

✠ FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT ✠

April 6, 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.

Judica

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Lent

Open Door Policies

God's Surprising Strategies for Getting Sinners Back Home

When a wayward child wanders far from home, how does a loving parent pursue them without driving them further away? One thing that parent does is let the child know that there is an ongoing open-door policy. The child knows they will always be welcomed back home. Likewise, when we wander from God, he always keeps his door open for us. But God doesn't just passively wait for us to return. He lovingly pursues sinners in ways that make them long for home. Throughout the season of Lent, we will see the surprising strategies our heavenly Father uses for getting sinners back home, close to him and the loving care he offers.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Hiding Treasure in the Trash

The Fifth Sunday in Lent is traditionally known as "Judica" Sunday. The Sunday derives its name from the Latin words of the Introit (i.e. the opening verses) of the day: "Judge me justly (*judica*), O God, and plead my case against an ungodly nation" (Psalm 43:1 a).

This week we see how our Father makes the treasures of his house available to any and all. He places them in the last place we'd expect—the trash. In God's family, the things the world prizes and pursues are counted as worthless. Conversely, what the world rejects and discards is considered priceless and worth pursuing.

The best example of this is Jesus Christ himself. The Father sent his greatest treasure - God the Son - to earth. And many considered Jesus to be a trash that needed to be taken out. . . a troublemaker that needed to be killed. In truth, Christ is the precious cornerstone that God used to build his house, the one with the open door.

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.

The Preparation

Opening 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.

Please stand

Invocation

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

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

Amen.

Opening Dialogue

Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in mercy,
and he relents from sending disaster. *(Joel 2:13)*

Be gracious to me, God,
according to your mercy. *(Psalm 51:1 a)*

Erase my acts of rebellion
according to the greatness of your compassion. *(Psalm 51:1 b)*

LORD, have mercy on me.
Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. *(Psalm 41:4)*

Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away in anger. *(Psalm 27:9)*

God is light. In him there is no darkness at all. *(1 John 1:5 b)*
If we walk in the light, just as he is in the light, *(1 John 1:7 a)*
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. *(1 John 1:7 b)*

Confession

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

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

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

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



A - men.

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Traditionally, “Glory be to God” (i.e. the “Gloria”) is not sung during the penitential season of Lent. During this time of preparation, the Church looks forward to the return of this song on Easter Sunday when we will celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ’s glorious resurrection from the dead.

The Word

Salutation

(Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by your great goodness, mercifully look upon your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Isaiah prophesied that the nation of Babylon would trash Judah and carry them into captivity. Isaiah also prophesied that this would produce the treasure of spiritual renewal.

- ¹⁶ This is what the LORD says,
who makes a road through the sea
and a path through mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out the chariot and the horses,
the army and the strong warrior.
They will all lie down together.
They will not get up.
They are extinguished.
Like a wick they go out.
- ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things.
Do not keep thinking about ancient things.
¹⁹ Watch, I am about to do a new thing.
Now it will spring up. Don't you know about it?
Indeed I will make a road in the wilderness.
In the wasteland I will make rivers.
- ²⁰ The wild animals, the jackals and ostriches, will honor me,
because I am providing water in the wilderness,
rivers in a parched wasteland,
to provide water for my chosen people to drink.
- ²¹ This people that I formed for myself will declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 73 A “God Is the Strength of My Heart”

The Church sings Psalm 73 in services that encourage us to persevere in faith through the challenges of life.

Refrain



God is the strength of my heart and my por-tion for-ev - er.

Tone



As for me, my feet had / almost slipped;
I had nearly lost my / foothold.
For I envied the / arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the / wicked.
It troubled me deeply till I entered the sanctuary / of God;
then I understood their final / destiny.

Refrain

You guide me with your / counsel,
and afterward you will take me into / glory.
Whom have I in / heav'n but you?
And earth has nothing I desire be- / sides you.
My flesh and my / heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for- / ever.
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

Philippians 3:4b-14

St. Paul views as trash what most consider to be treasure and treasures what most consider to be trash.

⁴ If anyone else thinks that he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ in regard to zeal, persecuting the church; in regard to the righteousness that is in the law, blameless.

⁷ But, whatever things were a profit for me, these things I have come to consider a loss because of Christ. ⁸ But even more than that, I consider everything to be a loss because of what is worth far more: knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord. For his sake, I have lost all things and consider them rubbish, so that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, which comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God by faith. ¹⁰ I do this so that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, ¹¹ in the hope that in some way I may arrive at the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 118:22



Refrain



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

Tone



Refrain

The stone the builders re - ject - ed has become the cor - ner - stone.

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

Gospel

Luke 20:9-19

God the Father sent his Son into the world knowing the world would consider Jesus trash, even though Jesus is the precious cornerstone upon which God builds his house.

⁹ He began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard, leased it to some tenant farmers, and went away on a journey for a long time. ¹⁰ When it was the right time, he sent a servant to the tenants to collect his share of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenant farmers beat the servant and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ The man went ahead and sent yet another servant, but they also beat him, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹² He then sent yet a third. They also wounded him and threw him out. ¹³ The owner of the vineyard said, ‘What should I do? I will send my son, whom I love. Perhaps they will respect him.’

¹⁴ “But when the tenant farmers saw him, they talked it over with one another. They said, ‘This is the heir. Let’s kill him, so that the inheritance will be ours.’ ¹⁵ They threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. So what will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and destroy those tenant farmers and give the vineyard to others.”

When they heard this, they said, “May it never be!”

¹⁷ But he looked at them and said, “Then what about this that is written:

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone?

¹⁸ “Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush the one on whom it falls.”

¹⁹ That very hour the chief priests and the experts in the law began looking for a way to lay hands on him, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated



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



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.



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



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.



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.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise thee
 that from pain I might be free;
 falsely did thy foes accuse thee:
 thence I gain security.
 Comfortless thy soul did languish
 me to comfort in my anguish.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
 dearest Jesus, unto thee.

- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction
and hast borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion,
fully to atone for me.
Thou didst choose to be tormented
that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
for thy sorrows deep and sore,
for thine anguish in the garden,
I will thank thee evermore,
thank thee for thy groaning, sighing,
for thy bleeding and thy dying,
for that last triumphant cry
and shall praise thee, Lord, on high.

Sermon

Luke 20:9-19

“The Son Was Rejected So We Would Be Accepted”

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

Offering Collection

(Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 6:19-34; Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 9:7-11; Galatians 6:6-10)

Offerings

God, who blesses us with all we gave, gives us the privilege of thanking him in many ways. One way is by offering a portion of our income to financially support the ministry of our congregation and synod.

If you are a guest, please do not feel like you must give an offering.

We are happy to share with you the free, good news of Jesus' gracious love for you!

If you would like to give an offering, you can place it in the collection plate when it is passed to you.

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!

Friendship Registers

You are invited to write your name in the Friendship Register - the maroon book at the end of each pew. Please write down your name and the names of those with you, check any appropriate box, and provide your contact information if you want the pastor to speak with you.

Prayer of the Church

(Matthew 18:19,20; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love and take them into your tender care.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

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.

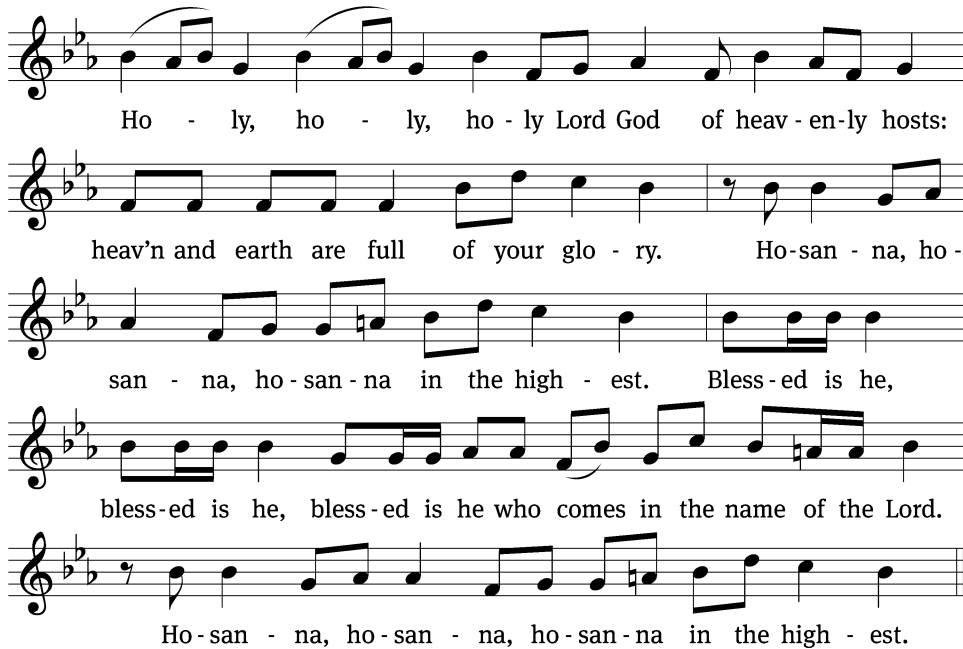


It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree,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

Distribution Hymn

397 "My Song Is Love Unknown"



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es
 4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
 stow, but such dis - dain! So few the longed - for Christ would
 sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I that for my sake
 know! But oh, my friend, my friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 who at my need his life did spend!
 and for his death they thirst and cry.
 them - selves dis - please and 'gainst him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
 my dear Lord made away.
 A murderer they save,
 the Prince of life they slay.
 Yet cheerful he
 to suff'ring goes
 that he his foes
 from death might free.

6 In life no house, no home
 my Lord on earth might have;
 in death no friendly tomb
 but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heav'n was his home
 but mine the tomb
 wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing;
 no story so divine,
 never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend,
 in whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 could gladly spend!

Distribution Hymn

560 "Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ"



1 Your works, not mine, O Christ, speak glad-ness to this heart;
 2 Your blood, not mine, O Christ, can heal my sin-ful soul;
 3 Your cross, not mine, O Christ, has borne the dread-ful load
 4 Your death, not mine, O Christ, has paid the ran-som due;
 5 Your right-eous-ness, O Christ, a-lone can cov-er me;



they tell me all is done, they bid my fear de-part.
 your wounds, not mine, con-tain the balm that makes me whole.
 of sins that none could bear but the in-car-nate God.
 ten thou-sand deaths like mine would have been all too few.
 no oth-er right-eous-ness can set a sin-ner free.

Refrain



To whom but you, who can a-lone for sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

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.

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.

Blessing

(Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

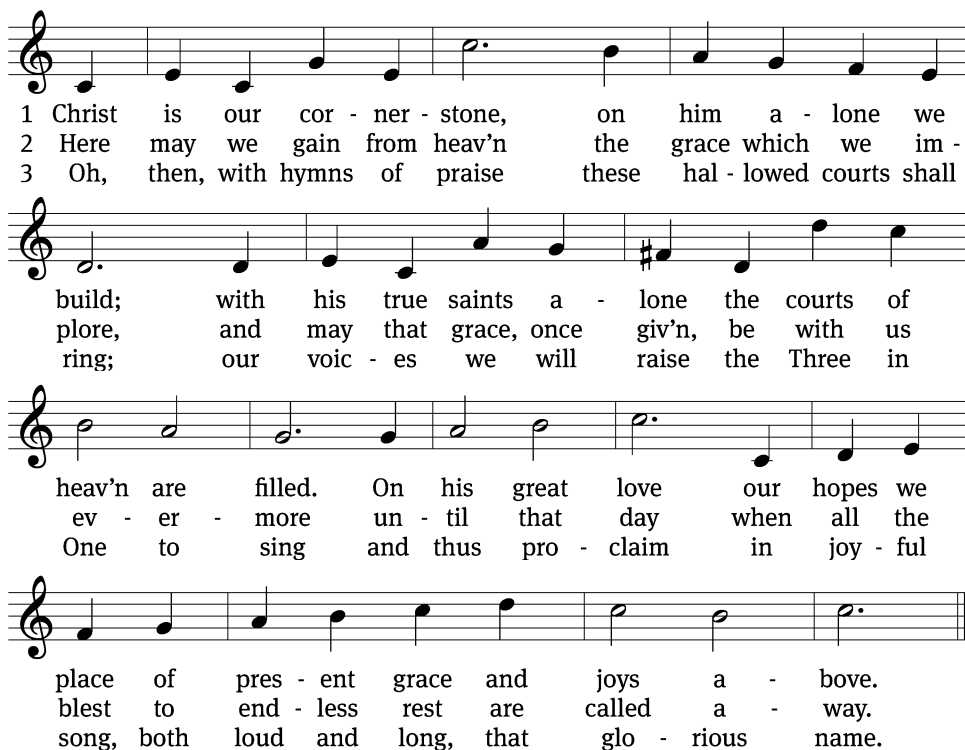
The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn

914 "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on him a - lone we
2 Here may we gain from heav'n the grace which we im -
3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall
build; with his true saints a - lone the courts of
plore, and may that grace, once giv'n, be with us
ring; our voic - es we will raise the Three in
heav'n are filled. On his great love our hopes we
ev - er - more un - til that day when all the
One to sing and thus pro - claim in joy - ful
place of pres - ent grace and joys a - bove.
blest to end - less rest are called a - way.
song, both loud and long, that glo - rious name.

✚ ✚ ✚

Please join us this Wednesday at 4:00 or 7:00 pm for our Midweek Lenten Service.

The 7:00 pm service will be live streamed.

Please visit our website (www.nainlutheran.org) to be directed to our YouTube channel.

We will follow the order of Evening Prayer, read one of the Penitential Psalms (Psalm 143), and hear a portion of the Passion History of our Lord according to the Gospel of St. Luke (23:26-56).

If you are unable to attend, please consider reading the Passion History reading at home so you can remain caught up on our journey with Jesus to the cross and the empty tomb.

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.**

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

Special thanks to: Kathy Weigand for playing piano...

Ben Leyrer for serving as distribution assistant... Luther Schmeling and Aaron Palmer for serving as ushers...

Joe Lopina for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream... Joanne Kohler for serving on Altar Duty... 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.

All worshipers are encouraged to take home a copy of our **weekly newsletter, the "Nain Messenger"** to stay informed about all congregational news. Printed copies are available on the countertop in the narthex.

"The Congregation at Prayer," a document offering suggestions for daily devotions and Scripture readings, is also posted on the "[Worship Resources](#)" page of our church website.

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

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



Scripture taken from: The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version™ (EHV™)

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Psalm introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter

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