

✠ HOLY THURSDAY ✠

April 17, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

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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.

Holy Thursday

April 17, 2025



Triduum *The Three Holy Days*

Holy Thursday marks the end of Lenten preparation and the beginning of the three holy days of Christendom called the “Triduum.” *Triduum* is Latin for “three days,” referring to Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The Triduum services are closely connected and considered a single service that extends over the course of this three-day period. On these days, we focus on Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection – the chief events of Christ’s life and the foundation of our saving faith.

Holy Thursday

On the night Jesus was betrayed, our Lord gathered with his disciples to prepare them for his imminent suffering, death, and resurrection. It was at this upper room gathering that Jesus washed his apostles’ feet, giving them and all believers the command of love that replaces self with neighbor.

On this same night Jesus also changed the Passover meal forever with his words, “This is my body... This is my blood.” Jesus now gives Christians the Sacrament of Holy Communion, in which he comes to meet us with his heavenly forgiveness. The institution of the Lord’s Supper sets forth the depth of Jesus’ love and gives power to the Church to live out his command to love one another as he has loved us.

After celebrating the Last Supper with his disciples, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane where he prayed and would later be arrested. During his midnight trials, Christ’s Passover predictions of Peter’s denial came true, and he was ultimately sentenced to death.

Holy Thursday is a mixed bag of emotions for Christians. We grieve as we see Jesus carry the weight of our sins. Yet we also rejoice, because he suffered for us and for our salvation!

The Service

Setting One

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

The Preparation

Opening 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.

Invocation

(Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Instruction for the End of Lent

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Confession

(1 John 1:8-9; Luke 18:13)

As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

Silence for meditation and reflection

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

(Matthew 16:19; John 20:21-23)

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Exhortation

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Prayer of the Day

(Matthew 7:7-11; Philippians 4:6)

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Old Covenant could only modify behavior. The New Covenant transforms people's hearts and minds.

- ³¹ Yes, the days are coming, declares the LORD,
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.
- ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers,
when I took them by the hand
and led them out of the land of Egypt.
They broke that covenant of mine,
although I was a husband to them, declares the LORD.
- ³³ But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days,
declares the LORD.
I will put my law in their minds,
and I will write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.
- ³⁴ No longer will each one teach his neighbor,
or each one teach his brother, saying, "Know the LORD,"
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD,
for I will forgive their guilt,
and I will remember their sins no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 116 B "I Will Walk in the Presence of the LORD"

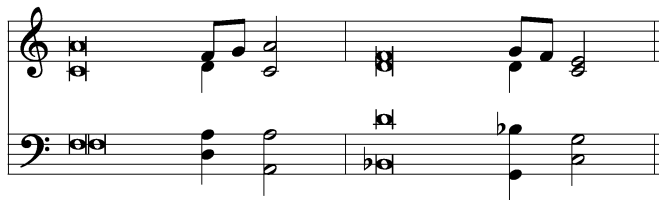
The Church sings Psalm 116 in services that celebrate the Lord delivering us from death. The original meaning of "cup of salvation" is debated, but because the psalm was commonly sung at Passover, it came to be associated with Holy Communion.

Refrain



I will walk in the pres - ence of the LORD,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Tone



I love the LORD, for he / heard my voice;
he heard my cry for / mercy.
Because he turned his / ear to me,
I will call on him as long / as I live.
The LORD is gracious and / righteous;
when I was brought low, he / saved me.

Refrain

What shall I return / to the LORD
for all his good- / ness to me?
I will lift up the cup of sal- / vation
and call on the name / of the LORD.
Precious in the sight / of the LORD
is the death of his faithful / servants.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

Refrain

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:15-25

Since the New Covenant perfectly satisfies our spiritual hunger, it enables us to confidently draw near to God.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies in Scripture to us, for first he said:

¹⁶ This is the covenant I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord.
I will put my laws on their hearts
and I will write them on their mind.

¹⁷ Then he adds:

And I will not remember their sins and their lawlessness any longer.

¹⁸ Now where these sins are forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

¹⁹ Brothers, we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place through the blood of Jesus.

²⁰ It is a new and living way he opened for us through the curtain, that is, his flesh. ²¹ We also have a great priest over the house of God. ²² So let us approach with a sincere heart, in the full confidence of faith, because our hearts have been sprinkled to take away a bad conscience, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold on firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ Let us also consider carefully how to spur each other on to love and good works. ²⁵ Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather, let us encourage each other, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 11:26



Refrain



Glo - ry, praise, and hon - or to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Tone



Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,

Refrain



you proclaim the Lord's death un - til he comes.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

The minister processes to the nave floor for the Gospel, symbolizing Christ's presence among us in his Word

Gospel

Luke 22:7-20

Jesus institutes the meal of the New Covenant. In this sacrament his body and blood are the food and drink that satisfy our every spiritual need.

⁷ The day of Unleavened Bread arrived, when it was necessary to sacrifice the Passover lamb. ⁸ Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat it.”

⁹ They said to him, “Where do you want us to prepare it?”

¹⁰ He told them, “Just as you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters. ¹¹ Tell the owner of the house, “The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?”” ¹² He will show you a large, furnished upper room. Make preparations there.” ¹³ They went and found things just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴ When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with the twelve apostles. ¹⁵ He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, ¹⁶ for I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁷ He took a cup, gave thanks, and said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves, ¹⁸ for I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

¹⁹ He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰ In the same way, he took the cup after the supper, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is being poured out for you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

659 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, turned a - way God's
2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, he, this pre - cious
3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; take heed how you
4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion if sal - va - tion



wrath for - ev - er; by his bit - ter grief and woe
food sup - ply - ing, gives his bod - y with the bread
are pre - par - ing, for if you do not be - lieve,
you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup - pose



he saved us from the e - vil foe.
and with the wine the blood he shed.
judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
you need not him who died and rose.

- 5 Christ says, "Come, all you that labor,
and receive my grace and favor;
those who feel no pain or ill
need no physician's help or skill."
- 6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
that this food is to be taken
by the souls who are distressed,
by hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
unto us such food has given
and, to mend what we have done,
gave into death his only Son.
- 8 If your heart this truth professes
and your mouth your sin confesses,
surely you will be his guest
and at his banquet ever blest.

*Text: John Hus, c. 1369-1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483-1546, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1533, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain*

Sermon

Luke 22:7-20

"Jesus' Lifeblood for Our Life"

Nicene Creed *Credo*

(Romans 10:9-10; Philippians 2:10-11)

Please stand

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated

Create in Me a Clean Heart (CW 942)

(Psalm 51:10-12)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Create in Me a Clean Heart'. It consists of five staves of music in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925-1989 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

Holy Thursday

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God, pictured in the ancient Passover feast, now giving your own body and pouring out your own blood in Holy Communion. Just as the Passover lambs assured the Israelites of God's promise to deliver them from death,
strengthen our belief that the bread is your real body and the wine is your real blood, given to us for our forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Prepare us to receive this sacrament remembering your death and repenting of our sins.
Unite us by our oneness of faith throughout this congregation and our synod, and love us to the end that we may love others as you have loved us.

We rejoice in our fellow believers who have been instructed in your Word and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, who are now ready to receive Holy Communion.
Equip them with every spiritual blessing for doing your will.

We pray for those absent from the sacrament because of their own neglect.
Call them in your mercy to return and renew their faith.

Keep in your care those unable to receive the sacrament often because they are homebound, hospitalized, imprisoned, serving in the military, or otherwise separated by space from the fellowship of believers. Encourage them so that they do not lose hope.
Be gracious to us all and nourish us with this feast, that we remain faithful unto death, and become partakers of the wedding feast of the Lamb.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Please stand

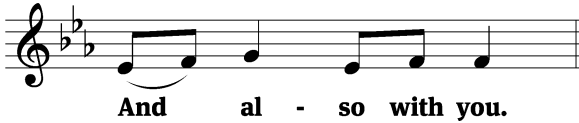
The Sacrament

Visitors, before approaching the altar, please read the notes printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Our Holy Communion Practices"

Prefaces

(2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 107:1)

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with 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.**

Words of Institution *Verba*

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Peace of the Lord *Pax Domini*

(John 14:27; 20:19; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

(John 1:29; Isaiah 53:4-7; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 2:42)

As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

The blood of Christ, poured out for you.

Amen.

As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

Amen.

Our Holy Communion Practices

(Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:27-29; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 John 1:3; 2 John 9-11)

Visitors

Before approaching the altar to receive Holy Communion, please read the following notes:

The Holy Bible teaches the celebration of the Lord's Supper is an expression of unity in faith and teaching. To be "in communion" means to share and hold in common. By receiving Holy Communion, we are not only sharing Christ's true body and blood, but we are also confessing that we publicly hold in common the same teachings of God's Holy Word.

We therefore invite to Holy Communion only those Christians who share the same teachings to which we hold, all the while recognizing the true spiritual unity and fellowship of all believers in God's Holy Christian Church (i.e. the Communion of Saints). Confirmed members of Nain and confirmed visiting members of sister congregations in the WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) and the ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod) are welcome to commune with us.

If you are a member of another Lutheran synod, another Christian denomination, or of another belief, we ask that you refrain from communing with us at this time. We do this out of love and in accordance with God's words through St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29. The pastor would be happy to speak with you if you have interest in communing in the future or have any other questions or concerns about our practices. Thank you for your patience and understanding, and for respecting our beliefs.

Communicants

"Christian Questions," a guide for personal preparation before receiving Holy Communion is printed on pages 295-296 in the hymnal. Prayers for before and after communing are printed on the first page of the hymnal.

The usher will direct you to the front of the nave, where you will commune. When the pastor distributes the bread and body of Christ, he will say, "The body of Christ, given for you." When he distributes the wine and blood of Christ, he will say, "The blood of Christ, poured out for you." Before consuming the sacramental elements, you may respond to the pastor's words by saying, "Amen" (which is Hebrew for, "Truly," or "Yes, it is so") as a way to confess your belief that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of your sins.

Children and Non-Communicants

Children and other non-communicants are welcome to approach the altar to receive a blessing from the pastor. He will make the sign of the cross on the head of each and say, "The Lord bless you." Non-Communicant adults are asked to cross their arms over their chest to indicate that they do not intend to commune.

Distribution Hymn

398 "Not All the Blood of Beasts"



1 Not all the blood of beasts on Is - rael's al - tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, takes all our sins a - way,
3 In faith I place my hand on that dear head di - vine,
4 My soul looks back to see the bur - den you did bear
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice to see the curse re - move;



could give the guilt - y con - science peace or wash a - way the stain.
a sac - ri - fice of no - bler name and rich - er blood than they.
as pen - i - tent - ly here I stand and lay on him my sin.
when hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there!
we bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice and sing his bleed - ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

677 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, we cel - e -
2 He blot - ted out with his own blood the judg - ment
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be he gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve that in this



brate with one ac - cord; it is our com - fort
that a - gainst us stood; he full a - tone - ment
sol - emn guar - an - tee; in this his ho - ly
sup - per we re - ceive his ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
for us made, and all our debt he ful - ly paid.
sup - per here we taste his love, so sweet, so near.
as he said, his ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

- 5 A precious food is this indeed,
it never fails us in our need,
a heav'nly manna for our soul
until we safely reach our goal.
- 6 How blest is each believing guest
who in these promises finds rest,
for Jesus will in love abide
with those who do in him confide!
- 7 They who his Word do not believe
this food unworthily receive,
salvation here will never find—
may we this warning keep in mind!
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe
that we may worthily receive
your supper and in you find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

*Text: Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714, abr.; tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.
Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742
Text and tune: Public domain*

Lord, Now You Let Your Servant (CW 951) *Nunc Dimittis*

(Luke 2:29-32)

Please stand as the canticle is introduced



Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. ... Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925-1989 ... Text and tune: Public domain

Thanksgiving

(Psalm 118:1)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Proclamation

(1 Corinthians 11:26)

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Post-Communion Prayer

(Romans 15:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 3:12, 5:11)

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

The Blessing is omitted since our worship on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday is considered one continuous service of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection

Background Music

422 "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

Stripping of the Altar

While the music is being played, the candles, bookstand, linens, paraments, and altar cross will be solemnly removed from the altar.

The stripping of the altar is done in remembrance of our Lord's abandonment by his disciples in Gethsemane and in preparation for Good Friday. Since the Christian altar symbolizes Jesus Christ, we also recall how Jesus' body was stripped of its pure seamless undergarment on Good Friday. These garments were divided among the Roman soldiers just as prophesied in Psalm 22. As we begin to meditate upon our Lord's Passion, the church is emptied of its ornamental beauty and darkened. It will remain so until the Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday when it will be decorated again for our celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

After the altar is stripped of its belongings, the cantor will sing Psalm 88.

Psalm 88

Sung by the cantor

- ¹ O LORD, the God who saves me, by day I cry out.
At night I cry before you.
- ² May my prayer come before you.
Turn your ear to my cry.
- ³ Indeed, my soul has had its fill of troubles,
and my life has arrived at the grave.
- ⁴ I am treated like those who go down to the pit.
I am like someone without strength.
- ⁵ I am turned loose with the dead.
I am like the slain who lie in the grave,
like the ones you do not remember anymore,
like those who are cut off from your hand.
- ⁶ You have put me in the lowest pit,
in dark places, in the depths.
- ⁷ Your wrath presses against me.
You have battered me with all your breakers.
- ⁸ You have distanced my acquaintances from me.
You have made me repulsive to them.
I am shut in and I cannot get out.
- ⁹ My eyesight grows dim from affliction.
I call to you, O LORD, every day.
I spread out my hands to you.
- ¹⁰ Is it for the dead that you do a miracle?
Do the spirits of the dead rise up and praise you?
- ¹¹ Is your mercy declared in the tomb,
your faithfulness in decay?
- ¹² Is your wonderful work known in the darkness?
Is your righteousness known in the land of forgetfulness?
- ¹³ But I cry to you, O LORD,
and in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- ¹⁴ Why, O LORD, do you reject my soul?
Why do you hide your face from me?

- ¹⁵ I have been afflicted
and I have been close to death since my youth.
I have endured your terrors.
I am in despair.
- ¹⁶ Your rage has swept over me.
Your terrors have destroyed me.
- ¹⁷ All day long they surround me like water.
They have battered me completely.
- ¹⁸ You have distanced my loved one and friend from me.
My only friend is darkness.

The lights are turned off

The service is concluded



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

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
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.

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.***

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 below.

Thank you for your financial support of our congregation!

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



Special thanks to: *Juanita Becker for playing piano... Lois Buske for serving as cantor...
Mark Buske for serving as distribution assistant... Jerry Loeffel for serving as usher...
Peter Hermanson for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...
and the Campbell family for making the rough cross we display during the seasons of Lent and Easter.*

*For more information about today's Scripture readings, the current season of the Church Year, and the words and symbols featured on the paraments, please visit the "[Worship Resources](#)" page of our website to read this Sunday's "**About the Propers**," a weekly document that explains the changeable parts of the service.*

*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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Holy Week Service Schedule

Please join us for these worship services as we focus on Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection to save us from our sins! These events in Christ's life are the heart of our faith. We hope you can attend each of these celebrations of our Lord's redeeming work.

Palm Sunday	April 13	Sunday	10:00 am
Holy Thursday	April 17	Thursday	7:00 pm
Good Friday	April 18	Friday	7:00 pm
Holy Saturday	April 19	Saturday	7:00 pm
Easter Sunday (Dawn)	April 20	Sunday	6:30 am
Easter Sunday (Day)	April 20	Sunday	10:00 am

Everyone is invited to enjoy breakfast in the downstairs fellowship hall between 8:00-9:30 am on Easter Sunday.