

# ✝ HOLY SATURDAY ✝

April 4, 2026



**Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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

# ✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

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

# Holy Saturday

April 4, 2026



*Holy Week*

***A Holy Week***

While there are many holy *days*, there is only one *Holy Week*. The final week of Lent marks the most pivotal week in human history. In the four Gospels, this single week consumes nearly a third of the words written. The Holy Spirit considered the events of this week that important! Believers slow down during this special week to ponder all that Jesus did for them – from his humble entrance into Jerusalem, to his arrest and trials, to his sacrificial death on the cross, and to his victorious resurrection from the dead.

*Triduum*

***Holy Saturday***

Holy Thursday marks the end of Lenten preparation and the beginning of the three holy days of Christendom called the “Triduum.” *Triduum* is Latin for “three days,” referring to Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The Triduum services are closely connected and considered a single service that extends over the course of this three-day period.

The climax of the *Triduum* comes in the Vigil of Easter, a service of watching and waiting, using prayer, Scripture, and hymns. The Vigil begins in darkness with the lighting of the paschal candle and a procession into a dark church. Light grows progressively during the service until the church is fully illuminated at the joyous shout of “Christ is risen!”

The Vigil is composed of four parts: the Service of Light, with its focus on the paschal candle, the representation of the unconquered life of Christ; the Service of Readings, with its use of Old Testament texts that foreshadowed our deliverance and rescue by Jesus; the Service of Holy Baptism, with its emphasis on our baptismal connection to Christ; and the Service of Holy Communion, with its proclamation of the risen Savior and our reconciliation to God.

# Vigil of Easter

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

***Please gather in the downstairs fellowship hall prior to the service and take a bulletin and a candle.***

*The beginning of the service will be conducted from there.*

***If you are not able to manage the stairs, please gather in the narthex or sit in a pew of your choosing.***

*Bulletins and candles will be available in the narthex as well. Those who gathered downstairs will gather in the narthex shortly after the service begins to process into the nave with you.*

***Please note that the first part of the service will be conducted by candlelight and the lessons will be read in darkness. Those with poor eyesight are invited to sit towards the back of the church where there is still some light from the narthex. The church will gradually grow lighter as the service progresses.***

***As you await instructions from the pastor, please take some time to review the bulletin in preparation for this unique service. You may find it a blessing to meditate on the hymn printed below which focuses on Christ's Sabbath rest in the tomb and our anticipation of his Easter triumph over death and the grave.***

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## 437 "Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor"

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Rest, O Christ, from all your labor;<br>sleep within your borrowed tomb.<br>Foes have crucified and bound you<br>fast within death's narrow room.<br>Pilate's guards stand watching, waiting<br>where they rolled the sealing stone.<br>All unseen another watches:<br>God will not forsake his own. | 3 | Help us keep this solemn Sabbath<br>as we wait for Easter dawn.<br>Earth's dark night of sin is passing;<br>death's long reign will soon be gone.<br>Christ, in whom the new creation<br>rises brighter than the sun:<br>may we, as we watch for morning,<br>trust the vict'ry you have won. |
| 2 | Peace at last from all your anguish,<br>wounds in hands and feet and side.<br>Enemies no longer mock you,<br>scourged, abandoned, crucified.<br>Faithful women gather spices,<br>weep for you whom sin has slain.<br>Though they mourn, the God who guards you<br>will not let your death be vain.   | 4 | As, through parting Red Sea waters,<br>Israel marched to liberty,<br>so we pass through baptism's water,<br>washed by grace, from sin set free.<br>Jesus, risen, living, reigning<br>now and through eternity:<br>grant that, through your life undying,<br>we may live victoriously.        |

# Service of Light

## Tolling of the Bells

### Invocation

*(Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)*

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

### Greeting and Prayer

On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the commemoration of our Lord's resurrection in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people with the fire of your love. Bless us as we celebrate this Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with you, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the feast of light which has no end, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Blessing of the Paschal Candle

*The candle bearer, holding the Paschal Candle, steps forward*

*The pastor traces the Greek letters A and Ω (Alpha and Omega) upon the Paschal Candle, and says:*

Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega.

*The pastor traces the year upon the Paschal Candle, and says:*

His are time and eternity; his are the glory and dominion now and forever.

*The pastor puts the five wax nails representing the wounds of Christ into the Paschal Candle, and says:*

By his wounds we are healed now and forever.

*The pastor lights the Paschal Candle from the Christ candle, and says:*

May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

## Lighting of the Candles

*The pastor will light the candles of those seated along the aisles.*

*Please light your candle from the person next to you. Please tip only the unlit candles.*

*Please keep your candles lit until you are directed to extinguish them later in the service.*

## Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, once we were darkness, but now we are light in Jesus Christ our Lord. Abundantly bless all who joyfully celebrate this night in faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill us with your heavenly blessing in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.

## Procession

*Following the pastor and candle bearer, please process up the stairs and gather in the narthex*

*At the entrance of the nave, the candle bearer lifts the Paschal Candle high, and sings:*



The light of Christ.

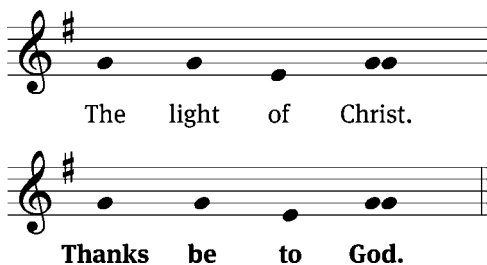


**Thanks be to God.**

*Follow the candle bearer and pastor into the nave and enter a pew of your choosing*

*Please remain standing and keep your candles lit until you are directed to extinguish them later in the service.*

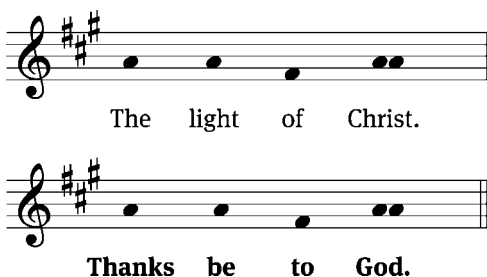
*Halfway to the chancel, the candle bearer lifts the Paschal Candle high, and sings:*



The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

The image shows two staves of music in G major. The first staff contains the melody for "The light of Christ." with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second staff contains the melody for "Thanks be to God." with notes G4, A4, B4, and C5.

*In the chancel, the candle bearer lifts the Paschal Candle high, and sings:*



The light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

The image shows two staves of music in D major. The first staff contains the melody for "The light of Christ." with notes D4, E4, F#4, and G4. The second staff contains the melody for "Thanks be to God." with notes D4, E4, F#4, and G4.

## **Exsultet** *Easter Proclamation*

*The candle bearer places the Paschal Candle in its stand in the center of the chancel, and sings:*

Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.

Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.



The Lord be with you.  
**And al - so with you.**

The image shows two staves of music in B-flat major. The first staff contains the melody for "The Lord be with you." with notes Bb4, C5, D5, Eb5, and F5. The second staff contains the melody for "And al - so with you." with notes Bb4, C5, D5, Eb5, and F5.

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, with all our hearts and minds and voices, praise you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, and your one and only Son, Jesus Christ. For he is the true Paschal Lamb, who offered himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of his precious blood.

This is the night when you brought our ancestors, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the tomb is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and boundless is your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave you gave your Son.

How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to the downcast. How blessed is this night when mankind is reconciled to God in Christ.

Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please extinguish your candle and be seated*

# Service of Readings

On this most holy night, our Savior Christ the Lord broke the power of death and by his resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for he truly keeps his word. The sun of righteousness has dawned on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

## Creation

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Almighty God, you wonderfully created human nature and more wonderfully redeemed it. By your mercy renew us in the image of him who came to share our humanity, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word*

## The Flood

Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

O Lord, whose wrath burned against the evil of humanity, you brought the flood on a wicked and perverse generation and yet saved faithful Noah and his family. Gather your people into your Church, and so complete your work of mercy, that the ends of the earth may know your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word*

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:1-18

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

O God, you promised to faithful Abraham that he would be the father of many nations, and through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, you gather your believers throughout the world. Give to your Church a living trust in all your promises, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word*

## Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10 – 15:1

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

O God, you once delivered your people Israel from slavery under Pharaoh and led them safely through the Red Sea. By this you gave us a picture of Baptism. Lead us always to rejoice in your baptismal promise, that we may live in its grace and declare to all people your desire to save them and bring them to a knowledge of your truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word*

## The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Almighty God, by your Son, the Passover Lamb, you brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Give us hearts that are glad to hear your Word, receive your Spirit, and rise each day from the death of sin to live in newness of life before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word*

*Some of the lights in the chancel are turned on.*

# Service of Holy Baptism

On this most holy night, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls his death and burial, rejoicing in the gospel of his glorious resurrection from the dead. Holy Baptism is the priceless means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul wrote: "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Again Paul wrote: "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

## Remembrance of Our Baptisms

In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives us new life. We reject the devil and confess that we believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

I ask you:

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus, to value the Word and sacraments, and to live a life that pleases God?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

May the eternal God, who saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Let us pray.

Loving Father, lead us to rejoice every day as we remember our baptism. When we sin against you and others, give us power to put down the sinful nature that was drowned in the water of baptism. When we doubt your love, cause us to remember the promises you made when we came to the font. When we feel weak, invigorate us with the hope of eternal life that awaits all who are baptized and believe in you.

Keep in your care all our brothers and sisters who are suffering in sickness, enduring hardship, carrying a cross, or mourning the death of someone they love. Let them also return to their baptism and remember the blessings you bestowed on them through the water and the Word. Keep all the baptized in your care and bring us at last to the river of the water of life in heaven. In Jesus' name, we pray.

**Amen.**

Hymn

679 "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It" (stanzas 1, 2, and 5)



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized  
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized  
 5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing to this life-long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it, gave my  
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er: Je - sus'  
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing: e - ven



full re - demp-tion price. Do I need earth's trea - sures man - y?  
 cleans-ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y con-science seize me  
 there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a - waits its rais - ing,



I have one worth more than an - y that brought me sal -  
 since my bap - tism did re - lease me in a dear for -  
 still my soul con - tin - ues prais-ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free, last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!  
 giv - ing flood, sprink-ling me with Je - sus' blood?  
 in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

*Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, b. 1957*    *Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.*  
*Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758*    *Tune: Public domain*

*During the hymn, the altar candles are lit from the Paschal Candle*

# Service of Holy Communion

## Easter Greeting

*The lights of the church are fully lit, and the pastor exclaims:*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced*

## Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 15:22

*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*

## Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

**16** When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. <sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?" <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

<sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

<sup>8</sup>They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

*(Matthew 7:7-11; Philipians 4:6)*

Let us pray.

O God, you made this most holy night shine with the glory of our Lord’s resurrection. Grant that we, who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Hymn

## 957 "Rejoice, Angelic Choirs, Rejoice"



1 Re - joice, an - gel - ic choirs, re - joice! Re-joice now, all cre -  
2 O earth, ex - ult in ra - diance bright, il - lu - mined by Christ's  
3 Let all who gath - er round this flame, the sign of Christ's a -



a - tion! Let trum - pets loud - ly raise their voice to hail the  
splen - dor! Your dark - ness now is put to flight; to him due  
ris - ing, the death - less light of Christ ac - claim, his sav - ing



Lord's sal - va - tion. Let all Christ's ho - ly priest-hood sing the  
prais - es ren - der! Be glad, O Church! Sing out your songs! Your  
mer - cy priz - ing; that all may live by faith in him who



tri - umph of their might - y King in fes - tive cel - e - bra - tion!  
tem - ples fill with shout - ing throngs to hail the glo - rious vic - tor!  
con - quered death, de - spair, and sin to make us his for - ev - er.

*Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990*    *Tune: plainsong, 10th cent.; adapt. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485-after 1546*  
*Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758*    *Tune: Public domain*

## Introduction to Holy Communion

On this most holy night, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ joyfully celebrates his resurrection from the dead. Our Lord has won our forgiveness, life, and salvation by his death and resurrection. He now comes to us in the Sacrament of the Altar to personally bless us with these gifts. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

## 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.

### 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 T 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 T 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 T in peace.

**Amen.**

# Distribution Hymn

675 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
 2 Praise we him whose love di - vine gives his  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thro' the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie.  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 you have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 newborn souls in you to be.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 now no more the grave enthrall;  
 you have opened paradise,  
 and your saints in you shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days,  
 Three in One, your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

## 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.*

## Post-Communion Canticle

953 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” (stanza 4)

*Please stand as the canticle is introduced*

4 You are King of glo - ry, Christ, Son of  
God, yet born of Mar - y, for us  
sin - ners sac - ri - ficed, on the cross our  
sins did car - ry; first to break the bars of  
death, you have o - pened heav'n to faith.

*Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.  
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt. 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 T give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Please remain standing for the first stanza and follow the processional cross as it is brought out of the nave*

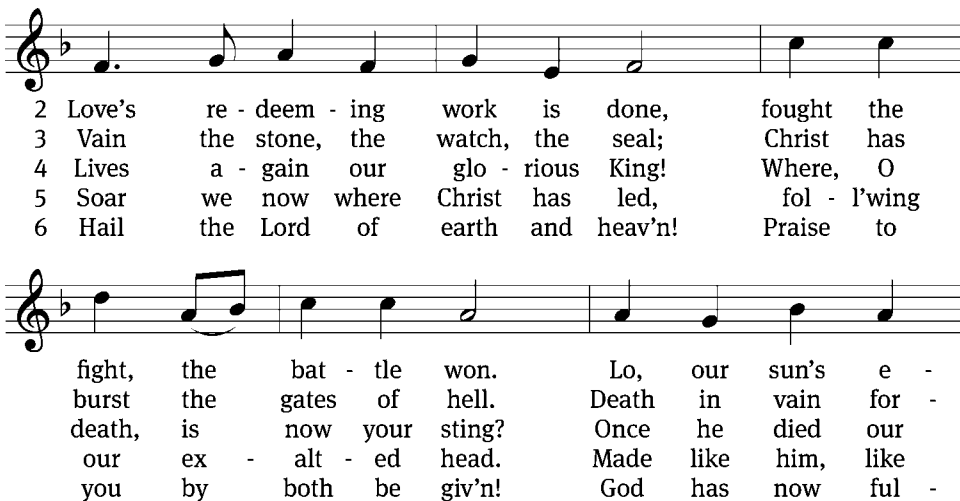
# Closing Hymn

465 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" saints on  
earth and an - gels say. Raise your joys and  
tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.

*Please be seated*



2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the  
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O  
5 Soar we now where Christ has led, fol - l'wing  
6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to  
fight, the bat - tle won. Lo, our sun's e -  
burst the gates of hell. Death in vain for -  
death, is now your sting? Once he died our  
our ex - alt - ed head. Made like him, like  
you by both be giv'n! God has now ful -





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

***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.***

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

***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!***

***Special thanks to:*** Linda Loeffel for playing organ...

Peter Hermanson for serving as candle bearer, cantor, distribution assistant, and crucifer...

Jerry Loeffel for serving as usher... Joe Lopina for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...  
and the Campbell family for making the rough cross we display during the seasons of Lent and Easter.

***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](http://www.wels.net)***



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