

✝ THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD ✝

January 9, 2022



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

✝ NAIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ✝

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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."

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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FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Sunday – January 9, 2022



The Season of Epiphany
Uncovered

We are in the season of the Church called Epiphany, a Greek word that means "to appear." Salvation has appeared in the person of Jesus Christ. In Epiphany, the Church explores everything that Christ makes apparent about God. You see, we need God to appear to us and make himself known to us. For not only is God beyond our understanding, his works and his ways are contrary to mankind's natural assumptions about him. In other words, the truth about God cannot possibly be *discovered* by us. Rather, it needs to be *uncovered* for us. That's what the Spirit is doing for us during this season of Epiphany. Week after week, surprising truths about Jesus our King and life in his kingdom will be uncovered.

First Sunday after Epiphany
Anointing Uncovered: What the Eye Sees Differs from What God Decrees

Our sight tends to be the sense we trust most. We say we will believe something when we see it. That presents a problem when it comes to the work of God. So often what our eye sees differs from what God decrees. This is true of the life of Jesus. In the eyes of the world, he was nothing special. This is also true in the life of the Christian. To the world, the believer does not look more blessed than the unbeliever. In fact, the believer may appear to have more hardships as the devil and his allies attempt to destroy him. So, to assure his children, God connects his grace, power, and blessing to something we can see—a visible sign: the anointing of baptism.

✚ SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ✚

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.

"Understanding Lutheran Worship" provides excellent information about the Lutheran Liturgy, the Christian Church Year, and the Books of the Bible. A copy of the booklet is located in the hymnal rack of each pew.

THE PREPARATION

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

OPENING HYMN

736 "All Christians Who Have Been Baptized"



1 All Chris - tians who have been bap - tized, Who
2 You were be - fore your day of birth, In -
3 But all of that was washed a - way— Im -
4 In Bap - tism we now put on Christ— Our
5 O Chris - tian, firm - ly hold this gift And
6 So use it well! You are made new— In



know the God of heav - en, And
deed, from your con - cep - tion, Con -
mersed and drowned for - ev - er. The
shame is ful - ly cov - ered With
give God thanks for - ev - er! It
Christ a new cre - a - tion! As



in whose dai - ly life is prized The
demned and lost with all the earth, None
wa - ter of your bap - tism day Re -
all that he once sac - ri - ficed And
gives the pow - er to up - lift In
faith - ful Chris - tians live and do With -

name of Christ once giv - en: Con -
good, with - out ex - cep - tion. For
stored a - gain what - ev - er Old
free - ly for us suf - fered. For
all that you en - deav - or. When
in your own vo - ca - tion, Un -

si - der now what God has done, The
like your par - ents' flesh and blood, Turned
A - dam and his sin de - stroyed And
here the flood of his own blood Now
noth - ing else re - vives your soul, Your
til that day when you pos - sess His

gifts he gives to ev - 'ry - one Bap -
in - ward from the high - est good, You
all our sin - ful selves em - ployed Ac -
makes us ho - ly, right, and good Be -
bap - tism stands and makes you whole And
glo - rious robe of right - eous - ness Be -

tized in - to Christ Je - sus!
con - stant - ly de - nied him.
cord - ing to our na - ture.
fore our heav'n - ly Fa - ther.
then in death com - pletes you.
stowed on you for - ev - er!

APOSTOLIC GREETING (2 Corinthians 13:14)

** Please stand.*

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS (1 John 1:8-9)

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

** Please remain silent for reflection on God's Word and for repentant self-examination.*

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

HOLY ABSOLUTION (John 20:19-23)

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

O LORD, OUR LORD (Psalm 8:1)

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Matthew 18:19-20; Philippians 4:6)

M: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

* Please be seated.

THE WORD

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

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 pick up a copy of "About the Propers," a weekly document explaining the changeable parts of the service. Several copies are available on the countertop in the narthex.

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

To the eyes of the average Israelite, the young boy David was not the best choice to be king. Yet he was God's choice, a man after God's heart. The Lord made his choice known through an anointing.

* After the reading of the Lesson:

M: The Word of Our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2

page 65

in the front of the hymnal

* The men & boys will sing the first half of the psalm verse; the women & girls will sing the second half. All will join in singing the refrains and the "Glory be to the Father..."

SECOND LESSON

Titus 3:4-7

In the eyes of the world, baptism appears to be just a ceremonial washing. St. Paul tells us it is so much more. It is a second birth that bestows salvation and the Spirit.

* After the reading of the Lesson:

M: The Word of Our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

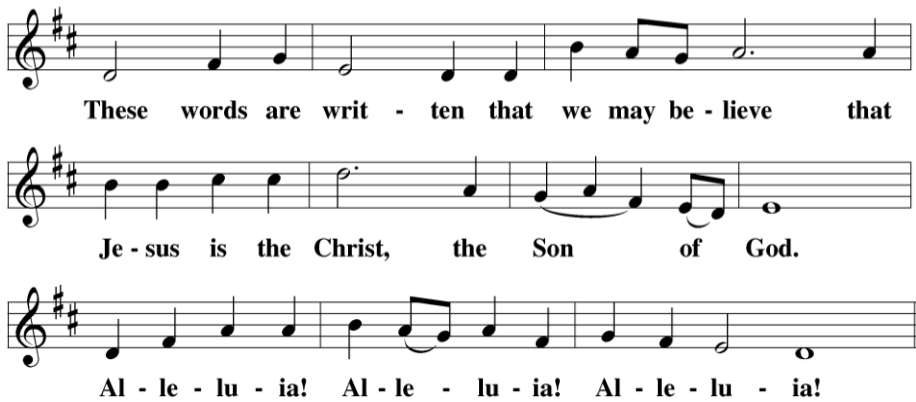
VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 1:11b

(John 20:31; Psalm 150; Revelation 19)

M: Alleluia. (God the Father said to Jesus) "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Alleluia.





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

GOSPEL OF THE DAY Luke 3:15-17,21,22

In the eyes of the Israelites, John the Baptist looked like he could be the Messiah. He was a powerful preacher who lived a unique life. Jesus looked ordinary by comparison. Yet, he was God's Anointed One, a choice made clear in Jesus' baptism.

* *Please stand.*

M: The Holy Gospel for the Baptism of Our Lord, according to St. Luke, chapter three.

* *After the reading of the Gospel:*

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord!



* *Please be seated.*

HYMN OF THE DAY 89 "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

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

SERMON

Luke 3:15-17,21,22

"Heaven Is Opened"

REMEMBRANCE OF HOLY BAPTISM

** Please remain seated.*

M: Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul says: “Don’t you know that 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. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives new life in Christ our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

RENUNCIATION OF THE DEVIL & CONFESSION OF FAITH

M: I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

C: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

C: Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

M: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

C: 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.

M: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

M: Do you intend to continue in this faith, to be diligent in the use of Word and sacrament and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

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

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

** Please stand at the direction of the pastor.*

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, at your baptism you revealed yourself as the obedient Son of Man, fulfilling all righteousness. Your heavenly Father revealed you as his beloved Son, in whom he is well pleased. The Holy Spirit revealed you as the Christ, anointed and armed to destroy the work of the devil.

C: **We thank you, beloved Son of God, that you took on yourself the nature of a servant, became like us, and were obedient to the will of your heavenly Father.**

M: Lord Jesus, eternal Word of God, you have connected your mighty Word and gracious promises to the water of Holy Baptism. In Baptism you cleansed us from sin, redeemed us from death, and clothed us in your perfect righteousness. We praise you for the promise and treasure of Baptism.

C: **Encourage us to remember our baptisms daily as we die to sin and rise to new life with you.**

* *Special prayers and intercessions.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

* *Silent Prayer.*

M: Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
We claim a place, though weak and lowly, among your saints, your chosen host,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.

C: **All that I am and love most dearly – receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely, and help me your own child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own serve any will but yours alone. Amen.**

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.**

THE SACRAMENT

(Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11)

Visitors, before approaching the altar, please read the note printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Distribution" so you may be informed about our congregation's Holy Communion practices.

PREFACES

M: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1; Lamentations 3:41)



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. (Psalm 107:1; Psalm 136)



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

SANCTUS – *HOLY, HOLY, HOLY* (Isaiah 6:3)



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PAX DOMINI – THE PEACE OF THE LORD (John 20:19)

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

AGNUS DEI – O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (John 1:29; Isaiah 53:7)

C: 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 11:26)

* 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 eating and drinking at our Lord's Table, 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 true Christians 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.

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. 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

A guide for personal preparation before receiving Holy Communion is found on page 156 in the front of the hymnal. Prayers for before and after Holy Communion are found on page 11.

When the pastor distributes the bread and body of Christ, he will say, "The body of Christ, given for you." When the pastor distributes the wine and blood of Christ, he will say, "The blood of Christ, shed 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

You 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 don't intend to commune.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

THANK THE LORD (Psalm 7:17)

* Please stand as the canticle is introduced.



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.



POST COMMUNION PRAYER (Luke 17:5; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Revelation 11:17)

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



PARTING BLESSING (Luke 8:48; Romans 12:16; Psalm 100:2)

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

AARONIC BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



* Please be seated.



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert Led to
 2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons As by
 3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan Led at
 4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us One with



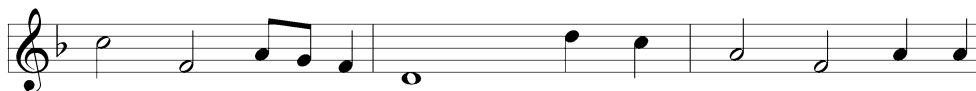
Jor - dan's flow - ing stream. There you heard the
 Jor - dan's bank you stood; Bathed, though sin - less,
 last to Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the
 Christ, our ris - en Lord; Freed us, claimed us,



her - ald cry - ing Is - rael's old pro - phet - ic
 with your peo - ple In the riv - er's cleans - ing
 cross for - sak - en, You ful - filled the Fa - ther's
 cleansed, for - giv - en Through the wa - ter and the



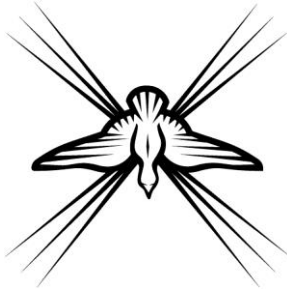
dream: "He is com - ing! He is com - ing! He will
 flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens o - pened; Came the
 will. Lamb of God, we see you dy - ing, Sin - less,
 Word. Help us hear your ur - gent sum - mons, Call - ing



cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners, plunge be - neath the
 Spir - it as a dove; Spoke a voice be - yond all
 yet for sin - ners slain. But where death rose up to
 us to serve you now. Send us forth, your sons and



wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!"
 hear - ing: "See my Son, the one I love!"
 tri - umph, You be - gan your glo - rious reign!
 daugh - ters, With the cross up - on our brow.



*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.*

***Special thanks to:** Deb Buske for playing organ... Mark Buske for serving as distribution assistant... Michael Kraft for serving as usher... Peter Hermanson, Oliva Hermanson, and Allison Hermanson for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream... Joan Vitense for taking care of altar duty.*

*All worshipers are encouraged to take home a copy of our **weekly newsletter, the "Nain Messenger"** to stay informed about all congregational news. Several copies are available on the countertop in the narthex.*

***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.*

*Nain is a member congregation of the **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**.
For more information about our synod, please visit its website: www.wels.net*

The Paschal Candle

Paschal, meaning "having to do with the Passover," is a word associated with Easter, for it was at the conclusion of the Jewish Passover Festival (the "Pasch") that Jesus rose from the dead and proved himself to be the true Passover Lamb whose blood removes the threat of death (Exodus 12; 1 Corinthians 6:6-8).

Paschal Candles are usually very large, white, and inscribed with a cross and the Greek letters Alpha (Α) and Omega (Ω) – the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet – which symbolize that Christ is eternal, the beginning and end (Revelation 1:8; 22:13).

The Paschal Candle is lit every Easter morning to symbolize that Christ is alive and lives among his people. It is then lit for every service during the season of Easter as we continue to celebrate Christ's resurrection. The candle is also lit at Holy Baptisms and Christian funerals, reminding us of the believer's new birth and resurrection to eternal life through Christ our Lord. The candle was lit today as we remembered the Baptism of Our Lord and our baptisms into Christ.