

✝ SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✝

September 20, 2026



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.

West Allis, WI 53214

✚ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✚

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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.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 20



Church

The classic image of a church built on the rock finds a fresh treatment in this icon. A circular bounding shape creates structure for the icon and alludes to traditional associations with both unity and eternity. Twelve windows are included as a subtle reference to the importance of the number twelve in Christian theology.

Season after Pentecost

Unexpected Truths

The United States Declaration of Independence boldly asserts that certain truths are “self-evident” – truths accessible to human reason and widely recognized by observation of the world. The founders appealed to principles they believed reasonable people could recognize simply by reflecting on human nature and justice. Lutherans, however, note that the most important truths revealed in the Bible are not self-evident at all. In fact, they frequently appear surprising or even contrary to human expectations. Most unexpected of all is the message that God brings forgiveness and eternal life through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ! Biblical truth is revealed by God rather than discovered by reason alone. While some truths may seem obvious to human judgment, the truths of the Bible are often unexpected.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Grace Is Amazing

Human beings have an incredibly strong sense of fairness. That is why it can be so perplexing when we see how God dispenses blessing and grace. We see people who mock God who are more prosperous than believers. We see people who convert on their deathbed, and Scripture tells us they obtain the same salvation as someone who has been Christian all his life. How is that fair? Through a simple story, Jesus teaches us a profound truth. We need to stop expecting God to be fair. God is not fair. He does not give us what we deserve, and that’s called mercy. In fact, he gives us what we don’t deserve, and that’s called grace. No, God is not fair. He is breathtakingly generous!

The Service

Setting Three

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

Preservice Music

"For the Beauty of the Earth" (Kaia Leyrer, piano)

Opening Hymn

558 *"Salvation unto Us Has Come"* (stanzas 1-5)



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and
2 What God did in his law de - mand and none to him could
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream that God his law had
4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, sin held its sway un -
5 Yet as the law must be ful - filled or we must die de -



fa - vor; good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and
ren - der caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand for man, the
giv - en that sin - ners could them-selves re-deem and by their
ceas - ing; the task was use - less and in vain, our guilt was
spair - ing, Christ came and has God's an - ger stilled, our hu - man



save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who
vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those pure de - sires the
works gain heav - en. The law is but a mir - ror bright to
e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's poi - soned dart or
na - ture shar - ing. He has for us the law o - beyed and



did for all the world a - tone; he is our one Re - deem - er.
spir - it of the law re - quires, and lost is our con - di - tion.
bring the in - bred sin to light that lurks with - in our na - ture.
pu - ri - fy our wick - ed heart, so deep is our cor - rup - tion.
thus the Fa - ther's venge - ance stayed which o - ver us im - pend - ed.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

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.

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 T 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.



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.



Glory to God in the Highest *Gloria in Excelsis*

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

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The score consists of 11 lines of music. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

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, you call us to work in your kingdom and promise to reward us according to your grace. Help us to rid our minds of worldly expectations and rejoice that you freely pour out the blessings of salvation to all people; through the merits of 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

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

Jonah is perplexed by the generous forgiveness God showed to the people of Nineveh.

¹⁰ When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out.

⁴ But to Jonah all this seemed very bad, and he became very angry. ² He prayed to the LORD, “LORD, wasn’t this exactly what I said when I was still in my own country? That is why I previously fled to Tarshish, because I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abounding in mercy, and you relent from sending disaster. ³ So now, LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

⁴ But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵ Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city. He made a shelter for himself there and sat in the shade under it, waiting to see what would happen in the city.

⁶ Then the LORD God provided a plant and made it grow up over Jonah to provide shade over his head, to relieve him from his discomfort. So Jonah was very happy about the plant.

⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on

Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, so he said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” Jonah said, “I do have a right to be angry—angry enough to die!”

¹⁰ So the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant. You did not work for it or make it grow. It grew up in one night and perished after one night. ¹¹ So should I not be concerned for Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who do not know the difference between their right hand and their left—and also many animals?”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 115 A “Not to Us, O LORD”

The Church sings Psalm 115 in services that emphasize our humility in view of God’s grace. It was traditionally sung after the Passover meal.

Refrain

Not to us, O LORD, but
to your name be the glo - ry.

Tone

(The Psalm continues on the next page)

Why do the nations say, “Where / is their God?”

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever / pleases him.

The LORD remembers us and will / bless us:

**He will bless his people / Israel,
he will bless those who / fear the LORD—
small and / great alike.**

Refrain

**All you Israelites, trust / in the LORD—
he is their / help and shield.**

**House of Aaron, trust / in the LORD—
he is their / help and shield.**

**You who fear him, trust / in the LORD—
he is their / help and shield.**

**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

*Tune: Michael D. Schultz Setting: Michael D. Schultz
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Second Reading

Romans 9:6-16

God is perplexingly generous. He shows mercy and grace to those he chooses, regardless of any merit or worth.

⁶ This does not mean that God’s word has failed, because not all who are descended from Israel are really Israel, ⁷ and not all who are descended from Abraham are really his children. On the contrary, “Your line of descent will be traced through Isaac.” ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are God’s children, but it is the children of the promise who are counted as his descendants. ⁹ For this is what the promise said: “I will arrive at this set time, and Sarah will have a son.”

¹⁰ Not only that, but Rebekah also had children by one man, our forefather, Isaac. ¹¹ Even before the twins were born or did anything good or bad, in order that God’s purpose in

election might continue—¹² not by works but because of him who calls us—it was said to her, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³ Just as it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

¹⁴ What will we say then? Does this mean that God is unjust? Absolutely not! ¹⁵ For God says to Moses:

I will show mercy to whom I show mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.

¹⁶ So then, it does not depend on human desire or effort, but on God’s mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

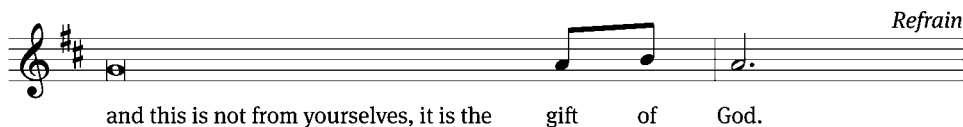
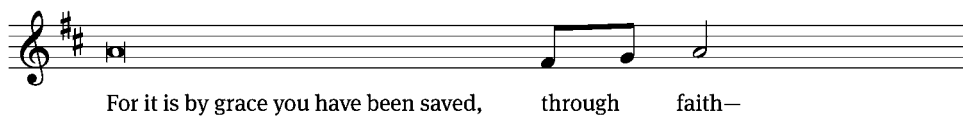
Ephesians 2:8



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 tells a story of God's amazing generosity.

20 “Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. ⁴ To these he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. ⁶ When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, ‘Why have you stood here all day unemployed?’

⁷ “They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’

“He told them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.’

⁹ “When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. ¹⁰ When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. ¹¹ After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: ¹² “Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. ¹⁵ Can’t I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

558 "Salvation unto Us Has Come" (stanzas 6-10)



6 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal -
 7 Let me not doubt, but tru - ly see your Word can - not be
 8 The law re - veals the guilt of sin and makes us con - science-
 9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone and rests in him un -
 10 All bless - ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise to Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion, each Chris - tian there - fore may be glad and build on
 bro - ken; your call rings out, "Come un - to me!" No false - hood
 strick - en; but then the gos - pel en - ters in the sin - ful
 ceas - ing; and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and
 Spir - it, the God who saved us by his grace; all glo - ry



this foun - da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead, your
 have you spo - ken. Bap - tized in - to your pre - cious name, my
 soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; the
 hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can jus - ti - fy; works
 to his mer - it! O tri - une God in heav'n a - bove, you



death is now my life in - deed, for you have paid my ran - som.
 faith can - not be put to shame, and I shall nev - er per - ish.
 law no peace can ev - er give, no com - fort and no bless - ing.
 serve our neigh - bor and sup - ply the proof that faith is liv - ing.
 have re - vealed your sav - ing love; your bless - ed name be hal - lowed!

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484-1551, abr., alt.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Matthew 20:1-16

"God Is Not Fair"

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.

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ.
Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Special prayers and intercessions

The Christian Church has traditionally marked September 21 as a day to remember God's work through St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. We will recognize this minor church year festival in our prayers today.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Please stand

The Sacrament

Visitors, before approaching the altar, please read the notes printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Our Holy Communion Practices"

Prefaces

(2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 107:1)

The Lord be with you.



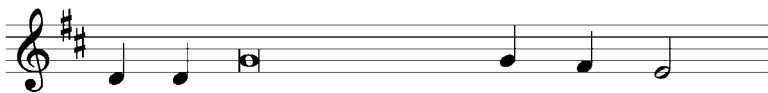
And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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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 hosts,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to 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 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.

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

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

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us, grant us peace.

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Please be seated

Distribution Hymn

572 "Not What My Hands Have Done"



1 Not what my hands have done can save my guilt - y
 2 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, can ease this weight of
 3 I bless the Christ of God, I rest on love di -
 4 I praise the God of grace, I trust his truth and



soul, not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can
 sin, thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, can
 vine, and with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart I
 might. He calls me his, I call him mine, my



make my spir - it whole. Not what I feel or
 give me peace with - in. Thy love to me, O
 call this Sav - ior mine. His cross dis - pels each
 God, my joy, my light. My Lord has saved my



do can give me peace with God, not all my prayers and
 God, not mine, O Lord, to thee can rid me of this
 doubt; I bur - y in his tomb each thought of un - be -
 life, and free - ly par - don gives; I love be - cause he



sighs and tears can bear my aw - ful load.
 dark un - rest and set my spir - it free.
 lief and fear, each lin - g'ring shade of gloom.
 first loved me, I live be - cause he lives.

Distribution Hymn

575 "By Grace I'm Saved"



- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -
- 2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to
- 3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are
- 4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -
- 5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of
earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? So then this
mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was
con - science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.
grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.
can - not com - pre - hend God by his grace to you did send.
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Our Holy Communion Practices

(Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:27-29; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 John 1:3; 2 John 9-11)

Visitors

Before approaching the altar to receive Holy Communion, please read the following notes:

The Holy Bible teaches the celebration of the Lord's Supper is an expression of unity in faith and teaching. To be "in communion" means to share and hold in common. By receiving Holy Communion, we are not only sharing Christ's true body and blood, but we are also confessing that we publicly hold in common the same teachings of God's Holy Word.

We therefore invite to Holy Communion only those Christians who share the same teachings to which we hold, all the while recognizing the true spiritual unity and fellowship of all believers in God's Holy Christian Church (i.e. the Communion of Saints). Confirmed members of Nain and confirmed visiting members of sister congregations in the WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) and the ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod) are welcome to commune with us.

If you are a member of another Lutheran synod, another Christian denomination, or of another belief, we ask that you refrain from communing with us at this time. We do this out of love and in accordance with God's words through St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29. The pastor would be happy to speak with you if you have interest in communing in the future or have any other questions or concerns about our practices. Thank you for your patience and understanding, and for respecting our beliefs.

Communicants

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

The usher will direct you to the front of the nave, where you will commune. When the pastor distributes the bread and body of Christ, he will say, "The body of Christ, given for you." When he distributes the wine and blood of Christ, he will say, "The blood of Christ, poured out for you." Before consuming the sacramental elements, you may respond to the pastor's words by saying, "Amen" (which is Hebrew for, "Truly," or "Yes, it is so") as a way to confess your belief that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of your sins.

Children and Non-Communicants

Children and other non-communicants are welcome to approach the altar to receive a blessing from the pastor. He will make the sign of the cross on the head of each and say, "The Lord bless you." Non-Communicant adults are asked to cross their arms over their chest to indicate that they do not intend to commune.

Distribution of Holy Communion

(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.

Post-Communion Canticle

927 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” (stanza 1)

Please stand as the canticle is introduced

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
O re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 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)

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through 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 be seated

Closing Hymn

737 “Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”



1 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, but
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel you
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride nor
5 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -



ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r you laid a - side. You lived your years in
place with - in the hands of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove the low - est place, the
ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -



get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood, in low - li - ness you died.
fol - low you and live by your com - mands.
mean - est task that waits the gift of love.
get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: The Whole Book of Psalms, London, 1562
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After Pastor's post-service announcements, councilman Peter Hermanson will give an update to the congregation about the air conditioning installation and special collection.



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... Kaia Leyrer for playing piano...

Joe Lopina for serving as distribution assistant... Michael Kraft for serving as usher...

Brooke Smith for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...

and Jessica, Elizabeth, Nathaniel, and Josephine 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



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Psalms introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter

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