

✠ MIDWEEK OF LENT 4 ✠

March 18, 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.

Midweek of Lent 4

March 18, 2026



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 4

The Kingly Priest

A man named Joshua, served as the high priest over God’s people in Zechariah’s day. On one occasion, the LORD commanded Zechariah to place a royal crown on Joshua, signifying that in addition to being the high priest, he would also serve as king. Joshua wasn’t actually the king. This ceremony was meant to serve as a picture of someone greater to come; one who would truly be both Priest and King over God’s people and carry out each role faithfully. Joshua served as a type or forerunner of Christ Jesus, who is our Kingly Priest.

That fact was lost on those who put Jesus on trial. After Jesus identified himself as the Son of God to the elders, chief priests, and teachers of the law, he was sent to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea. Pilate, like the others, didn’t see in Jesus either a king or a priest, because he didn’t recognize Jesus as the Messiah (the one to whom Zechariah was pointing). However, despite appearances, at that moment Jesus was perfectly fulfilling the role of both offices, like he always has and always will. As our King, he was charging into battle to redeem us from sin, death, the devil, and hell. As our Priest, he was offering himself on the altar of the cross to pay the price for our sin. Because Jesus is our Great High Priest and King of kings, God’s wrath against our sin is satisfied, our enemies are defeated, and we are saved!

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

432 "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken" (stanzas 1 - 5)



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law have you bro - ken
2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness,



that such sharp sen - tence should on you be spo - ken?
with cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge you;
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;
the sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime have you to make con -
they give you gall to drink, they still de -
yes, all the wrath, the woe that you in -
the Mas - ter pays the debt his ser - vants
we for - feited our lives, yet are ac -



fes - sion, what dark trans - gres - sion?
cry you; they cru - ci - fy you.
her - it, this I do mer - it.
owe him, who would not know him.
quit - ted; God is com - mit - ted.

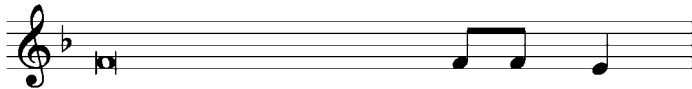
*Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; (sts. 1–4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 5): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain*

Opening Sentences

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

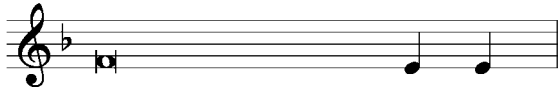
Please stand

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



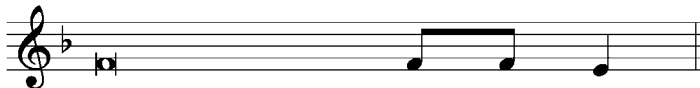
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,

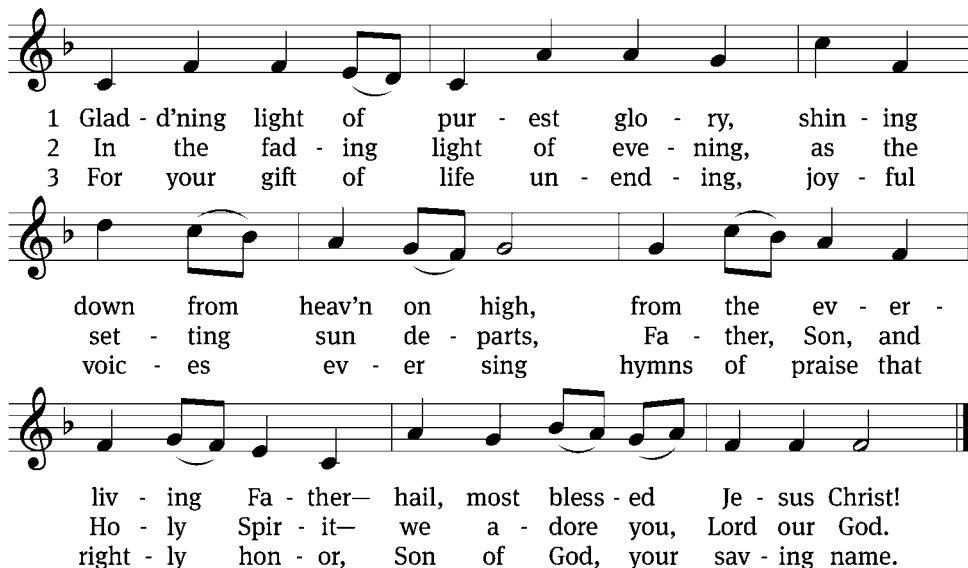


and hear our evening prayer and praise.

*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.

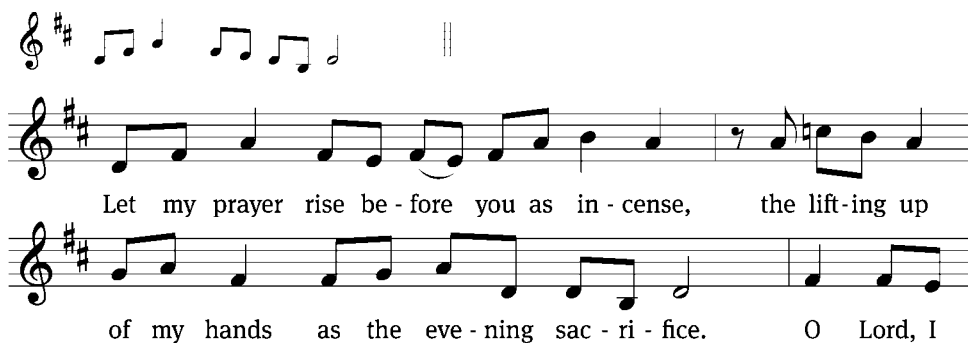
Text: Michael D. Schultz Text and tune: © 2021 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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

Penitential Psalm

Psalm 102

Psalm 102 is the fifth of the seven penitential psalms. The Church sings Psalm 102 to ask for the Lord's consideration in times of weariness and poor health. Martin Luther said, "Psalm 102 is a psalm of prayer. The dear fathers heartily yearn and call out for the kingdom of grace promised in Christ because they are weary of laws, sins, and death. Without Christ there is indeed only brokenness in the midst of earthly life, but in his kingdom there is eternal life, and there is no dying there. May that kingdom come!"

- 1 O LORD, hear my prayer,
and let my cry for help come to you.
- 2 **Do not hide your face from me**
on the day when I am distressed.
Turn your ear to me on the day I call.
Hurry! Answer me!
- 3 For my days go up in smoke,
and my bones are burned like hot coals.
- 4 **My heart is cut down and withered like grass,**
so I forget to eat my food.

- 5 Because of the sound of my groaning,
my bones stick out of my flesh.
- 6 **I am like an owl in the wilderness,
like a screech owl among the ruins.**
- 7 I lie awake.
I have become like a lonely bird on a roof.
- 8 All day long my enemies taunt me.
Those who ridicule me use my name as a curse,
- 9 **because I eat ashes like bread,
and I mix tears with my drinks.**
- 10 Because of your rage and your wrath,
you have picked me up and thrown me away.
- 11 **My days are being stretched out like a shadow,
and I am dried up like grass.**
- 12 But you, LORD, sit on your throne forever,
and you will be remembered through all generations.
- 13 You will rise and have compassion on Zion.
**Yes, it is time to be gracious to her,
because the appointed time has come.**
- 18 Let this be written till the last generation,
so that a people not yet created may praise the LORD.
- 19 For the LORD looked down from his high, holy place.
**From heaven he viewed the earth
to hear the groans of the prisoner,
to release those condemned to death.**
- 21 So the name of the LORD will be recorded in Zion
and his praise in Jerusalem,
- 22 **when the peoples and the kingdoms are gathered together
to serve the LORD.**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Trial before Pontius Pilate

²⁷ Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people reached the decision to put Jesus to death. ² They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

³ Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders ⁴ and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.”

⁵ He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. ⁶ The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.” ⁷ They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. ⁸ So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. ⁹ Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, ¹⁰ and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me.

¹¹ When Jesus stood in the presence of the governor, the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.”

¹² When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. ¹³ Then Pilate said to him, “Don’t you hear how many things they are testifying against you?”

¹⁴ But he did not answer him—not even one word, so that the governor was very surprised.

¹⁵ At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted. ¹⁶ At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. ¹⁷ So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, “Which one do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?” ¹⁸ For Pilate knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy.

¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate's wife sent him a message. "Have nothing to do with that righteous man," she said, "since I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him." ²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. ²¹ The governor asked them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?"

"Barabbas!" they said.

²² Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?"

They all said to him, "Crucify him!"

²³ But the governor said, "Why? What has he done wrong?"

But they kept shouting even louder: "Crucify him!"

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, he took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, "I am innocent of this righteous man's blood. It is your responsibility."

²⁵ And all the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"

²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified.

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

573 "Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness"



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness my beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day; who can a
3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; mid flam - ing worlds, in
 word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly ab - solved through
 ver - y throne of God pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, you have for all a



these ar - rayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, for all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise
 to claim my mansion in the skies,
 this then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus has lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
 Your boundless mercy has for me,
 for me and all your hands have made,
 an everlasting ransom paid.

*Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–1791, alt.
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 Text and tune: Public domain*

Sermon Text

Zechariah 6:9-13

⁹ The word of the LORD came to me:

¹⁰ Take an offering from the exiles—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon—and on that very day go into the house of Josiah son of Zephaniah.

¹¹ Take the silver and gold and make a crown, and place it on the head of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

¹² Tell him that this is what the LORD of Armies says:

There is a man whose name is the Branch, because he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD. ¹³ He is the one who will build the temple of the LORD. He will be clothed with majesty, and he will sit and rule on his throne. He will be a priest on his throne, and there will be peaceful relations between the two offices.

Sermon

“The Kingly Priest”

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.



Please be seated

Closing Hymn

432 "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken" (stanzas 6 and 7)

6 I'll think up - on your mer - cy with - out ceas - ing,
7 And when, dear Lord, be - fore your throne in heav - en
that earth's vain joys to me no more be pleas - ing;
to me the crown of joy at last is giv - en,
to do your will shall be my sole en -
where sweet - est hymns your saints for - ev - er
deav - or hence - forth for - ev - er.
raise you, I too shall praise you.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662 Text and tune: Public domain

The Pastor departs in silence

Please remain silent for meditation





Special thanks to:

Joel Schwartz for playing organ...
and Ben Leyrer 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



Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®)
© 2017 Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. Used by permission. www.wartburgproject.org

Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from
The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™
Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.
Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

Psalms introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter
© 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission.

Front and back cover artwork by Ian M. Welch <https://paramentics.com>. Used by permission.

Page 3 artwork courtesy of Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net # 726758.