

✚ MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 1 ✚

December 3, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.

West Allis, WI 53214

✚ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✚

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www.nainlutheran.org | www.youtube.com/@nainlutheran | www.facebook.com/nainlutheran



Nain is a member congregation of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
www.wels.net

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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.

Midweek of Advent 1

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Midweek Advent

Bible Songs of Christmas

The Bible tells us that around the time Jesus was born, there were believers who burst forth in song to praise God for keeping his promise to send the Savior into the world. We have only the words of these songs, but Christian composers through the ages have set these words to music. During these services, we will look at the background and words of those songs and sing versions of them ourselves to help us prepare for our own celebration of Christ's birth.

Midweek of Advent 1

The Song of Mary

When the Bible was translated into Latin, "Magnificat" was the first word of the song that the Virgin Mary sang when she told her relative Elizabeth that she, a humble servant, was chosen to be the mother of the Promised Messiah.

The "Song of Mary" beautifully reflects key themes of God's grace, mercy, and the reversal of worldly power. Mary begins by glorifying God for choosing her to bear the Savior. God's choice of Mary to be the mother of Our Lord reflects his gracious action toward the lowly. God often works not through the proud or powerful, but through the humble and weak. Mary also praises God's faithfulness to his promises, especially the covenant made with Abraham and his spiritual descendants. The Song of Mary proclaims the truth that God has an unchanging commitment to his people and to the fulfillment of his promises through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Martin Luther emphasized that the "Magnificat" is not about Mary's greatness, but about God's great work accomplished through her. The Song of Mary is a beautiful confession of faith in God's grace alone, through faith alone and in Christ alone. Mary trusted God's Word and rejoiced in his mercy - an admirable response to the gospel!

Evening Prayer

Vespers

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 announcements.

Our worship begins with the tolling of the bells, followed by the opening hymn.

Service of Light

Tolling of the Bells

Opening Hymn

328 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "I come from heav'n to tell the Lord's de - cree:
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her Im - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame:
a bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be.
"To me be as it pleas - es God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he to meek and low - ly Mar - y,
Your son shall be Im - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say,



“most high-ly fa-vored maid-en.” Glo - ri - a!
most high-ly fa-vored maid-en.” Glo - ri - a!
Most high-ly fa-vored maid-en, Glo - ri - a!
“Most high-ly fa-vored maid-en.” Glo - ri - a!

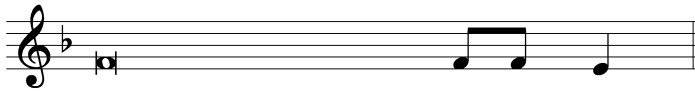
Text: Basque, c. 18th cent.; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, alt. Tune: Basque, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

Opening Sentences

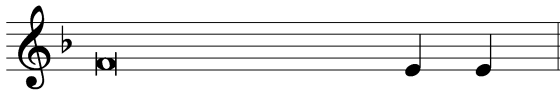
(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



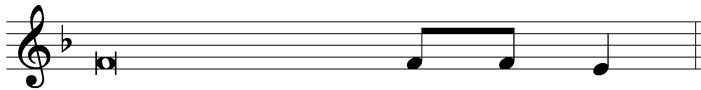
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,

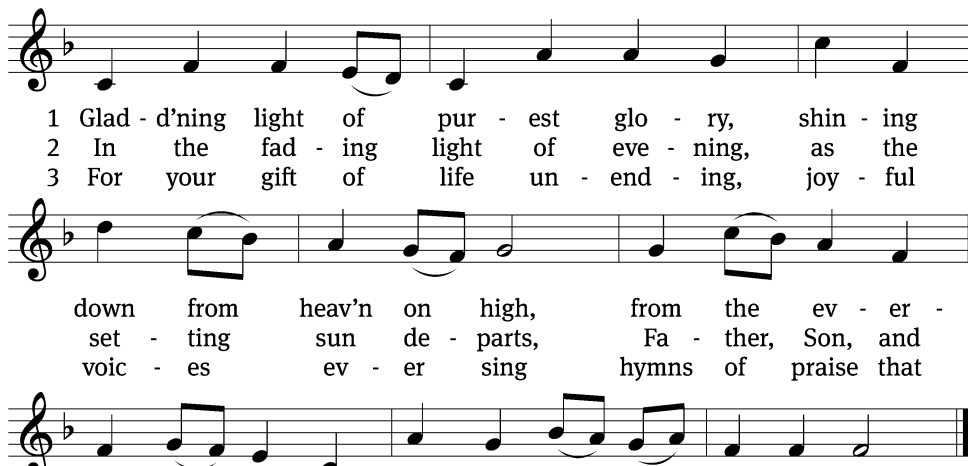


and hear our evening prayer and praise.

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Hymn of Light *Phos hilaron*

(Psalm 118:28; Isaiah 9:2; John 1:5-9)



1 Glad - d'ning light of pur - est glo - ry, shin - ing
2 In the fad - ing light of eve - ning, as the
3 For your gift of life un - end - ing, joy - ful

down from heav'n on high, from the ev - er -
set - ting sun de - parts, Fa - ther, Son, and
voic - es ev - er sing hymns of praise that

liv - ing Fa - ther— hail, most bless - ed Je - sus Christ!
Ho - ly Spir - it— we a - dore you, Lord our God.
right - ly hon - or, Son of God, your sav - ing name.

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Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us, and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. By your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please be seated

Psalm 141

(Psalm 141:1-4,8)



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing up
of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I



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Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Service of the Word

Reading

1 Samuel 1:19b-20; 2:1-11

After presenting her newborn son Samuel to the LORD, Hannah praised God in song for keeping his promise to her and fulfilling his Word of love to all believers.

¹⁹ Elkanah was intimate with Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰ So Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel because she said, “I asked for him from the LORD.”

2 Hannah prayed and said:

My heart rejoices in the LORD!
In the LORD, my horn is raised high.
My mouth is opened wide against my enemies,
because I find joy in your salvation.

² There is no one holy like the LORD.
Yes, there is no one but you,
and there is no rock like our God.

- 3 Do not talk so high and mighty.
Do not let proud words come out of your mouth,
because the LORD is a God who knows.
By him actions are weighed.
- 4 The bows of powerful warriors are broken.
Those who were staggering are now armed with strength.
- 5 Those who once were full now hire themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are satisfied.
Yes, the childless woman has given birth to seven children,
but she who had many children is weak with sorrow.
- 6 The LORD puts to death, and he makes alive.
He brings down to the grave, and he raises up.
- 7 The LORD makes some people poor, and he makes others wealthy.
He brings some low. He raises others up.
- 8 He raises the poor out of the dust.
He lifts up the needy from the garbage pile.
He makes them sit with nobles.
He gives them a glorious throne as a possession.
The pillars of the earth belong to the LORD.
He has set the world upon them.
- 9 He will guard the feet of his favored ones,
but the wicked will be put to silence in darkness,
because a person does not prevail by his own strength.
- 10 Those who oppose the LORD will be broken to pieces.
He will thunder against them in the heavens.

The LORD will judge the ends of the earth.
He will give strength to his king.
He will raise up the horn of his anointed one.

¹¹ Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the young boy served the LORD as an attendant to Eli the priest.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

On a visit to her relative Elizabeth, the Virgin Mary praised God in song for keeping his promise to her and fulfilling his Word of love to all believers.

²⁶ In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged in marriage to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women."

²⁹ But she was greatly troubled by the statement and was wondering what kind of greeting this could be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found favor with God. ³¹ Listen, you will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Listen, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age even though she was called barren, and this is her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible for God."

³⁸ Then Mary said, "See, I am the Lord's servant. May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

³⁹ In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. ⁴⁰ She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ Just as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² She called out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ But why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ In fact, just now, as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who believed, because the promises spoken to her from the Lord will be fulfilled!"

⁴⁶ Then Mary said,

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ because he has looked with favor on the humble state of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm.

He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones.

He has lifted up the lowly.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy,

⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever.

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn

956 "Holy Is Your Name"



1 My — soul is filled with joy as I
2 I am low - ly as a child, but I
3 I pro - claim your pow'r, O God! You work
4 To the hun - gry you give food, send the
5 In your love you now ful - fill all you



sing to God, my Sav - ior. You have looked up - on your
know from this day for - ward that my name will be re -
won - ders for your ser - vants; you have scat - tered the proud -
rich a - way with noth - ing. In your mer - cy you are
prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, God, my



ser - vant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple.
mem - bered, and the world will call me bless - ed.
heart - ed, you have lift - ed up the low - ly.
mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.
Sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.



And ho - ly is your name through all gen - er -



a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the



peo - ple you have cho - sen, and ho - ly is your name!

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Sermon

Luke 1:46-55

"The Song of Mary"

Song of Mary *Magnificat*

(Luke 1:46-55)

Please remain seated

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-
joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor
on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions
will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great
things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on
those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.
He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the
proud in their con-ceit. He has cast down the might-y
from their thrones and has lift-ed up the low-ly.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a grand staff (treble clef). It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 7/8 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score ends with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich
 he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the
 help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his
 prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,
 to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

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Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

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

Please stand

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

For all who are sad, lonely, or depressed during this cold and dark time of the year, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the certainly of faith to trust that when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the joy of faith to believe the declaration of the angels: “Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord”, and for the courage of faith to proclaim this good news of great joy to all people, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Prayer

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and 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.



The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is believed to have originated in Germany, as a folk custom. The evergreen branches symbolize God's unending love for us, and eternal life found in Christ. The four candles set in the wreath represent the four Sundays in the season of Advent. The lighting of the candles each week in Advent marks the growing anticipation for the birth of Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World.

The color of the candles is significant. Some churches use three purple or violet candles on the first, second, and fourth Sundays to remind us that Advent is a season of repentance. Other churches use three blue candles on these Sundays to symbolize our hope and expectation at the coming of Jesus, especially his second coming in glory on the Last Day. A rose or pink candle is often used on the third Sunday, historically observed as Gaudete (Rejoice!) Sunday as a reminder that Advent is also a time of joy. The fifth candle, if used, is white. It is lighted on Christmas Day and symbolizes the perfection and purity of God's gift to sinners: his righteous Son, Jesus Christ.

Some traditions associate a theme with each candle. One tradition is as follows...

The **Prophecy Candle** – Also called the Hope Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the Old Testament prophecies of Christ's coming.

The **Bethlehem Candle** – Also called the Peace Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the birth of Jesus to the Virgin Mary in the town of Bethlehem.

The **Shepherds' Candle** – Also called the Joy Candle, this pink or rose-colored candle symbolizes the coming of the Savior into the hearts and lives of believers, like he did with the shepherds at his birth.

The **Angels' Candle** – Also called the Good News Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the final glorious coming of the Savior with all his angels on the Last Day.

The **Christ Candle** – This white candle symbolizes the day of Jesus' birth, the coming we've been waiting for, the advent of Jesus, the Light of the World.

CHRIST+THE SAVIOR IS BORN

Advent & Christmas Service Schedule

First Sunday in Advent

Sunday | November 30 | 10:00 am

Imminent Arrival: of the King

Midweek of Advent 1

Wednesday | December 3 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm

Bible Songs of Christmas: Song of Mary

Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday | December 7 | 10:00 am

Imminent Arrival: of the Judge

Midweek of Advent 2

Wednesday | December 10 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm

Bible Songs of Christmas: Song of Zechariah

Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday | December 14 | 10:00 am

Imminent Arrival: of the Messiah

Midweek of Advent 3

Wednesday | December 17 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm

Bible Songs of Christmas: Song of Simeon

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday | December 21 | 10:00 am

Imminent Arrival: of Emmanuel

Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Eve

Wednesday | December 24 | 5:00 pm

Christ the Savior Is Born: Heavenly Hosts Sing Alleluia

Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Day

Thursday | December 25 | 10:00 am

Christ the Savior Is Born: Holy Infant So Tender and Mild

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday | December 28 | 10:00 am

Christ the Savior Is Born: Son of God

Second Sunday after Christmas

Sunday | January 4 | 10:00 am

Christ the Savior Is Born: The Dawn of Redeeming Grace

Epiphany of Our Lord

Tuesday | January 6 | 7:00 pm

Christ the Savior Is Born: Love's Pure Light



Special thanks to:

Joel Schwartz for playing organ... and Ben Leyrer for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream.

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

You will not be ushered out. You may depart any time after the closing hymn.

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 on the last page of this bulletin.

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!

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

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

Cookie Walk & Christmas Sale

Sunday | December 7 | 11:15 am

All members and friends are invited to the Lydia Guild's 33rd Annual Cookie Walk & Christmas Sale, to be held on Sunday, December 7 in the fellowship hall after the service. There will be a variety of delicious Christmas cookies, which are sold by the pound. You can choose an assortment or just your favorite kind. If you would like to bake and donate cookies or bring other items to be sold, you can bring your donation to the kitchen on Saturday, December 6 between 1:00-2:00 pm or on Sunday, December 7 before the service.



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

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Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

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Psalm introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter

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