

✠ MIDWEEK OF LENT 3 ✠

March 11, 2026



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

1665 South 57th Street | West Allis, Wisconsin 53214 | 414-545-6925

www.nainlutheran.org | www.youtube.com/@nainlutheran | www.facebook.com/nainlutheran



Nain is a member congregation of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
www.wels.net

Pastor: Joseph M. Berg
Phone: 414-810-3392
Email: revjberg@gmail.com

About Our Worship Service

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Our message is as old as God's Word to mankind: Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to take away our sins. We gather for the Divine Service not merely for the sake of ritual or tradition. Nor do we come to worship primarily to give something back to God. Rather, we meet together to hear and receive what God has done for us. In Word and Sacrament, our gracious Lord gives those who believe in him forgiveness of sins, unity with him in new life, and the promise of eternal salvation in heaven! Through this same gospel he motivates and equips us to follow his holy will for our lives. We hope that you are comforted with the message of Jesus Christ's love for you as you worship today. Please join us again soon!

Visitors

Thank you for joining us for worship! Please read the following notes about our congregation. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please speak with the pastor.

Our Practice of Closed Communion

If you have not communed with us before, please read the notes printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Our Holy Communion Practices."

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the downstairs fellowship hall. A wheelchair accessible restroom is located at the front of the church, through the doors to the left of the chancel.

Guest Book

If you feel comfortable doing so, please sign our guest book located in the narthex so we can have a record of your visit.

Parent's Room

Parents with crying children are welcome to use the parent's room, located off the narthex.

Chair Lifts

Chair lifts are located off the northwest entrance for those who need to go to the fellowship hall on the lower level but have difficulty with stairs.

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Midweek Lent

It Is Finished

The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah

The theme of our Midweek Lenten services this year is: “It Is Finished.” At each service, we will hear prophecies about our Lord God’s work to save sinners from the book of Zechariah. Zechariah described the events of Jesus’ suffering and death with such vivid clarity—centuries before those events took place—that he is referred to as the “Holy Week Prophet.” We will see that because Jesus fulfilled every prophecy God made to his people about the coming Messiah and perfectly carried out God’s plan of salvation, he could cry from the cross, “It is finished!”

Midweek of Lent 3

The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth

God is the father of the truth, and he hates lies. Satan is the father of lies, and he hates the truth. God always wants us to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. He said through the prophet Zechariah, “These are the things that you are to do: Speak the truth to one another. Render judgments that uphold truth, justice, and peace in your gates” (8:16).

After being captured in Gethsemane, Jesus was led to the house of the high priest where he was placed on trial. The high priest and the Sanhedrin had the opportunity to obey God and embrace the truth. Instead, they chose to follow the devil and embrace falsehood. When Jesus was called to testify, he honestly confessed his identity as the Christ, the Son of God. At that same time, Jesus’ disciple Peter was called to do the same. But in the end, he failed.

We too are called by God to boldly confess our faith in him as Lord and Savior. Like Peter, we often fail in this regard, so we too must sorrow over our sins. The good news is that our Lord Jesus lovingly calls us to repentance, forgives our sins, lifts us up from the pit of despair, restores us by his grace, moves us to embrace the truth of his identity as our Savior from sin, and gives us more opportunities to share this good news with others!

Evening Prayer

Vespers

Welcome to God's house in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Please enter the sanctuary quietly so you and others can prepare your hearts for God's worship service.

A personal prayer for before worship is printed on the first page of the blue hymnal.

The hymns are located in the middle to back portion of the blue hymnal.

There will be no pre-service music or announcements. Please remain silent as you prepare for worship.

Our service begins with the tolling of the bells, followed by the opening hymn.

Service of Light

Tolling of the Bells

Opening Hymn

396 "Christ, the Life of All the Living" (stanzas 1 - 5)



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
2 Thou, ah! Thou hast tak - en on thee bonds and stripes, a
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly that my wounds might
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round thee, treat - ing thee with
5 Thou hast suf - fered men to bruise thee that from pain I



death, our foe, who, thy - self for me once giv - ing
cru - el rod; pain and scorn were heaped up - on thee,
all be whole; thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,
cru - el scorn, and with pierc - ing thorns they crowned thee.
might be free; false - ly did thy foes ac - cuse thee:



to the dark - est depths of woe: through thy suf - f'rings,
O thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst thou my
rest to give my wea - ry soul; yea, the curse of
All dis - grace thou, Lord, hast borne that as thine thou
thence I gain se - cur - i - ty. Com - fort - less thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
 soul de - liv - er from the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
 God en - dur - ing, bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.
 might - est own me and with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.
 soul did lan - guish me to com - fort in my an - guish.



Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
 Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

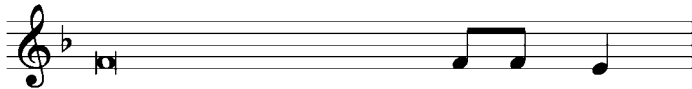
*Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605-1681, abr.; (sts. 1-2, 5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.; (sts. 3-4): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.
 Tune: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687, alt. Text and tune: Public domain*

Please stand

Opening Sentences

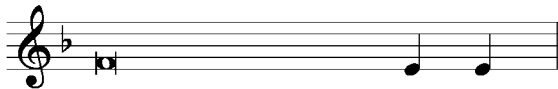
(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



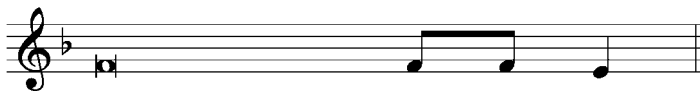
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,



and hear our evening prayer and praise.

*Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.
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Hymn of Light *Phos hilaron*

(Psalm 18:28; Isaiah 9:2; John 1:5-9)



1 Glad - d'ning light of pur - est glo - ry, shin - ing
2 In the fad - ing light of eve - ning, as the
3 For your gift of life un - end - ing, joy - ful



down from heav'n on high, from the ev - er -
set - ting sun de - parts, Fa - ther, Son, and
voic - es ev - er sing hymns of praise that



liv - ing Fa - ther— hail, most bless - ed Je - sus Christ!
Ho - ly Spir - it— we a - dore you, Lord our God.
right - ly hon - or, Son of God, your sav - ing name.

Text: Michael D. Schultz Text and tune: © 2021 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, for you are merciful and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Please be seated

Psalm 141

(Psalm 141:1-4,8)

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing up
of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Tune: David Schack Tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Service of the Word

Penitential Psalm

Psalm 38

Psalm 38 is the third of the seven penitential psalms. The Church sings Psalm 38 to ask the Lord for forgiveness, especially in times of illness caused by our own sinful weaknesses.

- ¹ LORD, do not rebuke me in anger.
Do not discipline me in wrath.
- ² **Indeed, your arrows have stuck in me.
Your hand has come down on me.**
- ³ There is no health in my flesh because of your rage.
There is no wellness in my bones because of my sin,
- ⁴ **because my guilt has gone over my head.
Like a heavy burden, it is too heavy for me.**
- ⁵ My wounds stink and ooze because of my folly.
- ⁶ **I am drooping. I am completely bent over.
All day long I go around mourning.**
- ⁷ Even my back burns with pain.
My whole body is unhealthy.
- ⁸ **I have become numb. I am totally crushed.
I groan loudly because of my anxious thoughts.**
- ⁹ LORD, all my needs lie before you.
My sighs are not hidden from you.
- ¹⁵ **Yet I wait for you, LORD.
You will answer, O LORD my God.**
- ¹⁷ Look! I am about to fall,
and I am always in pain,
- ¹⁸ **so I declare my guilt,
and I am troubled by my sin.**
- ²¹ Do not forsake me, O LORD.
My God, do not be far from me.
- ²² **Hurry to help me, O LORD, my salvation.**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Trial before the High Priest and Peter's Denials

⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus led him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the experts in the law and the elders were assembled. ⁵⁸ Peter was following him at a distance and went as far as the courtyard of the high priest. He went inside and sat down with the guards to see how it would turn out.

⁵⁹ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹ and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

⁶² The high priest stood up and said to him, "Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I place you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!"

⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, "It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! ⁶⁶ What do you think?"

They answered, "He is deserving of death!" ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and punched him. Some slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who hit you?"

⁶⁹ Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came to him and said, "You were also with Jesus the Galilean."

⁷⁰ But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, "I don't know what you're talking about."

⁷¹ When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

⁷² Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, "I do not know the man."

⁷³ After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, "Surely you are also one of them because even your accent gives you away."

⁷⁴ Then he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know the man!" Just then the rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Thus far the Passion History of Our Lord.

**All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.** (Isaiah 53:6,5 NIV)

Please remain silent for meditation

Sermon Hymn

408 "He Stood before the Court"



1 He stood be - fore the court on trial in - stead of
2 These are the crimes that tell the tale of hu - man
3 The sen - tence must be passed, the un - known pris - 'ner
4 Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is



us; he met its pow'r to hurt, con - demned to
guilt; our sins, our death, our hell— on these the
killed; the price is paid at last, the law of
done; we live, for he has died, our con - dem -



face the cross— our King, ac - cused of treach - er -
case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays
God ful - filled. He takes our blame, and from that
na - tion gone. In Christ are we both dead and



y; our God, a - bused for blas - phe - my!
dumb. The guilt is ours, no an - swers come.
day th'ac - cu - ser's claim is wiped a - way.
raised, a - live and free— his name be praised!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938, alt. Tune: Leland B. Sateren, 1913-2007

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Tune: © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

Sermon Text

Zechariah 8:14-17

¹⁴ For this is what the LORD of Armies says. Just as I planned to bring disaster upon you when your fathers made me angry, says the LORD of Armies, so that I did not relent, ¹⁵ so in these days I plan to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah once again. Do not be afraid.

¹⁶ These are the things that you are to do: Speak the truth to one another. Render judgments that uphold truth, justice, and peace in your gates. ¹⁷ Do not plot evil in your hearts against each other. Do not love false oaths. Indeed I hate all these things, declares the LORD.

Sermon

“The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth”

Song of Praise

947 *“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy” (stanza 1)*

Please remain seated

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.
All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546 Text and tune: Public domain

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Psalm 51:1; Mark 10:47; Luke 17:13)

Please stand

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the gifts of humility and repentance, and for the will to bear our crosses as we follow Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the perspective to see that, apart from Christ, gain is loss, and in Christ, loss is gain, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For minds set on heavenly things, for hearts that long for heavenly glory, and for perseverance to press on and take hold of our heavenly prize, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Prayer

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

(Psalm 103:1)

Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Blessing

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



A - men.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn

396 "Christ, the Life of All the Living" (stanzas 6 and 7)



6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion and hast borne it
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, for thy sor - rows



pa - tient - ly, e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,
deep and sore, for thine an - guish in the gar - den,



ful - ly to a - tone for me. Thou didst choose to
I will thank thee ev - er - more, thank thee for thy



be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
groan - ing, sigh - ing, for thy bleed - ing and thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
for that last tri - um - phant cry and shall praise thee, Lord, on high.

*Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605-1681, abr.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.; (st. 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Tune: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687, alt. Text and tune: Public domain*

The Pastor departs in silence

Please remain silent for meditation





Special thanks to:

Joel Schwartz for playing organ...
and Brooke Smith for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream.

There will not be any post-service music or announcements.

A **personal prayer for after worship** is printed on the first page of the hymnal.

If you haven't done so already, **please write your name in the Friendship Register before you leave.**

You will not be ushered out. You may depart any time after the closing hymn.

If you have an offering, you can place it in the collection box located in the narthex.

If you wish to give your offering via [PayPal](#), you can scan the QR code on the last page of this bulletin.

Thank you for your financial support of our congregation!

Please refrain from conversation until after you have departed the church building
so those who wish to remain in church to pray and meditate may do so in silence.

Pastor Berg will be available in the narthex shortly after the service if you would like to speak with him.

Thank you for joining us as we together worshiped our Triune God. The Lord be with you this week!

Nain is a member congregation of the **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**

For more information about our synod, please visit its website: www.wels.net



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Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

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