+ GOOD FRIDAY+

April 18, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St. West Allis, WI 53214

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1665 South 57th Street | West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg Organist: Linda Loeffel Phone: 414-810-3392 Church Choir: Lois Buske

Email: revjberg@gmail.com Children's Choir: Peter Hermanson

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.

Good Friday

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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.

Good Friday

The second day of the Triduum is Good Friday. Today, we observe the anniversary of Jesus' crucifixion. The term *Good Friday* probably came from the term "God's Friday," just as *goodbye* comes from "God be with ye." This day is sometimes referred to as *Black Friday*. It is the most solemn day of the Church Year.

Good Friday is the most somber of all days because on it our Lord was murdered; worse yet, it was our fault. Our sins pounded the nails into his hands and feet. Yet, for centuries we have called this day "good." Only those who have died with Christ to sin know that God reveals his glory through the cross. At that moment of grotesque humiliation is our God both just (punishing the sin of mankind) and merciful (releasing mankind from that very punishment).

This emotional roller coaster is played out during the ancient Service of Remembrance of the Cross. As we slowly and deliberately ponder the utter depravity of humanity, we see the pain of our Savior. Then, and only then, do we feel the great relief of the coming resurrection. Good Friday is not a funeral service for Jesus, but a celebration of the Lamb and his sacrifice. Through his suffering and death, we receive the victory of eternal life!

Service of Remembrance of the Cross

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 Procession of the Cross.

The Preparation

Tolling of the Bells

Please stand as the bells are tolled and direct your attention to the cross in the back of the nave

Procession of the Cross

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Let us worship him.

The cross is carried midway to the chancel

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Let us worship him.

The cross is carried to the chancel

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Let us worship him.

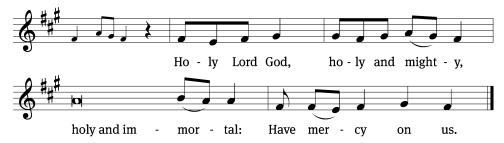
The cross is set in its place

Please be seated at the direction of the pastor

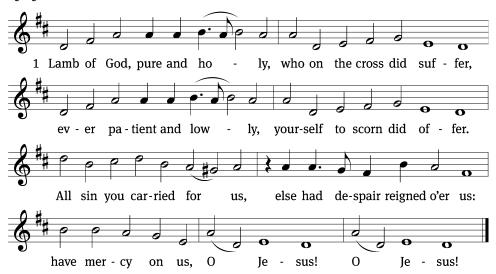
Scripture Ephesians 2:1-3

2 You were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you formerly walked when you followed the ways of this present world. You were following the ruler of the domain of the air, the spirit now at work in the people who disobey. ³ Formerly, we all lived among them in the passions of our sinful flesh, as we carried out the desires of the sinful flesh and its thoughts. Like all the others, we were by nature objects of God's wrath.

Cantor:



Congregation:



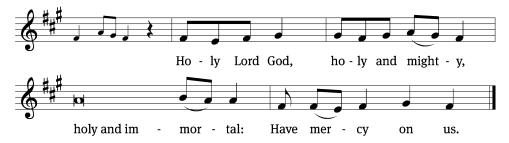
947 "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

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

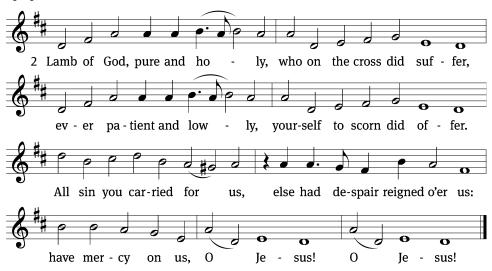
Scripture Galatians 3:10

¹⁰ In fact, those who rely on the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law."

Cantor:



Congregation:



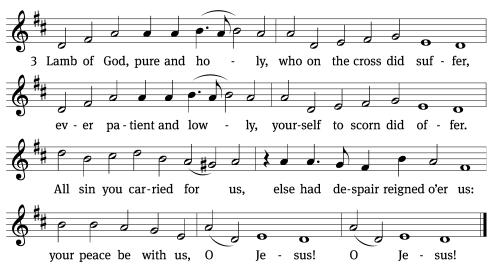
Scripture James 4:8-10

⁸ Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded people. ⁹ Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be changed into mourning and your joy into gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Cantor:



Congregation:



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

Please stand

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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray.

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this, your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

As our substitute, Christ endured the punishment that our quilt deserved. We are now at peace with God.

^{52:13} Look, my servant will succeed.

He will rise. He will be lifted up. He will be highly exalted.

- Just as many were appalled at him his appearance was so disfigured that he did not look like a man, and his form was disfigured more than any other person—
- so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him, because they will see something they had never been told before, and they will understand something they had never heard before.
- 53 Who has believed our report,

and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- He grew up before him like a tender shoot and like a root from dry ground.
 He had no attractiveness and no majesty.
 When we saw him, nothing about his appearance made us desire him.
- He was despised and rejected by men,
 a man who knew grief,
 who was well acquainted with suffering.
 Like someone whom people cannot bear to look at,
 he was despised,
 and we thought nothing of him.
- ⁴ Surely he was taking up our weaknesses, and he was carrying our sufferings.

We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted,

- but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced.
 He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved.
 The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.
- We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way, but the LORD has charged all our guilt to him.
- He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.
 Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent in front of its shearers, he did not open his mouth.
- He was taken away without a fair trial and without justice, and of his generation, who even cared?
 So, he was cut off from the land of the living.
 He was struck because of the rebellion of my people.
- 9 They would have assigned him a grave with the wicked, but he was given a grave with the rich in his death, because he had done no violence, and no deceit was in his mouth.
- Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and to allow him to suffer.

Because you made his life a guilt offering, he will see offspring. He will prolong his days, and the LORD's gracious plan will succeed in his hand.

¹¹ After his soul experiences anguish, he will see the light of life.

He will provide satisfaction.

Through their knowledge of him, my just servant will justify the many, for he himself carried their guilt.

Therefore I will give him an allotment among the great, and with the strong he will share plunder, because he poured out his life to death, and he let himself be counted with rebellious sinners. He himself carried the sin of many, and he intercedes for the rebels.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Church sings Psalm 22 in services that commemorate the suffering and death of Jesus. It is quoted frequently in the New Testament, including from the lips of the Savior when he suffered for us on the cross.



Tone



My God, my God, why have you for- / saken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of / anguish?
I am a worm and / not a man,
scorned by everyone, despised by the / people.
All who see me / mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking / their heads.
"He trusts in the / LORD," they say,
"let the LORD / rescue him."

Refrain

All my bones are / on display;
you lay me in the / dust of death.

A pack of villains en- / circles me;
they pierce my hands / and my feet.

They divide my clothes a- / mong them
and cast lots for my / garment.

But you, LORD, do not be / far from me.
You are my strength; come quickly to / help me.

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

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Second Reading Galatians 3:10-13

We are saved not by obeying God's law but through faith in the One who redeemed us from the law's curse.

¹⁰ In fact, those who rely on the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law." ¹¹ Clearly no one is declared righteous before God by the law, because "The righteous will live by faith." ¹² The law does not say "by faith." Instead it says, "The one who does these things will live by them."

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. As it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Gospel John 19:17-30

The crucifixion and death of Jesus.

¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to what is called the Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him with two others, one on each side, and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹ Pilate also had a notice written and fastened on the cross. It read, "Jesus the Nazarene, the King of the Jews."

²⁰ Many of the Jews read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek.

- ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but that 'this man said, "I am the King of the Jews.""
 - ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."
- ²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier. They also took his tunic, which was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let's not tear it. Instead, let's cast lots to see who gets it." This was so that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:

They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

So the soldiers did these things.

- ²⁵ Jesus' mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross.
- ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother!" And from that time this disciple took her into his own home.
- ²⁸ After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, "I thirst."
- ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was sitting there. So they put a sponge soaked in sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.
- ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished!" Then, bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

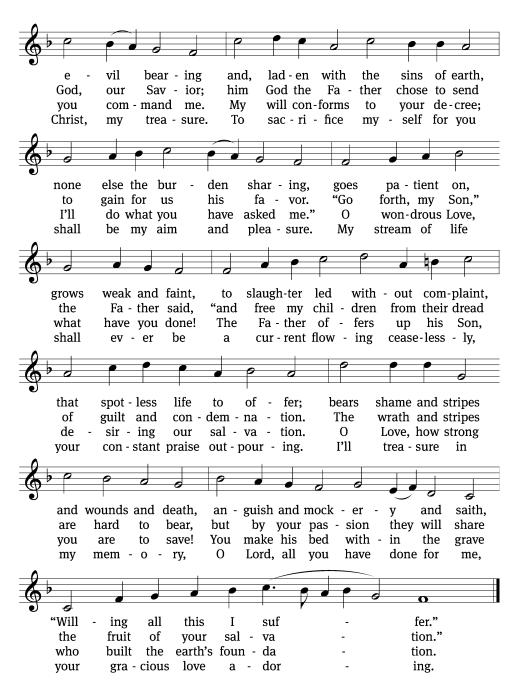
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

422 "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"





Bidding Prayer

This form of prayer, cherished by Lutherans, was an established Christian tradition dating to early post-apostolic times. The invitations to prayer (bids) will be said by the pastor, followed by silent prayer and the prayer itself. Please remain seated.

Let us pray for the whole Church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from the assaults of the evil one and help us remain faithful to your Word so that in every adversity, we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of your people. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear them may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word, that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your own dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism, that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live new and holy lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still be glorified in them and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one, true God and Jesus Christ, whom he has sent.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your gospel, mercifully gather a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you, whose name we bear. We ask that you change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without reason. Give them repentance and faith so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial.

Silent prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our grief and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation, that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please stand

Lord's Prayer

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

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he has taught us.

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.

Please be seated



Text: Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530-609, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; (sts. 2–5): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

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Dialogue of the Cross

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection,

for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—
so that your ways may be known on earth your salvation among all nations.

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

Brief silence

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The minister exits the chancel \dots The lights are turned off \dots 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 service ends.

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.

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!



Special thanks to: Linda Loeffel for playing organ... Afton Miller for serving as cantor...

Joe Lopina 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: <u>www.wels.net</u>



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Holy Week Service Schedule

Please join us for our remaining Holy Week 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.

Holy Saturday Easter Sunday (Dawn)	April 19 April 20	Saturday Sunday	7:00 pm 6:30 am

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