# + SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

June 22, 2025



## Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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

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| Pastor: | Joseph M. Berg     |
|---------|--------------------|
| Phone:  | 414-810-3392       |
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Pianist:Juanita BeckerChurch Choir:Lois BuskecomChildren'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.

# Second Sunday after Pentecost Proper 7

June 22, 2025



Season after Pentecost **Undivided Attention...** 

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us. On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers faith which focuses on what really matters. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants this gift to believers. We have come to the second half of the Church Year. In the first half, we focused on the life of Christ. In this second half, we turn our attention to all the teachings of Christ. May we give them our undivided attention!

#### Second Sunday after Pentecost ...On the Mission Right before Us

We tend to think of mission work as being "over there," something done in a far-away place. It is good and right to support foreign mission work with our prayers and offerings. However, something is off if we allow our appreciation for "over there" mission work to take our eyes off the mission that is right before us. Here is the two-fold reality worthy of our undivided attention this week. First, if we have seen the grace of God, we will serve as witnesses for Christ. Second, we need not cross the ocean to share the gospel. We can simply cross the street. In our various callings—parent or grandparent or sibling, friend or neighbor or coworker—God will provide one opportunity after another to serve as the witnesses Jesus has made us to be. So, let us continue to pray for and support "over there" mission work. But let us also give our undivided attention to the mission that God had placed right before each of us.

# 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**

921 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Come, thou al might - y help us thy 1 King, sing; name to 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword; 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa-cred wit ness bear -4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais be es Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all help us to praise. vic peo - ple bless, and give thy our prayer at - tend. Come and thv al - might - y art, now rule in in this glad hour! Thou, who sov-'reign maj - es - ty hence ev - er - more! Thv may we in to - ri ous, come and reign o - ver us, An-cient of Davs. and thy right - eous-ness de - scend. Word suc-cess. let on us 'rv heart, and ne'er from de - part, Spir - it of pow'r. ev us e - ter - ni - ty glo - ry see, and love and a - dore. to Text: English, c. 1757, abr., alt. Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796 Text and tune: Public domain

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.

#### Confession

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.** 

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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

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



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.



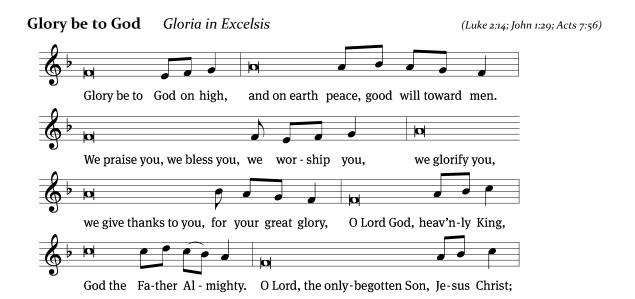
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



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



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## 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.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, into this world to destroy the works of the devil and protect us poor people against such an evil foe. Uphold us in all affliction by your Holy Spirit so that we may have peace from such enemies and remain forever blessed; 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**

Those who have seen what the Lord has done are witnesses who testify on his behalf right where they live.

- <sup>8</sup> Bring out the people who are blind, though they have eyes, and the people who are deaf, though they have ears.
- <sup>9</sup> Let all the nations be gathered together, and let peoples be assembled.
  Who among them has declared this?
  Who has made known to us the former things?
  Let them produce their witnesses to show that they were right, so that people can hear and say, "This is truth."
- You are my witnesses, declares the LORD.
   You are my servant, whom I have chosen, so that you may know me and believe in me, so that you will understand that I am he.
   Before me no god was formed, and after me there will not be another.
- I, yes I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.

# <sup>12</sup> I myself declared it. I brought salvation, and I announced it. It was not some strange god among you. You are my witnesses, declares the LORD, and I am God.

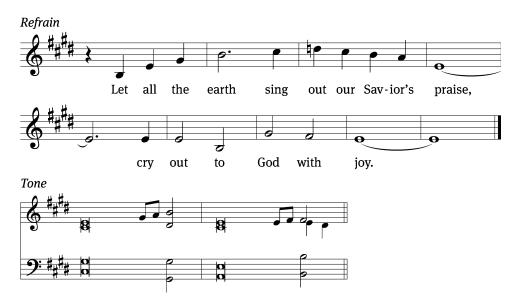
<sup>13</sup> Indeed, from the first day, I am he.There is no one who can deliver anyone from my hand.I act, and who can reverse it?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm of the Day

Psalm 66 C "Let All the Earth Sing Out"

The Church sings Psalm 66 in services that include joyful praise of God for his amazing saving activity. Sometimes the psalm addresses God, and sometimes it addresses the people praising God.



Shout for joy to God, / all the earth!

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise / glorious.

Praise our God, all / peoples,

let the sound of his / praise be heard;

he has pre- / served our lives

and kept our feet from / slipping.

#### Refrain

Come and hear, all you who / fear God; let me tell you what he has / done for me. If I had cherished sin / in my heart, the Lord would not have / listened; but God has surely / listened and has / heard my prayer.
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

The grace of God has been revealed to all in Jesus Christ; all who have seen it serve as witnesses of God's grace in their various callings.

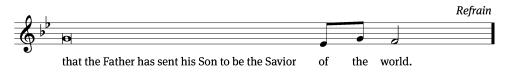
<sup>3</sup> I thank God, whom I serve with a clean conscience as my ancestors did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> When I remember your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I remember your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that it also lives in you.

<sup>6</sup> For this reason I am reminding you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup> For God did not give us a timid spirit, but a spirit of power and love and sound judgment. <sup>8</sup> So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Instead, join with me in suffering for the gospel while relying on the power of God. <sup>9</sup> He saved us and called us with a holy calling, not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, <sup>10</sup> and it has now been revealed through the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced





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

#### Gospel

#### Luke 8:26-39

Jesus sets a demon-possessed man free then instructs the man to return to his home and be a witness to the goodness of God.

<sup>26</sup> They sailed down to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across from Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus stepped ashore, a man from the town met him. He was possessed by demons and for a long time had not worn any clothes. He did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What do I have to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torment me!" <sup>29</sup> For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. In fact, the unclean spirit had seized him many times. He was kept under guard, and although he was bound with chains and shackles, he would break the restraints and was driven by the demon into deserted places.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

He said, "Legion," because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup> They were begging Jesus that he would not order them to go into the abyss. <sup>32</sup> A herd of many pigs was feeding there on the mountain. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> The demons went out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When those who were feeding the pigs saw what happened, they ran away and reported it in the town and in the countryside. <sup>35</sup> People went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet. He was clothed and in his right mind, and the people were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who saw it told them how the demon-possessed man was saved. <sup>37</sup> The whole crowd of people from the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were gripped with great fear. As Jesus got into the boat and started back, <sup>38</sup> the man from whom the demons had gone out begged to be with him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your home and tell how much God has done for you." Then he went through the whole town proclaiming what Jesus had done for him.

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

Please be seated

#### Hymn of the Day

744 "Rise, Shine, You People"



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#### Sermon

#### 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

#### 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

The Christian Church has traditionally marked June 24 as a day to remember the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and June 25 as a day to celebrate the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession. We will recognize these minor church year festivals in our prayers today.

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.

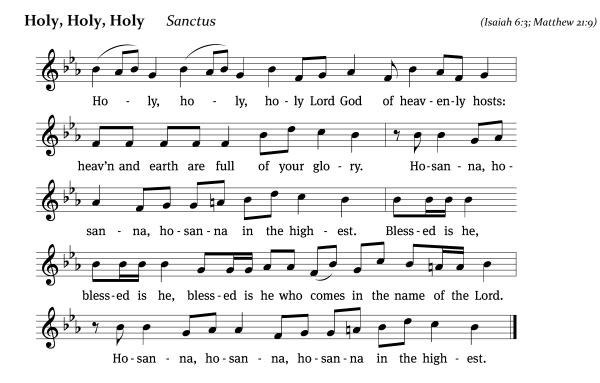


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory.

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



#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

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)

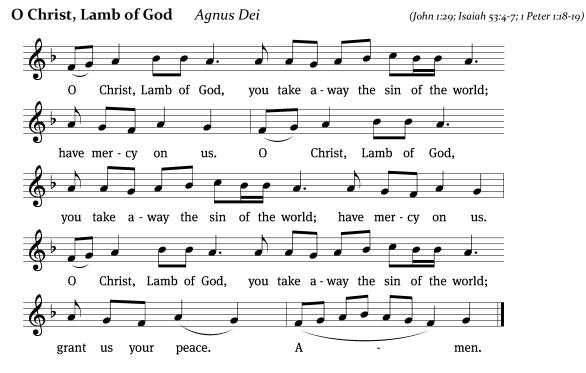
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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.** 



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**

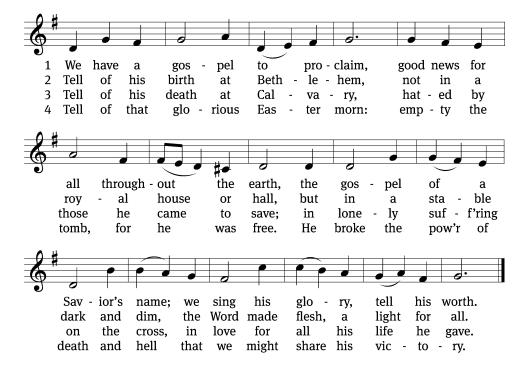
"Christian Questions," a guide for personal preparation before receiving Holy Communion is printed on pages 295-296 in the hymnal. Prayers for before and after communing are printed on the first page of the hymnal.

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 Hymn** 



- Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
   by all creation glorified;
   he sends his Spirit on his Church
   to live for him, the Lamb who died.
- Now we rejoice to name him King; Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
   This gospel message we proclaim; we sing his glory, tell his worth.

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#### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

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

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** 

The blood of Christ, poured out for you. **Amen.** 

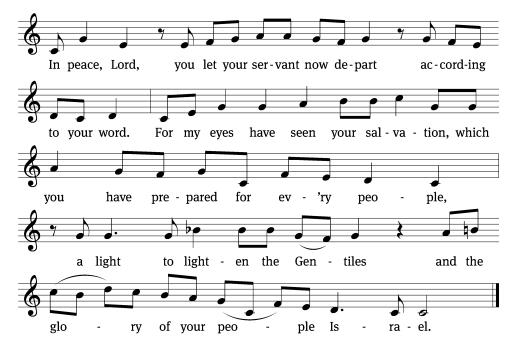
As he dismisses the communicants, the pastor says:

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

#### In Peace, Lord, You Let Your Servant (CW 968) Nunc Dimittis

(Luke 2:29-32)

Please stand as the canticle is introduced



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# 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 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

(Psalm 118:1)

(1 Corinthians 11:26)

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

**Closing Hymn** 

932 v1 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"



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#### A personal prayer for after worship is printed on the first page of the hymnal.

*If you have an offering*, you can place it in the collection box located on the table in the back of the hall. 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!

#### Special thanks to:

Juanita Becker for playing piano... Aaron Palmer for serving as distribution assistant... Kyle Peterson for serving as usher... Ben Leyrer for operating the camera for the service recording... and Lois Buske for serving on Altar Duty.

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.

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 "<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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