

✚ THIRD WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT ✚

December 15, 2021



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.

West Allis, WI 53214

✝ NAIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ✝

1665 South 57th Street | West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

414-545-6925 | www.nainlutheran.org | www.facebook.com/nainlutheran



Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

Phone: 414-810-3392

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Organist: Linda Loeffel

Choir Director: Lois Buske

Secretary: Ashley Leyrer

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 us 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 as you worship with us today. Please join us again soon!

Visitors

Thank you for joining us for worship! Please read the following notes about our church. 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 note about our Lord's Supper practices printed later in this bulletin under "Distribution of Holy Communion."

Rest Rooms 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.

Mother's Room: Parents with crying children are welcome to use the mother's room, located off of the narthex. The room is equipped with speakers so parents can listen to the service.

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.

Scripture taken from: the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION.

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THIRD WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT

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The Season of Advent **When the Lord Comes Near**

"Advent" is a Latin word that means "coming." The season of Advent is the four-week period before Christmas that the Church uses to connect the two "comings" of Christ. The first time the Lord came into our world it was as a tiny, helpless baby, born in a manger in Bethlehem. However, when Jesus comes again, it will be in all his power and glory with his angelic army behind him. He will be coming as judge at the end of time. Let us use these four weeks to see how the events of Jesus' first coming remove all our fears about his second coming. We can hold our heads high *when the Lord comes near*.

Midweek Advent Series **Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

This Advent series is based on readings from the apostle St. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, focusing us on the hope we have as we await the Second Coming of Jesus.

As Paul continued to instruct the Thessalonians on the return of Jesus, he told them that the day of the Lord will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. It will be a dreadful day for those living in the darkness of unbelief as God's fierce and just anger over sin will be revealed. But for those who belong to "the light" by faith, there is nothing to fear. The Last Day will mark the ultimate fulfillment of God's gracious promises to his children. In his mercy, God has appointed us not to suffer wrath, but "to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ." Therefore our sure hope is this: since Jesus died for us and taken away our sins, we will live together with him in the glory of heaven!

✚ EVENING PRAYER ✚

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.

Personal prayers for worship are printed on pages 10-11, 134-139, and 156 in the front of the hymnal.

Joining us for worship today is Jubilation, Wisconsin Lutheran High School's student handbell choir.

Please note that there will be no pre-service announcements. After the Prelude, our worship will continue with the tolling of the bells, followed by the opening hymn.

SERVICE OF LIGHT

(Job 11:13-15; Psalm 25; Isaiah 40:3-5; Hebrews 4:16)

PRELUDE

"Once in Royal David's City"

*arr. John Behnke
Handbells: Jubilation*

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Handbells: Jubilation
Flute solo: Allison Bauer*

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

OPENING HYMN

704 vv 1,4 *"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"*

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de -
4 Yea, A - men, let all a -

scend - ing, Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner
dore you High on your e - ter - nal

slain. Thou - sand, thou - sand
throne. Ev - 'ry knee shall

saints at - tend - ing Swell the tri - umph
bow be - fore you; Come and take your
of his train. Al - le - lu - ia!
peo - ple home! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ re - veals his end - less reign.
You shall reign and you a - lone!

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

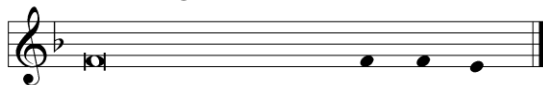
* Please stand.

M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C: the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning,
C: and the day is almost o - ver.



M: Be our light and scat - ter the dark-ness,



C: and hear our evening hymn of praise.

O GRACIOUS LIGHT, LORD JESUS CHRIST



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, In you the

2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are

3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of



Fa - ther's glo - ry shone.

Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,

lit to pierce the night.

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and

God, life - giv - ing Lord;

Where-fore you are through



blest is he,

And blest are you, his on - ly Son.

Spir - it: God

Who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.

all the earth

And in the high - est heav'n a - dored.

PRAYER

M: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

* Please be seated.

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU (Psalm 141:1-2)

C: 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
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri - fice.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

PRAYER

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

(Romans 10:17; Acts 2:42; 2 Timothy 3:16,17)

LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

* After the reading of the Lesson:

M: The Word of Our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

LESSON

Mark 13:32-37

* *After the reading of the Lesson:*

M: The Word of Our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SEASONAL RESPONSE

M: "The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out: Come, Lord Jesus, come." (Revelation 22:20)

SERMON HYMN

19 *"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"*

* *The hymns are located in the middle to back portion of the red hymnal.*

SERMON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

"Hope in the midst of the darkness for those who belong to the Light"

MAGNIFICAT – SONG OF MARY (Luke 1:46-55)

* *Please stand.*



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-
joice 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.
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.

* Please be seated.

INTERLUDE

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

arr. Cathy Moglebust
Handbells: Jubilation
Oboe solo: Eviana Uttech

OFFERING

* Offering Collection

God, who blesses us with all we have, gives us the privilege of showing him our thanks in many ways. One of these ways is by giving back a portion of what he has given us to support the work of the Church.

If you are a guest, please don't feel that you must give an offering. We are happy to share with you the free, good news of Jesus' eternal love for you.

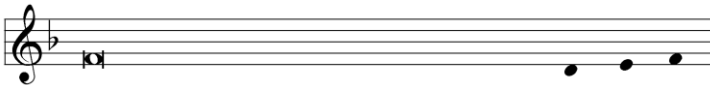
If you have an offering, you can place it in the box in the narthex, mail it to the church, or give online via the link on our church website. Thank you for your financial support of our congregation!

* Friendship Registers

A Friendship Register (i.e. the maroon book) is located at the end of each pew. Sometime before you leave, please write in 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.

KYRIE – LORD, HAVE MERCY (Mark 10:47; Luke 17:12-13)

* Please stand.



M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



C: A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

C: 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.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: 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.

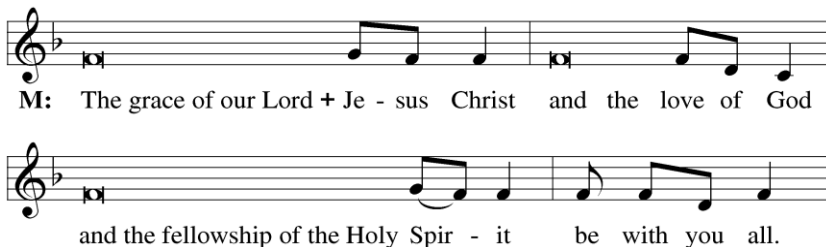
C: Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS – SONG OF SIMEON (Luke 2:29-32)



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part
ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

APOSTOLIC BLESSING (2 Corinthians 13:14)



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



** Please be seated.*

CLOSING HYMN

1 vv 1,5,6 *"The Advent of Our King"*



A personal prayer for after worship is printed on page 11 in the front of the hymnal.

Thank you for joining us as we together worshiped our Triune God. The Lord be with you this week!

Please contact Pastor Berg if you are need of any pastoral care during the week.

Thank You

Thank you to Linda Loeffel for playing organ; the members of the Jubilation handbell choir from Wisconsin Lutheran High School; their director, Mr. Casey Pufahl; and Peter Hermanson for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream. A recording of our live stream will be placed on Nain's YouTube channel shortly after the service (search for "Nain Lutheran").

Jubilation

Jubilation is a five-octave (61 bells) auditioned co-curricular choir from Wisconsin Lutheran High School of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Membership in Jubilation is open to students in grades 9-12. Jubilation rings Malmark craft handbells and hand chimes. Jubilation plays at most sacred and secular concerts at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, Junior Choir Events, WELS Handbell Festivals, WSMA Contests, and other engagements throughout the year. For more information, please contact the director, Mr. Casey Pufahl at casey.pufahl@wlhs.org

Please keep these students, their families, and all those at WLHS in your prayers!



Advent & Christmas Service Schedule

*Please join us for these worship services, as we focus on the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ to save us from sin, death, and the power of the devil!*

First Sunday in Advent	November 28	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am
Midweek Advent 1	December 1	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Second Sunday in Advent	December 5	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am
Midweek Advent 2	December 8	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Third Sunday in Advent	December 12	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am
Midweek Advent 3	December 15	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Fourth Sunday in Advent	December 19	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am
The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve	December 24	Friday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day	December 25	Saturday	8:00 am	10:30 am
First Sunday after Christmas	December 26	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am
Second Sunday after Christmas	January 2	Sunday	8:00 am	10:30 am