death of husband, father and grandfather **Tom Duthler**, on Saturday, August 16. His funeral service was held here at LaGrave on Friday, August 22 with Chad Boorsma and Rev. Peter Jonker officiating.
- **Dongo & Lisa Pewee (Hannah, Noah, Jonathan, Kandace, Rachel, Ruth)**, in the death of Dongo's brother, John Pewee on Monday, August 18.
- **Jack VanStee**, in the sudden loss of his grandson, Mark VanStee on Tuesday, August 19. Mark's funeral was held here at LaGrave on

Saturday, August 23.

Please pray for:

those receiving hospice services – Myrna Mulder, Bev VandenBosch, George Zandt

those living with cancer – Dan Beimers, Marsha Haan, Sherri Kanten, Anita MacDonald (John Postmus' daughter), Beth Mulder, Steve Palazzolo, Lloyd Tinholt, Sharon VanHouten, Barb Voskuil

those with other continuing needs – Sandy Buter, Sandra Destrempe, Sandy Gronsman, Harris Kiekover, Dorothy Ondersma, Rich & Manuani Postma, Jim & Jeanne VandenBerg, Bill VanDyk, Joyce Zwiers

those awaiting immigration status updates – Yudelis Rodriguez, Brianna Alonso

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

Missionary of the Week: Chris & Becca Hirt, who serve with Wycliffe through counseling (Becca) and technology (Chris). Pray for Chris's complete recovery from lymphoma cancer, for his leadership role in language software technology, and wisdom for decisions the family needs to make about the future.

We welcome the following new members:

Jack & Virginia Kramer, who transferred their membership from South Grandville CRC, Grandville, MI.

Dennis & Sharon Mulder, who come to LaGrave from Phoenix United Reformed Church, Phoenix, AZ.

Eric Rottman, who transferred his membership from Neland Avenue CRC, Grand Rapids, MI.

Thank you:

Thanks to all LaGrave members and friends for the prayers, visits and cards during my recent heart surgery. The procedure was a surprise for me as I had no symptoms beforehand but thanks to a CT scan, an astute radiologist and the grace of God it was discovered before an incident happened. There's no doubt the prayers of righteous people not only were supportive to me in the surgery but I continue to covet and need them as I move into rehab and recovery. Thankfully I am ahead of schedule in recovery! Peace, blessings and thanks again for the support. – *Bob Houtman*

Calendar

Sunday, August 24

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
District 1 Coffee, Parlor 11:00 AM
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM

Monday, August 25

Mission Committee, LLMR6:00 PM
Communications Committee, 200 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 26

Historical Committee 9:30 AM
LaGrave Night Out.....6:30 PM

Wednesday, August 27

Men's Morning Bible Study, LLMR 8:00 AM
Women's Morning Bible Study, 200 9:00 AM
Intercessory Prayer, Chapel1:15 PM
Executive Committee, Parlor.....4:00 PM

Sunday Volunteers

Assisting This Week: August 24

Security:

10:00: Andrew Schimmel, Chris VerMeulen, Steve Hoekzema

Greeters:

10:00: Linda Herron

Ushers:

10:00: Matt Alcumbrack, Brad Schaap, Jeff Scholtens,
Mitch Schroder

6:00: Matt Alcumbrack

Assisting Next Week: August 31

Security:

10:00: Jeff Dekker, Ian Smith, Harvey DeMaagd

Greeters:

10:00: Beth A. Swagman

Ushers:

10:00: Paul Stuit, Cal Thorne, Brent Busscher, Tim Walcott