

✝ SECOND WEDNESDAY OF LENT ✝

March 1, 2023



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

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Organist: Laura Rodrigue

Choir Director: Lois Buske

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.

Second Wednesday of Lent

March 1, 2023



Lent

Our Greatest Needs

Mankind's greatest problems are universal. We all live under the curse of sin. That sin makes us utterly helpless in our natural state. Natural man is confused, unable to make sense of life. Left in sin, man is doomed to death, and not just physical death. After one's heart stops comes another type of death that is infinitely worse, an eternal nightmare.

Lent is the season of the Church Year when we wrestle with our greatest needs. Lent also shows us that in Christ, all our greatest needs are met. Here is what the Spirit makes clear this season. If you lack Christ, you have nothing. If you have Christ, you have everything you truly need.

Midweek Lent

Plot, Passover, and the Lord's Supper

This evening we begin a series of readings from the Gospel of St. Matthew chronicling the history of our Lord Jesus' suffering and death. On the eve of his crucifixion, Jesus met with his disciples in the upper room. There, our Lord celebrated his final Passover and established the New Covenant meal, pointing ahead to his death the following day. Through the sacrifice of his own body and blood, the Lamb of God brings assurance of the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith.

At this same "Last Supper," Christ identified his betrayer. Judas had already plotted with Jesus' enemies to hand the Lord over to them. On this night, Satan entered Judas, and he became hardened in his resolve to commit this sin. Jesus knew what Judas was doing and how his betrayal would play into his arrest, crucifixion, and death. Even still, Jesus went uncomplaining forth to the cross. Man's plot would not derail God's plan. Jesus would fulfill his mission as the Messiah – for us and for our salvation!

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.

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

Service of Light

Tolling of the Bells

Opening Hymn

420 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"



- 1 Je - sus, I will pon-der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
- 2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
- 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,
- 4 Grant that I your pas-sion view with re - pent - ant griev - ing;



with your Spir - it me en - dow for such med - i - ta - tion.
bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;
but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.
let me not bring shame to you by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you,
Ah! I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;
How could I re - fuse to shun ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death that I may not per - ish.
how for them you died, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
this in - deed the cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
since for me God's on - ly Son suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

- 5 If my sins give me alarm
and my conscience grieve me,
let your cross my fear disarm,
peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won
by your holy passion.
If for me he slays his Son,
God must have compassion!
- 6 Graciously my faith renew;
help me bear my crosses,
learning humbleness from you,
peace mid pain and losses.
May I give you love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
that I may in heav'n above
sing your praise forever.

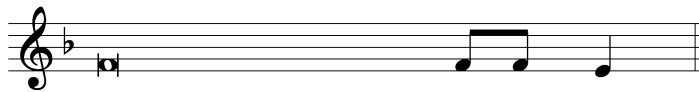
*Text: tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626-1681
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
Text and tune: Public domain*

Please stand

Opening Sentences

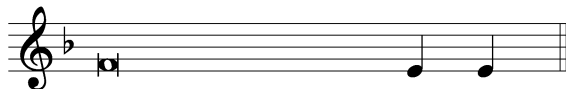
(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



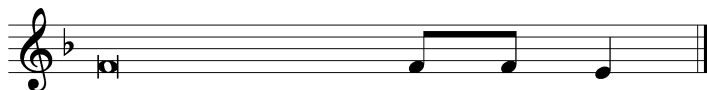
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

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. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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

The Penitential Psalms

Psalm 6

- ¹ LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger.
Do not discipline me in your wrath.
- ² Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am fading away.
Heal me, LORD, for my bones are trembling,
- ³ and my soul is terrified.
But you, O LORD—how long?
- ⁴ Turn, O LORD, and deliver my soul.
Save me because of your mercy.
- ⁵ For in death no one remembers you.
In the grave who praises you?
- ⁶ I am worn out from my groaning.
I flood my bed all night long.
With my tears I drench my couch.
- ⁷ My eyes are blurred by sorrow.
They are worn out because of all my foes.

⁸ Turn away from me, all you evildoers,
because the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.

⁹ The LORD has heard my cry for mercy.
The LORD accepts my prayer.

¹⁰ They will be put to shame.
All my enemies will be terrified.
They will turn back.
They will be put to shame in an instant.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Passion History

Matthew 26:1-35

26 When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ²“You know that after two days it will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”

³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. ⁴ They plotted together how to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵ But they said, “Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people.”

⁶ When Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷ a woman approached him holding an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume. She poured it on his head as he was reclining at the table. ⁸ But when his disciples saw this, they were upset and said, “Why this waste? ⁹ This perfume could have been sold for a lot of money and given to the poor.”

¹⁰ Jesus was aware of this and said to them, “Why are you causing trouble for this woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me. ¹¹ You are always going to have the poor with you, but you are not always going to have me. ¹² When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³ Amen I tell you: Wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told in memory of her.”

¹⁴ Then one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ From that time on Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

¹⁷ On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

¹⁸ He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him the Teacher says, ‘My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples at your house.’”

¹⁹ The disciples did as Jesus commanded them and prepared the Passover. ²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve.

²¹ As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.”

²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?”

²³ He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.”

²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?”

He said to him, “Yes, you are the one.”

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, “Take, eat, this is my body.” ²⁷ Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” ³⁰ After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “This night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ ³² But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

³³ Peter answered him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”

³⁴ Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: Tonight before the rooster crows you will deny me three times.”

³⁵ Peter said to him, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you.” And all the disciples said the same.

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, NIV)

Sermon Hymn

417 *“It Was a Dark and Dismal Night”*



1 It was a dark and dis - mal night when pow'rs of
2 Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan, he took the
3 “This is my bod - y, slain for sin; re - ceive and
4 “Do this,” he said, “till time shall end, in mem - 'ry
5 Je - sus, your feast we cel - e - brate; we show your



earth and hell a - rose a - gainst the Son, our
bread and blessed and broke. What love through all his
eat the liv - ing food.” Then took the cup and
of your dy - ing friend; meet at my ta - ble
death; we sing your name till you re - turn and



God's de - light, and friends be - trayed him to his foes.
ac - tions ran! What won - drous words of grace he spoke!
blessed the wine: “This is my all - a - ton - ing blood.”
and re - cord the love of your de - part - ed Lord.”
we shall eat the mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–c. 1561
Text and tune: Public domain*

Sermon

Matthew 26:1-35

“Man’s Plots vs. God’s Plans”

Song of Mary *Magnificat*

(Luke 1:46-55)

Please remain seated



My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-



joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor



on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions



will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great



things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on



those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y



from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich




he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the



help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his



prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,



to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

Offering

(Proverbs 3:9-10; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Matthew 6:19-21; 25-34)

Offering Collection

God, who blesses us with all we have, gives us the privilege of showing him our thanks in many ways. One way is giving back a portion of what he has given us to support the work of the Church.

If you are a guest, please don't feel that you must give an offering. We are happy to share with you the free, good news of Jesus' eternal love for you.

If you have an offering, you can place it in the box in the narthex, mail it to the church, or give online via the link on our church website. Thank you for your financial support of our congregation!

Friendship Registers

A Friendship Register (i.e. the maroon book) is located at the end of each pew. Sometime before you leave, please write in your name and the names of those with you and check any appropriate box. If you want the pastor to reach out to you, please also provide your contact information. Thank you!

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

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

Please stand

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

The image shows a musical score for the phrase "Lord, have mercy." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." are written below the treble staff, with hyphens under "mer" and "cy." to indicate a long note. The music is a simple, homophonic setting of the text.

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 leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

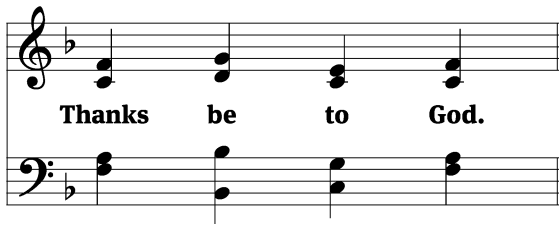
For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For... *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]*... let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.



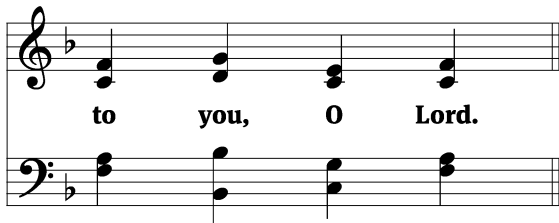
Thanks be to God.

The image shows a musical score for the phrase "Thanks be to God." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics "Thanks be to God." are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes.

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

Silence for individual prayer

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our Lord:



to you, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for the phrase "to you, O Lord." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics "to you, O Lord." are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes.

Tune: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 130002495

Prayer

Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over. Abide with us and with your whole Church. Abide with us in the evening of the day, in the evening of life, in the evening of the world. Abide with us in your grace and goodness, in your holy Word and sacrament, in your comfort and blessing. Abide with us when we are overcome by the night of sorrow and fear, by the night of doubt and affliction, by the night of bitter death. Abide with us and with all your people in time and in eternity.

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.



Blessing

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

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



Please be seated

Closing Hymn

431 verses 1 and 2 "O Perfect Life of Love"



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all is fin - ished now,
2 No work is left un - done of all the Fa - ther willed;



all that he left his throne a - bove to do for us be - low.
his toil, his sor - rows, one by one, the Scrip - tures have ful - filled.

*Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, abr., alt.
Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Text and tune: Public domain*





There will be no post-service music or announcements.

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

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

Please refrain from conversation until after you have departed the church to allow any who wish to remain the opportunity to pray and meditate in silence.

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

If you have an offering, you can place it in the box in the narthex, mail it to the church, or give online via the link on our church website. Thank you for your financial support of our congregation.

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

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

Please contact Pastor Berg at any time if you are need of any pastoral care during the week.

Special thanks to: Laura Rodrigue for playing organ...
and Ben Leyrer for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream.

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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