

✚ THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✚

September 7, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

Church Choir: Lois Buske

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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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 18

September 7, 2025



Season after Pentecost

Wounds That Heal

Not all wounds are bad. For example, the result of a skilled doctor performing a successful surgery is not harm but healing. In the same way, words can wound. Words can “cut to the heart.” Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

Jesus often taught things that were difficult to hear. As we read the Bible, we might find it difficult to accept everything that Jesus said. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Count the Cost

This week Jesus’ sharp words expose our desire to pursue comfort and avoid pain at all costs. Jesus explains that following him will be difficult. Jesus’ disciples will be called to let go of things they love and embrace things they naturally loathe. Jesus promises that discipleship comes with crosses—a unique type of pain. So, Jesus tells us that we must count the cost of following him. He wants us to do that now, ahead of time, rather than waiting until we are in the heat of the moment and emotions are running high. However, our calculations must not only consider what we might give up for Jesus. They also entail calculating what we get through him! When we perceive the infinite blessings we find in Christ, the decisions we just make, while difficult, will be clear. Whatever is lost as we follow Jesus pales in comparison to what we gain.

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.

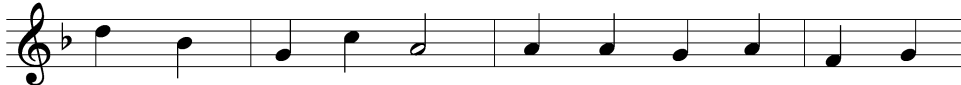
The Preparation

Opening Hymn

711 "Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult"



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As the first dis - ci - ples heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! In your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his voice in -
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
help us hear your call; give our hearts to your o -



vites us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt. Tune: Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716 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

(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.

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.

Glory be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Acts 7:56)

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

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.

O merciful Lord, you did not spare your only Son but delivered him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Prior to settling within the Promised Land, the LORD wants his people to calculate carefully the choice between life and death.

¹⁵ See now, today I have set before you life and prosperity, death and disaster. ¹⁶ This is what I am commanding you today: Love the LORD your God, walk in his ways, and keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances. Then you will live and increase in number, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are going to possess.

¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you do not listen, and you are lured away, and you bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ then I declare to you today that you will most certainly perish. You will not live a long life on the land that you are about to enter and possess by crossing over the Jordan.

¹⁹ I call the heavens and the earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live ²⁰ by loving the LORD your God, by listening to his voice, and by clinging to him, because that means life for you, and you will live a long life on your land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

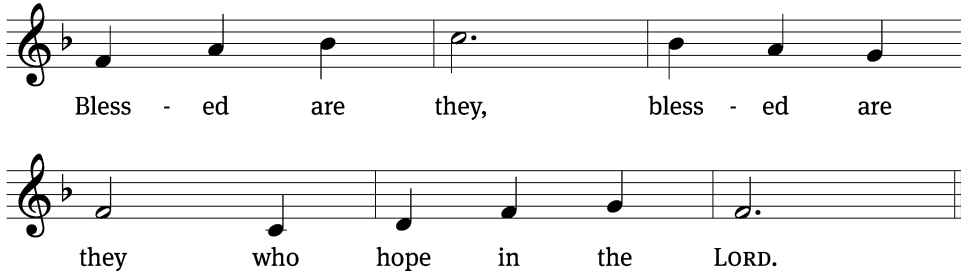
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1 A “Blessed Are They”

The Church sings Psalm 1 in services that emphasize the benefits of meditation on the law of the Lord. The Word of God causes us to bear good fruit, especially love for God that flows into love for human beings.

Refrain



Tone



Blessed is the one who / does not walk
in step with the / wicked
or stand in the way that / sinners take
or sit in the company of / mockers,
but whose delight is in the law / of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law / day and night.
That person is like a tree planted by streams of / water,
which yields its fruit in / season
and whose leaf does not / wither—
whatever they do / prospers.

Refrain

Not so the / wicked!
They are like chaff that the wind / blows away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the / judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the / righteous.

Refrain

**For the LORD watches over the way of the / righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to de- / struction.**

**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

*Text: Lectionary for Mass (refrain) Tune: Michel Guimont Setting: Michel Guimont
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Music: © 1998 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758*

Second Reading

Philemon 1, 7-21

The case of the escaped slave, Onesimus, returning to his owner, Philemon, is a perfect example of the cost in following Jesus. Paul encourages Philemon to free Onesimus and embrace him as a brother.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

⁷ I have received great joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

⁸ For that reason, even though I have plenty of boldness in Christ to order you to do what is proper, ⁹ I am appealing to you, instead, on the basis of love, just as I, Paul, am an old man and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus. I became his father while I was in chains. ¹¹ There was a time when he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. ¹² I have sent him (who is my very heart) back to you. Welcome him. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might serve me in your place while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴ But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your kindness would not be the result of compulsion, but of willingness. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a while: so that you would have him back forever, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but as more than a slave, as a dear brother. He certainly is dear to me, but he is even more of a dear brother to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ And if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, have written this with my own hand: I will repay it—not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, I am asking for a favor from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

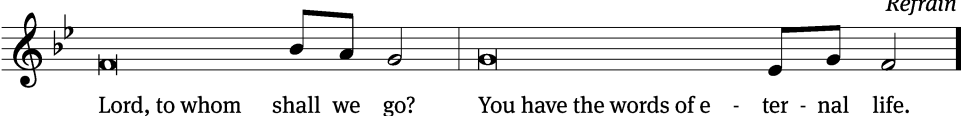
John 6:68



Refrain



Tone



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

Jesus teaches us that following him closely will come at a cost.

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. He turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, if he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, everyone who sees it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build, but was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, as he goes out to confront another king in war, will not first sit down and consider if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if he is not able, he sends out a delegation and asks for terms of peace while his opponent is still far away. ³³So then, any one of you who does not say farewell to all his own possessions cannot be my disciple. ³⁴Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its flavor, how will it become salty again? ³⁵It is not fit for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. The one who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

694 "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken"



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,
4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and



fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de-spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to



my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793-1847, abr., alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Luke 14:25-35

"What You Stand to Gain by Following Jesus"

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

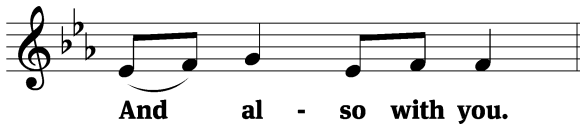
The Sacrament

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 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:

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 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.

Distribution Hymn

702 “Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake”



1 “Come, fol - low me,” the Sav - ior spake, “all in my
2 “I am the light, I light the way, a god - ly
3 “I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your
4 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord and take the



way a - bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day,
soul’s sal - va - tion, your heart from ev - ’ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed and, firm - ly cling - ing to his Word,



o - bey my call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
from sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
in suf - f’ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e’er be - tide, take my ex - am - ple for your guide.
well I show how you must so - journ here be - low.
of the soul and lead you to your heav’n - ly goal.”
bat - tle’s strain the crown of heav’n - ly life ob - tain.

*Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677, abr.; (st. 3): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain*

Distribution Hymn

831 "Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me"



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, and I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, for I am
 5 Since I know God nev - er fails me, in his voice



with his cheer; nev - er will he leave me.
 may be great, they will not de - feat me.
 trust him still when he sends me sad - ness.
 his dear lamb, he, my Shep - herd ev - er.
 I'll re - joice when grim death as - sails me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en that God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sees them; he who knows
 God is good; his love at - tends me day by day,
 I am his be - cause he gave me his own blood
 Trust - ing in my Sav - ior's mer - it, safe at last,



for me won when his life was giv - en?
 all my woes knows how best to end them.
 come what may, guides me and de - fends me.
 for my good, by his death to save me.
 trou - bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; (sts. 1–3): tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (st. 4): tr. Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955; (st. 5): tr. Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945

Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676

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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.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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

514 “You Are the Way; through You Alone”



- 1 You are the way; thro' you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
- 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb pro-claims your con-qu'ring arm,
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re-vealed his heart and will and mind.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you nor death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt. Tune: The CL Psalmes of David, Edinburgh, 1615 Text and tune: Public domain





*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:

*Darik Mischke for playing organ... Mark Buske for serving as distribution assistant...
Michael Kraft for serving as usher... Ben Leyrer for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...
and Jessica Reichardt 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 "[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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Psalms introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter

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