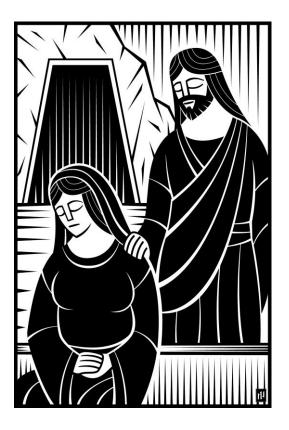
# + EASTER DAWN +

# April 20, 2025



# Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57<sup>th</sup> St. West Allis, WI 53214

# + Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church +

1665 South 57<sup>th</sup> Street | West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

414-545-6925 | www.nainlutheran.org | www.facebook.com/nainlutheran



Pastor:	Joseph M. Berg
Phone:	414-810-3392
Email:	revjberg@gmail.com

Organist: Linda Loeffel Church Choir: Lois Buske om 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.

# Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Dawn

April 20, 2025



#### Easter **Because He Lives**

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not fairytale or fable. It is a historic fact that a real man named Jesus of Nazareth rose from the dead, outside of Jerusalem, around 2,000 years ago. However, we do ourselves a disservice if we simply recall the historic details of that first Easter Sunday without thinking about their significance. So, what does Jesus' resurrection from the dead mean for us Christians? It will be our privilege and pleasure to use the fifty days of Easter to ponder the many blessings God gives to us through Jesus *because he lives*.

#### Easter Dawn

#### We Have A Whole New Identity

In the darkness before dawn, the women walked to the tomb with heavy hearts. Jesus was dead. His mission was over. In their mind, they were feeble followers of a failure. All that was left to do was finish embalming the corpse and then try to move on. Yet, Jesus wasn't dead. And because he lived, they were not followers of a failure at all. They were disciples of the one who had conquered sin and defeated death.

It is as simple as this. Because he lives, we have a whole new identity: not sinners, but redeemed saints; not rebels, but God's chosen nation; not doomed, but saved; not only servants, but sons and daughters of God Almighty; not losers, but victorious, because Christ gives us the victory. The living Lord has given us a whole new identity. It is all because of him. It is all because he lives.

# The Service

# Setting Four

#### Welcome to God's house in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

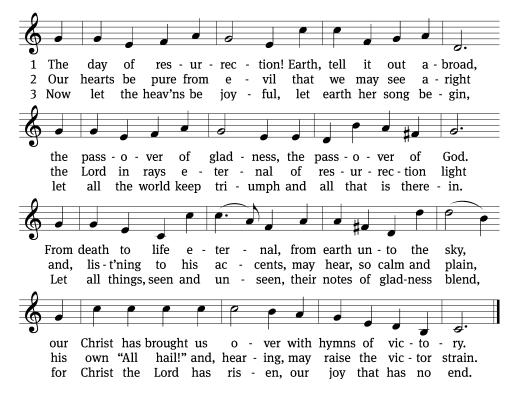
Please enter the sanctuary quietly so you and others can prepare your hearts for God's worship service. A personal prayer for before worship is printed on the first page of the blue hymnal. The hymns are located in the middle to back portion of the blue hymnal.

# The Preparation

#### **Tolling of the Bells**

#### **Opening Hymn**

450 "The Day of Resurrection"



Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 Text and tune: Public domain

#### Invocation

#### Please stand

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

#### 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### **Easter Dialogue**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Jesus Christ "was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." (*Romans 4:25*)

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (*Romans* 5:1)

"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1)

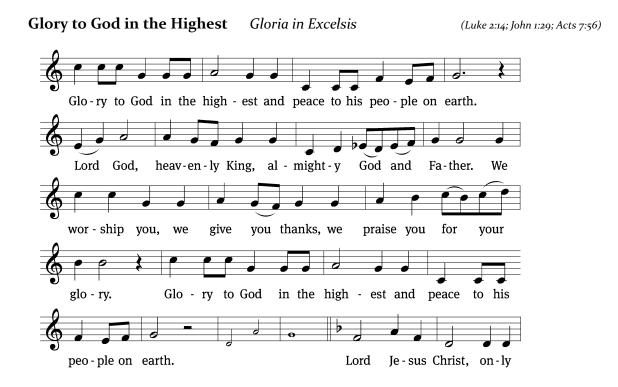
"In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (Romans 8:37)

"Death has been swallowed up in victory." (1 Corinthians 15:54b)

"Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor 15:57)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!





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# The Word

#### Salutation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before you in righteousness and purity forever; 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**

The Lord destroyed Egypt's army in the waters of the Red Sea. In saving them, the Lord gave the Israelites a new identity—not slaves of Egypt, but God's special people and chosen nation.

15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD. They said:

I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

- The LORD is my strength and song. He has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will praise him; my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD is a warrior. The LORD is his name.
- <sup>4</sup> He has cast Pharaoh's chariots and his army into the sea. His elite officers are drowned in the Red Sea.
- <sup>5</sup> The deep waters covered them. They sank down to the depths like a stone.
- <sup>6</sup> LORD, your right hand is glorious in power.

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

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

Exodus 15:1-11

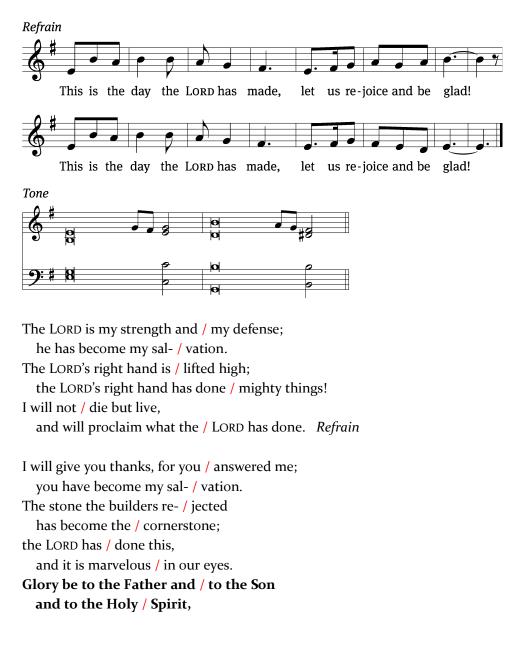
LORD, your right hand has shattered the enemy.

- In your great majesty you overthrew those who opposed you.
   You sent out your burning anger.
   It consumed them like stubble.
- <sup>8</sup> At the blast from your nostrils the waters piled up. The flowing waters stood up like a dam. The deep waters became solid in the heart of the sea.
- <sup>9</sup> The enemy said, "I will pursue.
  I will overtake. I will divide the plunder.
  I will do whatever I want with them.
  I will draw my sword,
  and my hand will destroy them."
- <sup>10</sup> But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- LORD, who is like you among the gods?
   Who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in praise, working wonders?

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### Psalm of the Day

The Church sings Psalm 118 in services that celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Since it was the last psalm in the Passover liturgy at the time of Jesus, it might have been sung when Jesus instituted Holy Communion.



#### as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Text: Lectionary for Mass Tune: Marty Haugen Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer Text: © 1969 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758 Tune: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758 Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

## Second Reading

Our new identity includes a type of glory that, for now, is hidden from the world. That glory will be fully revealed when our living Lord comes again on the Last Day.

**3** Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia! "For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive." Alleluia!

Please stand for the Gospel

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

## Gospel

The first appearance of Jesus after his resurrection was to Mary Magdalene. In that appearance, for the first time Jesus gives his followers this new identity: "my brothers."

**20** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she left and ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," she told them, "and we don't know where they put him!"

### 1 Corinthians 15:22

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-18

<sup>3</sup>So Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>Bending over, he saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not go in.

<sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter, who was following him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there. <sup>7</sup> The cloth that had been on Jesus' head was not lying with the linen cloths, but was folded up in a separate place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who arrived at the tomb first, also entered. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> (They still did not yet understand the Scripture that he must rise from the dead.)

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood outside facing the tomb, weeping. As she wept, she bent over, looking into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> She saw two angels in white clothes sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They asked her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She told them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have laid him."

<sup>14</sup> After she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not know it was Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?"

Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you carried him off, tell me where you laid him, and I will get him."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned and replied in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means, "Teacher").

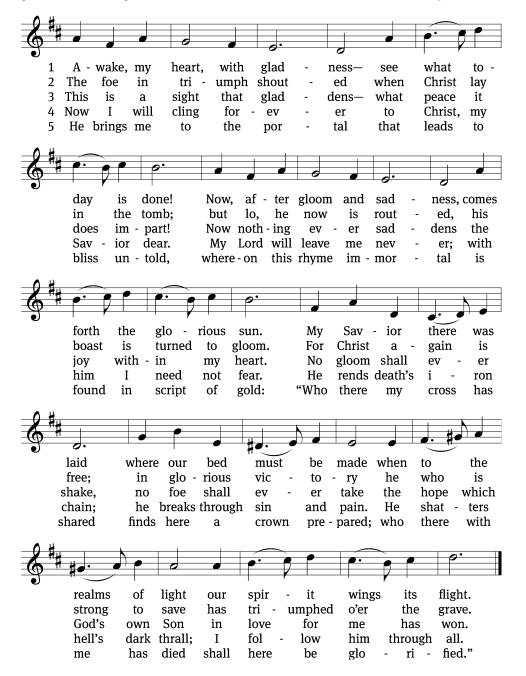
<sup>17</sup> Jesus told her, "Do not continue to cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father—to my God and your God."

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" She also told them the things he said to her.

#### The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day



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.

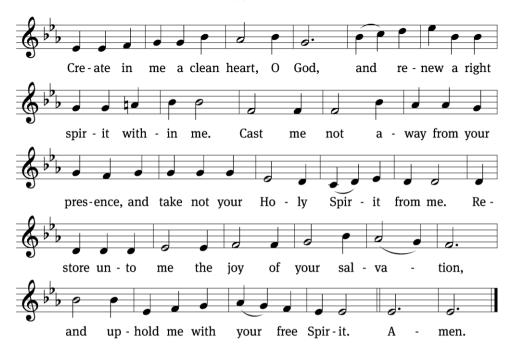
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

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. Create in Me a Clean Heart (CW 942)



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**

#### Easter I

Let us pray.

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy during this Easter season, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Imprint the message of victory on our hearts and implant it in our minds. Through the good news of your resurrection renew our hope and revive our faith. Lord, in your mercy,

#### Hear our prayer.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,

#### Hear our prayer.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain by reminding them that their loved ones will one day rise again. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

# Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your wise mercy, heal those who are sick, receiving treatment for illness, recovering from illness or surgery, or hurting in body or mind. Remind them that your victory over death is a fact, and comfort them with your promise to raise them and give them and all believers new, glorified bodies like yours. Lord, in your mercy,

#### Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and in the feast of your Sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

#### 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. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** 

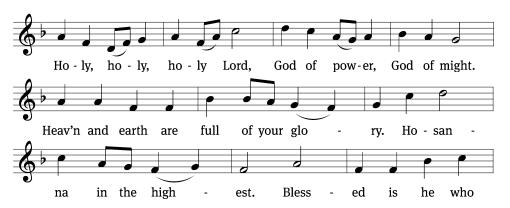
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life.

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)





Tune: Sermit G. Moldenhauer Tune: Construction Constructi

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. **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.** 

Christ, Lamb of God, 0 you take the a - way the world; sin of have су on mer us. Christ, 0 Lamb of God, you take a - way the of the world; sin have on mer су us. 0 Christ, Lamb of God, you take а - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A A men. men.

**O Christ**, Lamb of God Aqnus Dei

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

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Please be seated

### **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 of Holy Communion**

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.** 

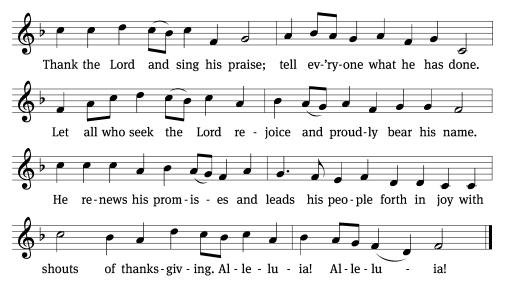
As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:

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

#### Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise (CW 948)

(Psalm 105:1-5; Isaiah 55:12)

Please stand as the canticle is introduced



Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010 Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

# Thanksgiving

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

# Proclamation

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

# **Post-Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### Blessing

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

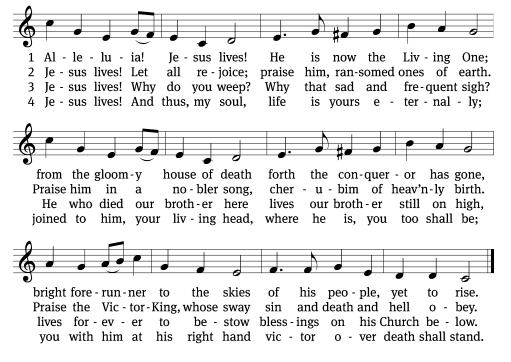


(1 Corinthians 11:26)

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

(Numbers 6:24-26)

**Closing Hymn** 



Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

+ + +

You are welcome to join us this morning for breakfast downstairs in the fellowship hall (8:00 – 9:30 am), and then for our Easter Day Divine Service back here in the sanctuary (10:00 am).



#### There will not be any post-service announcements.

You will not be ushered out. You may depart any time after the service ends.

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 <u>PayPal</u>, 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!

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 "<u>Worship Resources</u>" page of our website to read this Sunday's "**About the Propers**," a weekly document that explains the changeable parts of the service.

"**The Congregation at Prayer**," a document offering suggestions for daily devotions and Scripture readings, is also posted on the "<u>Worship Resources</u>" 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: <u>www.wels.net</u>



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