



Morning Worship

March 15, 2026 | 8:40 & 11:00 a.m.

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.

As you worship, please remember to silence your cellphones.

God Calls Us to Worship

The Prelude:

Siciliano in C Minor, from Sonata IV for Clavier and Violin

J.S. Bach, trans. Ruth Rus

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

arr. Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard

Sighing, Weeping, from Cantata No. 21 (I Had Much Affliction)

J.S. Bach, trans. Ralph Berkowitz

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

Near the Cross

*Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain, free to all, a
healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.*

*In the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond
the river.*

*The Processional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 604
To God Be the Glory

*The Greeting

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

The Welcome

We Humbly Approach God

The Call to Confession:

Spirit of God, Who Dwells Within My Heart

Did you not bid us love you, God and King, love you with all our heart and strength and mind? I see the cross—there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek you, and O let me find! LUYH 618: 3

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness: based on 1 Peter 2: 24–25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness;

by his wounds we are healed.

For we were like sheep going astray,

but now we have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls.

*The Hymn of Commitment: Lift Up Your Hearts 590: 1, 4, 5, 6

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

The Table Fellowship of:

Edward Havlicek (8:40)

Henry Slotsema (8:40)

Alex Huizenga (11:00)

Jon Huizenga (11:00)

The Response:

To God all glory, praise, and love

be now and ever given

by saints below and saints above,

The church in earth and heaven.

LUYH 590: 8

We Respond with Thanksgiving

The Children's Message

Congregation: **The Lord be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Anthem:

Jesus Washed Our Sin Away (8:40)

R. Kevin Boesiger

By his wounds we are healed. By his stripes we are saved. He was pierced for all our wrongs. Jesus washed our sin away. Hallelujah, hallelujah! We like sheep have gone astray. We have turned to our own way. Jesus took our punishment and he washed our sin away.

Words: R. Kevin Boesiger. Based on Isaiah 53. Copyright © 2025 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. Used with permission under OneLicense #707908.

What Wondrous Love (11:00)

Laura Farnell

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, what wondrous love.

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

When I was sinking down, O my soul, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid down his glorious crown for my soul. What wondrous love! And I'll sing on!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! I will sing and joyful be. And through all eternity, I'll sing on! What wondrous love is this. What wondrous love!

The Offering

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

The Offertory:

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Dan Forrest

*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: Romans 7: 7-25 (p. 1753) *concluded with:*

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon: **Cross Words: Sin & Slavery**

The Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

We Go in His Peace

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 162
To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord

*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:

And Can It Be?

H. E. Singley

Rev. Peter Jonker..... minister
Chad Boorsma..... liturgist
Dr. Larry Visserorganist, pianist
Linda Hoisingtonpianist
3-6 Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood..... director (8:40)
Amber Schaap..... flutist (8:40)
Jess Hollenbach..... accompanist (8:40)
Women's Chorus, Dr. Rob Hobgood..... director (11:00)
Mia Ackerman & Sheryl VanEck Cross and Bible bearers (8:40)
Dee DeKryger & Joyce Jeltema..... Cross and Bible bearers (11:00)

Lent Banners & Paraments: Lent is the liturgical season from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. The ash permeated sackcloth remind us of our human mortality and our need for repentance & reconciliation with God. The sackcloth against the royal purple cloth symbolizes the suffering and sorrow that Jesus bore for our sin & the sin of the world.

Music at LaGrave (11:00): Composer Laura Farnell offers a fresh take on the early American hymn *What Wondrous Love Is This* in her anthem by the same title, this morning sung by a women's chorus. Farnell's arrangement is more lyrical than the ruggedness of the hymn tune, but there are subtle hints of the hymn melody in her writing. The third verse ("When I was sinking down") is set in a minor key, but transitions into an emphatic final verse, reflecting on singing to the once slain, now risen Lamb throughout all eternity.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in loving memory of **John Allen Den Boer**, father of **Lane and Anna Den Boer**, grandfather to **Tessa, Sutton, and Everett**. John went to his heavenly home 3 years ago on March 18, 2023.

The March special offering is for Mel Trotter Ministries.



The

Ten O'Clock Hour

Growing in Fellowship and Faith Formation

Happenings today between the morning services:

- **Nursery** (ages 0-3) – 2s/3s Room
- **Littles Choir** (ages 4-2nd grade) – Junior Choir Room
- **Church School**
 - 3rd/4th grade— Room 221
 - 5th/6th grade— Room 218/220
 - 7th/8th grade— Room 219
 - 9th/10th grade— Lower Level Classroom
 - 11th/12th grade— Room 214
- **Coffee, Fellowship, Puzzles, Generation Spark and Games:**
Everyone is welcome in the MPR!
- **Community Ministry Focus:** 70x7 will be featured this morning in the Fellowship Hall. Hear from Roshawn and Marybeth from the staff about their important work with returning citizens. We will also be collecting Easter basket candy & toys for children of incarcerated people.
- **Parents of Infants & Preschoolers:** Join us for coffee and treats to meet other parents who are in the same stage of life as you! We will meet in the Parlor.
- **Generation Spark:** If you are interested in sharing stories about being a mentor, having a mentor, or your hopes for intergenerational relationships in the church, please come to Room 204 during the 10 o'clock hour.
- **Biblical Parenting Class:** Dave and Sarah Gebben lead us in the multi-session parenting class based on Chip Ingram's "Living on the Edge" ministry, God's blueprint for biblical parenting. We will meet in Room 200.
- **Book Study:** Mike & Linda Hoisington lead us in the "Prayers in the Night" book study, and will meet in the Lower Level Meeting Room. Note the room change! Books will be available for purchase (\$10).
- **Public Reading of Scripture:** Join us as we spend time in some of the Psalms that are often used during Lent. No preparation is needed. We will meet in the Council Room.

Coming to the 10 O'Clock Hour:

- **College/Career:** Bagel Sunday is Sunday, March 22. Join us in the Parlor for a time of coffee, bagels, and fellowship with other Young Adults. We'd love to meet you!
- **Christian Education:** A Christian Education Informational Meeting for new parents or others wishing to learn more about the Christian Education Society and its enrollment procedures and policies will be held on **Sunday, March 22 in Room 210**, on the second level.

Today

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

This Evening, Rev. Kristy Manion will preach on Ezekiel 37: 1-4, and we will share in communion together.

MSYG/CREW (6th - 12th grade): Tonight we are going to 3 Mile Project from 6pm - 8pm. Drive yourself there or a van leaves from church at 5:40pm and returns at 8:15pm. Eat dinner before. Text Rachel with questions.

Next Week's Worship

Next Sunday Morning is the fifth Sunday in the season of Lent. We continue our Cross Words series, focusing on the meaning and impact of Christ's cross. Pastor Jonker will preach on Mark 8:31-9:1.

Next Sunday Evening, Pastor Jonker will lead us in worship. He will preach on Galatians 5:22 and he will talk about kindness.

Upcoming Events



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

Wednesday Night Programming meets this Wednesday, March 18.

Grab 'n go is from 5:45pm-6:30pm. Pasta is on the menu. GEMS and Youth Outdoors meet from 6:30pm-8pm. There will be childcare for 0-4 year olds in 2s/3s Room from 6:15pm-8:30pm.

Christ Laid Aside His Crown

Wednesday, March 18 at 12 noon

Stan Kruis serves as liturgist and Dr. Rob Hobgood is our organist. A light meal will follow the service in the Multipurpose Room.

Men's Coffee

Thursday, March 19 at 10:00am

All men are welcome to join the men's coffee group in the Council Room from 10-11:30 am. Men of any age can enjoy this time of socializing and eating donuts. If you need a ride, call 616-245-3803.

Mom's Fellowship

Friday, March 20 at 9:30am

Join Moms' Fellowship on Friday, March 20 at 9:30am in Room 200 for coffee and fellowship with other moms. Childcare will be available in the nursery. Contact Alisha Doezema with questions: 616-745-9834.

All Church Bowling

Saturday, March 21, 3:00-5:00pm

Last call for all bowlers! You are invited to an all church bowling event at Park Center Lanes located at 2222 28th St SW, Wyoming, MI. New bowlers, those with experience, families, singles, young, young at heart, long time members or new to LaGrave are all welcome! Enjoy two hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and pop. Cost to attend is \$5.00 per person. Sign-up online.

College/Career

Sunday, March 22 from 5:30-7:30pm

If you are a visitor or regular attender between 18-30 (post high school), we'd love to have you join us for our next Sunday Night Dinner. Join us at the Glover house (1933 Pinnacle Dr. SW). Come out for an evening of great food, genuine connection, and spiritual encouragement! Text Heidi 616-437-6830 with questions/to RSVP.

Raybrook Communion Service

Sunday, March 22 at 6:15pm

All Raybrook residents are invited to the evening communion chapel service at Raybrook. Chad Boorsma will preach, with Trish Brummel

and Kathy Verbrugge accompanying on the piano and organ.

Women's Book Club

Monday, March 23 at 7:30pm

Please join us on in The Parlor to discuss *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Lenten Fish Bowl Prayer Service

Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30pm

As Easter approaches, we gather to sing, hear Scripture, and offer prayers to God for those who do not yet know Christ, those who are wandering in faith or those who have stepped away from the church.

College/Career at the Grand Rapids Game Show

Thursday, March 26 from 6:45-8:15pm

Signup for our March funtivity! We will be going to The Grand Rapids Game Show. Cost: \$10. Venmo Heidi. Space is limited so sign up to reserve your spot! Text Heidi or use the IPAD's at the Welcome Desk to signup!

Third Day Concert

Saturday, April 4 at 7:00pm

Contemporary Christian music group Third Day is coming to VanAndel Arena for their 30th Anniversary Tour! We have tickets for a group from LaGrave to go for \$30/person. Let Rachel or Cindy know if interested! There are a limited number of tickets so first come first serve.

Senior Lunch Out

Friday, April 24 from 11:30am-1:30pm

Calling all seniors! You are invited to a fun lunch out on April 24 at Beer City Bread Company, located at 2650-D E Beltline Ave SE. Order your own lunch and enjoy this time of meeting and connecting with others. Sign-ups are available online.

Whitecaps Game

Saturday, April 25 at 2:00pm

LaGrave is returning to the Whitecaps at LMCU Ballpark! Sign-up online to attend this fun, family friendly all church outing to the Pepsi Stadium Club (indoor/outdoor space). Cost to attend is \$10 per person which includes your ticket and picnic lunch of hamburgers, hotdogs, chips & Pepsi products. Questions? Contact Cindy at cbusscher@lagrave.org.

Heartside Women who Care

Wednesday, April 29 at 5:30pm

Join us for a time of neighborhood fellowship and philanthropy to support non-profits helping women who live in the Heartside neighborhood.

Women's Conference

Thursday-Saturday, June 11-13

LaGrave women 16 and up are invited to attend the Gospel Coalition Women's Conference in Indianapolis, IN! Thanks to the Loeks fund, the \$269 cost of the early bird registration rate will be covered (expires on April 17). The theme is "Turn Your Eyes: Seeing the Savior in the Psalms."

Hear speakers including Courtney Doctor, Nancy Guthrie, Vanessa Hawkins, Melissa Kruger, Ruth Chou Simons, Mark Vroegop and Jen Wilkin. Breakout sessions include: how to study the Bible, when life doesn't turn out the way you thought, discipleship for busy families, caring for aging parents, help & hope for anxiety, joyful generosity and more. Attendees will be responsible to pay for their own lodging and transportation, although scholarships are available! Contact Cindy Busscher at cbusscher@lagrave.org for more details and how to sign up.

Announcements

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. 4" Crocus: \$8
2. 6" Hydrangeas Blue or Pink: \$25
2. 6" pot of tulips (assorted colors): \$17
3. 6" pot of daffodils (Yellow): \$17
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 Monday, March 23**. Either email Marie, mjansen@lagrave.org or call the church office 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 cannot afford the cost, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Christian Summer Camp Support: Do you want to send your child to a Christian summer camp but the cost is challenging? The deacons may be able to assist with the camp fees. Contact your district deacon or Aaron Klop ajklophome@gmail.com for more information.

The LaGrave Worship Arts Committee is pleased to present Jesus' Journey to the Cross—artwork by Scott Erickson. The collection is displayed outdoors along Sheldon Ave. for this season of Lent & Easter.

For Lent, the Worship Committee is presenting in the sanctuary "Shadows and Light", art by Manuel Gallardo. Manuel Gallardo is originally from Cuba and currently is a PhD student in Systematic Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary.

Art Display: Selections from Versluis's Fish Series. David M. Versluis is an artist and retired professor of art at Dordt University. His "Spirit Lake, Iowa: Fish Series" is a collection of original prints that dissects a lake perch into an emblematic design. Developed as a traveling show from 2004-2010, the series features a school of images that allude to the fish as a unique creature, signifying that all aquatic life were the first to receive God's blessing (Genesis 1:22). The Fish Series will be on display in the **Parlor until May 3**.

The Office has received several inquiries recently regarding immigration. Our church echoes the denomination's resources on the topic. Resources can be found at <https://www.crcna.org/resources/church-resources/immigration-resources>.

Our Mexico Team Needs Your Prayers! Pick up a copy of the March prayer guide for the team in the Missions brochure rack on the right side of the hallway as you go to the MPR. This week, pray especially for Team Unity and Ministry Impact. The team will go to Mexico City April 4-11.

The Called to Care Committee has been listening to the stories of congregation members as we seek to cultivate greater warmth, understanding, and support for LGBTQ Christians. If you or someone you know is navigating questions about faith and same-sex attraction or sexual identity, we welcome the opportunity to hear your story. Please contact us at calledtocare@lagrave.org or reach out directly to a pastor or committee member. All communication will be kept confidential.

Prayer Concerns

We praise God for his faithfulness to:

- **Betty Punt**, who will celebrate her 97th birthday on Tuesday, March 24.

Let us faithfully pray for:

- **Jean DeKryger**, who continues her recovery at home.
- **Steve Palazzolo**, who had a bone marrow transplant at U of M this week and will spend the next couple of months in Ann Arbor.
- **Mamuani Postma**, whose doctors continue to evaluate options for treating her non-malignant brain tumor.
- **Millie Vriend**, who continues at Mary Free Bed for rehab.

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

- **Larry Visser**, whose 38 year old niece, **Laura Whaley**, passed away on Wednesday, March 11, following a long journey with bone and liver cancer.

Please pray for:

those receiving hospice services – Sylvia Hugen, Carol VanBruggen, Bev VandenBosch, George Zandt

those living with cancer – Joanne Arnoys, Dan Beimers, Marsha Haan, Andrea Hekman, Renee Kuiper, Lloyd Tinholt, Sharon VanHouten, Barb Voskuil

those with other continuing needs – Sandy Buter, Cloe Ann Danford, Sandra Destrempe, Julie Farmer, Sandy Gronsmann, Carole Hoffman, Sipp Hutton, Larry Kerkstra, Harris Kiekover, Dorothy Ondersma, Rich Postma, Caleb VandenBerg, Joy Winkle, Joyce Zwiers

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

As members of God's family, remember LaGrave members who feel unsettled in the denomination due to differences of conviction about the substance or weight of church teachings, yet seek to contribute, belong, and live in harmony in the LaGrave community.

Missionary of the week: Jim & Ruth Padilla-DeBorst, serving in Costa Rica. Thank God with them that A Rocha, the ministry they work with, was able to purchase the shelter at Casa Esperanza, where food and shelter is provided for hundreds of migrants and refugees daily.

Thank you:

A note of thanks to my LaGrave family for the lovely, special birthday cards. They helped me celebrate God's faithfulness for so many years. Blessings, *Annette Haverkamp*

Dear Friends, we thank you with all our hearts for the expressions of sympathy and the acts of kindness you have shown us in the death of our dear mom/nana. We thank you, too, for the love & encouragement shown to our mom in recent years through the faithful visits of Chad Boorsma and the Pastoral Care Assistants. God has blessed us all through you! *The family of Yvonne Pylman.*

Transfer Out:

Per his request, John Admiraal has transferred his membership to Oakland CRC, Hamilton, MI.

Per their request, Aaron & Jana Eding and their children, Ezra and Joel, have transferred their membership to Neland Avenue Church, Grand Rapids, MI.

Calendar

Sunday, March 15

| | |
|---|----------|
| Morning Worship | 8:40 AM |
| 10 O'Clock hour | 10:00 AM |
| Morning Worship | 11:00 AM |
| Bells Gloria | 4:00 PM |
| Barnabas Group, LL..... | 4:15 PM |
| 7-12 Choir..... | 4:40 PM |
| MSYG/CREW-offsite at 3 Mile Project | 6:00 PM |
| Evening Worship | 6:00 PM |
| Young Adult Small Group, Parlor..... | 7:15 PM |

Monday, March 16

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Evangelistic Outreach, Library..... | 5:30 PM |
| Finance Committee, Parlor..... | 5:30 PM |
| Youth Ed Committee, Parlor | 6:30 PM |
| Fellowship Committee, 200..... | 7:30 PM |

Tuesday, March 17

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| Foot Spa, MPR..... | 12:00 PM |
| Knitting Group, Parlor..... | 1:15 PM |
| Bells Jubilate | 6:15 PM |
| Safety and Security Committee, 200 | 7:00 PM |
| Spiritual Formation Committee, Library | 7:00 PM |
| Worship Committee, Parlor | 7:00 PM |

Wednesday, March 18

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| Men's Morning Bible Study | 8:00 AM |
| Spiritual Journey, Rec Room | 9:30 AM |
| Wednesday Women's Bible Study | 10:00 AM |
| Wednesday Mid-Morning Bible Study..... | 10:00 AM |
| Lenten Worship Series..... | 12:00 PM |
| His Collection, Council Room | 12:30 PM |
| Intercessory Prayer, Chapel..... | 1:15 PM |
| 3-6 Grade Choir..... | 5:15 PM |
| Grab 'n Go Meal, MPR..... | 5:45 PM |
| Faith Journey Bible Study | 6:30 PM |
| GEMS..... | 6:30 PM |
| Youth Outdoors | 6:30 PM |
| Chancel Choir | 7:00 PM |

Thursday, March 19

Beth Moore and More Bible Study 9:30 AM
Men’s Coffee Fellowship, Council 10:00 AM
Pastoral Care Committee, Parlor 4:00 PM
Long Range Planning, Parlor..... 7:00 PM

Friday, March 20

Men’s Morning Bible Study 8:30 AM
Mom’s Fellowship, 200 9:30 AM
Sherri Kanten Funeral Service..... 11:00 AM

Sunday Volunteers

Assisting This Week: March 15

Security:

8:40: Mark Stuit, Andy VandeGriend
9:30–11:30: Dave Veldkamp
11:00: Lauren Koeman, Mark Mensonides

Greeters:

8:40: Sharon Etheridge, Laurie Termaat
11:00: Ginny Geldof
6:00: Beth Swagman, Alberta Gordon

Ushers:

8:40: Ben Nagel, Brent Busscher, Tim Walcott, Eli Walcott
11:00: Jeff Scholtens, Dave Tornga, John Schat
6:00: Dave Tornga

Assisting Next Week: March 22

Security:

8:40: Justin Holford, Chris Weller
9:30–11:30: John Brandt
11:00: Eric Bauman, Doug VanEerden

Greeters:

8:40: Mark & Kristine Huizenga, Elenbaas Family
11:00: Cindy Smith, Andy & Becca VandeGriend
6:00: Bev Clover, John & Shelly Schat

Ushers:

8:40: Brad Post, Sam Schat, James VanHekken, Paul Stuit
11:00: Mitchell Schroder, Marilyn Rottman, Luther Ajim
6:00: Pete Clover

Sermon Notes



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