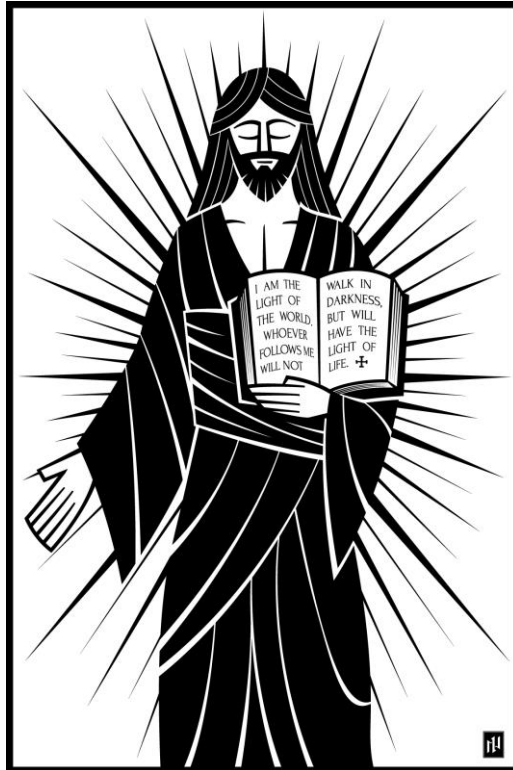


✠ THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ✠

January 22, 2023



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

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



Pastor: Joseph M. Berg
Phone: 414-810-3392
Email: revjberg@gmail.com

Pianist: Juanita Becker
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 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.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 22, 2023



Epiphany

Jesus Appears

The Gospels tell only a little about Jesus' life as an infant. Then, St. Luke briefly discusses the desire of the boy Jesus to be in the temple. Then, Scripture falls silent, telling us nothing about almost two decades of Jesus' life. For most of Jesus' adult life, he lived quietly in Galilee, practicing the carpentry he had learned from his adoptive father, Joseph. Jesus had no followers. Jesus was not famous. But at the exact time God the Father had appointed, Jesus left that obscurity behind. The word epiphany means "appearance." In the Season of Epiphany, we watch Jesus begin his public ministry. Jesus makes his first appearances. And in those appearances, it quickly becomes clear that this is more than a random carpenter's son. As Jesus appears, we see exactly who he is and what he came to do.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus Appears as the Light in the Darkness

The prophet Isaiah vividly described humanity as "people walking in darkness." We are completely enveloped by sin and suffering and death. Worse, when we honestly assess the content of our minds and hearts, we find darkness there too. However, the prophet also foretold that within this deep darkness, a light would shine. The light would be so brilliant that it would be impossible to miss. As Jesus began his teaching and preaching ministry, that prophecy was fulfilled.

Today Jesus continues to shine his light by preaching repentance and the good news of the nearing kingdom. He invites us to live a life that is illuminated by him. He calls us to walk in the light of love for God and for the brothers and sisters around us. Our Savior is the Light of the world, and so we shine his reflected light onto everyone around us.

The Service

Setting One

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

Opening Hymn

744 "Rise, Shine, You People"



- 1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent his Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered.
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Tune: Dale Wood, 1934-2003

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Please stand

Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the \div 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 \dagger 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.



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



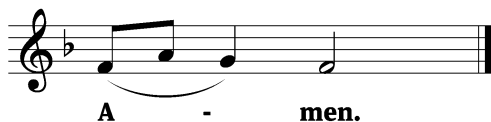
Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

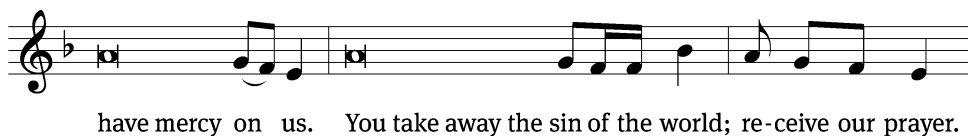
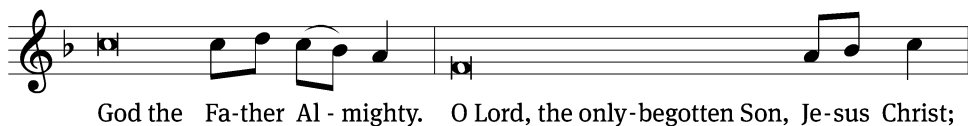
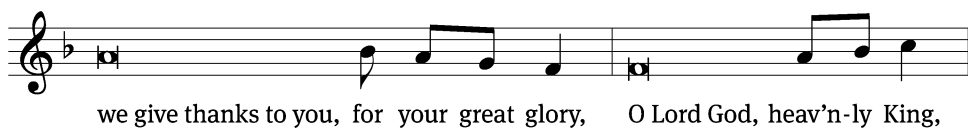
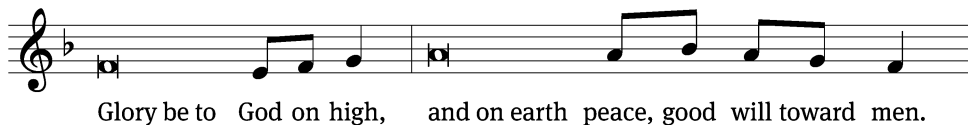
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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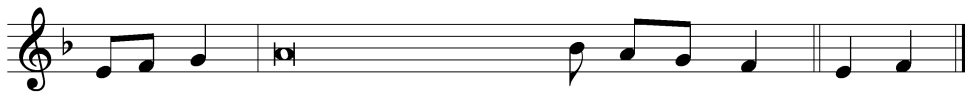
Glory be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

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





For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

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.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, 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

Isaiah 8:19 – 9:4

The prophet foretold that the people walking in darkness would see a great light.

¹⁹ When they tell you, “Consult the mediums and the spiritists, who whisper and mutter,” shouldn’t a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?
²⁰ To the law and to the testimony! If people do not speak according to this word, there will be no dawn for them. ²¹ They will pass through the land, distressed and starving, but when this takes place and they are starving, they will be frustrated, and they will curse their king and their God. They will turn their faces upward, ²² and then they will look down to the ground, but I tell you, they will see only distress, darkness, and the gloom that brings anguish. They will be banished into thick darkness.

9 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for the land that was in anguish. In former times, he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will cause it to be glorious, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

- ² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.
For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned.
- ³ You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy.
They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time,
like the celebration when people divide the plunder.
- ⁴ For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them.
You have broken the bar on their shoulders and
the rod of their oppressor,
as you did in the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 27 C “The LORD Is My Light and My Salvation”

The entire congregation will sing together the whole Psalm

Refrain



Tone



Hear my voice when I / call, LORD;

be merciful to me and / answer me.

Do not hide your / face from me,

do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my / helper.

Do not reject me or for- / sake me,

God my / Savior. *Refrain*

Though my father and mother for- / sake me,

the LORD will re- / ceive me.

I remain confi- / dent of this:

I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the / living.

Wait / for the LORD;

be strong and take heart and wait / for the LORD.

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*

Second Reading

1 John 2:3-11

God's children are found walking in the light of Christ and reflecting that light by living in love for God and one another.

³ This is how we know that we have known him: if we keep his commands. ⁴ The one who says, "I know him," but does not keep his commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ If anyone keeps God's word, the love of God is truly made complete in him. This is how we know that we are in him: ⁶ The one who says he remains in him should walk as Jesus walked.

⁷ Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one that you have had since the beginning. The old command is the message you heard. ⁸ At the same time, the command I am writing is new—it is true in Jesus and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. ⁹ The one who says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is still in the darkness. ¹⁰ The one who loves his brother remains in the light, and nothing causes him to stumble. ¹¹ The one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

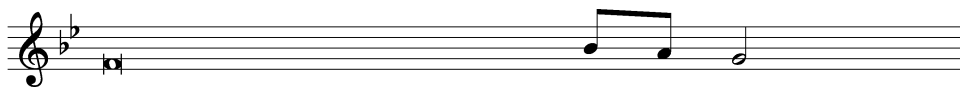
Isaiah 9:2



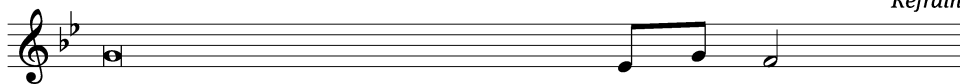
Refrain



Tone



The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;



on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

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The minister processes to the nave floor for the Gospel, symbolizing Christ's presence among us in his Word

Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

As Jesus began his preaching ministry in a world filled with unbelief, the prophecy was fulfilled. A brilliant light shined through the darkness.

When Jesus heard that John was put in prison, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ He did this to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles,

¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light,
and on those dwelling in the region and the shadow of death a light has dawned.

¹⁷ From that time, Jesus began to preach: "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near."

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea, since they were fishermen. ¹⁹ He said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

904 “O Christ, Our True and Only Light”



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, en - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray that they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold, re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more such grace with



those who sit in night; let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; en - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way; let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to your fold; u - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore and end - less praise to



hear your voice and in your fold with us re - joice.
in - most minds some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed in you find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part, con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
you be giv'n by all your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann Heermann, 1585–1647

Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Matthew 4:12-23

“Christ’s Kingdom of Light Is Near”

Please stand

Nicene Creed *Credo*

(Romans 10:9-10; Philippians 2:10-11)

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

Create in Me a Clean Heart (CW 942)

(Psalm 51:10-12)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

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 final staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.

Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925-1989

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

(Matthew 18:19,20; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love and take them into your tender care.

Special prayers and intercessions

The Christian Church has traditionally marked January 24 as a day to remember God's work through St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor, January 25 to remember the Conversion of St. Paul, and January 26 to remember God's work through St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor. We will recognize these minor church year festivals in our prayers today.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

(Proverbs 3:9-10; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Matthew 6:19-21; 25-34)

Offering Collection

God, who blesses us with all we have, gives us the privilege of showing him our thanks in many ways. One way is 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 and check any appropriate box. If you want the pastor to reach out to you, please also provide your contact information. Thank you!

The Sacrament

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

Please stand

Prefaces

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

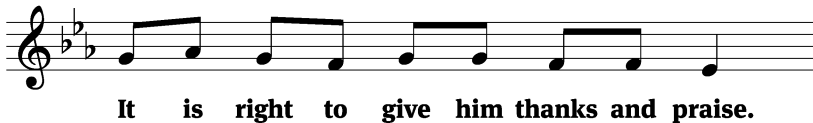
The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.

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 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with 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 + 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."

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 minister 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 ministers says:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go ✚ in peace.

Amen.

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 Hymn

629 "O God from God, O Light from Light"



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
2 For deep in proph - ets' sa - cred page, and grand in
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, that death of
4 Then sing to Christ a might - y song; ex - tol his



Peace and King of kings, to you in heav - en's
po - ets' wing - ed word, slow - ly in type, from
pain mid hate and scorn— these all are past, and
name, his mer - cies tell! Sing, heav'n - ly hosts, your



glo - ry bright the song of praise for - ev - er rings.
age to age the na - tions saw their com - ing Lord;
now a - bove he reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
praise pro - long, and all on earth, your an - them swell!



To him who sits up - on the throne, the Lamb once
till through the deep Ju - de - an night rang out the
Lift up your heads, you heav'n - ly gates! So sang his
All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain! For - ev - er



slain but raised a - gain, be all the glo - ry
song, "Good will to men!" What an - gels sang in
hosts, un - heard by men. Lift up your heads, for
let the song as - cend! To Christ the King, en -



he has won, all thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.
heav'n - ly light re - ech - oes now, "Good will!" A - men.
you he waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.
throned to reign, all glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

Distribution Hymn

528 “Christ, the Word of God Incarnate”



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, food for bod - y,
3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant from the stump of
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, watch - ing all your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na, dai - ly giv - en,
Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, you nur - ture branch - es
lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, you
nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
to bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, light and life you bring to all; light our
food of heav - en, fore - taste of the feast to be; quench our
you, O Sav - ior; prune our hearts so we re - main fruit - ful
Shep - herd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with your own pres - ence, grant us grace to heed your call.
thirst with liv - ing wa - ter spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
branch - es in your vine - yard till e - ter - nal life we gain.
God, our shep - herd, keep us; let us hear your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing
to the Father's home on high;
Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
Christ, the life that cannot die;
mediator to the Father,
sacrifice and great High Priest:
lead us to your heav'nly mansions,
there to share your wedding feast.

6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead;
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
praise and thanks and adoration
and unending worship be
to the Father and the Spirit
and to you eternally.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, b. 1964
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinatti, 1825, ed. William Moore
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Tune: Public domain

Lord, Now You Let Your Servant (CW 951) *Nunc Dimittis*

(Luke 2:29-32)

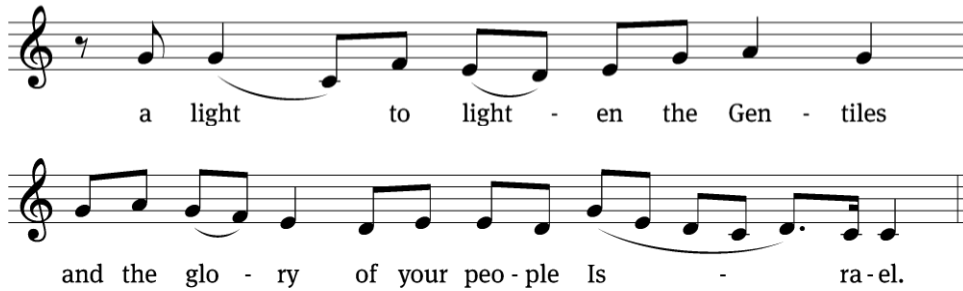
Please stand as the canticle is introduced

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac -

cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of text. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of eighth and quarter notes.



*Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.
Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925-1989
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 ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn

381 verses 1 & 5 "The People Who in Darkness Walked"



1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious
5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and make us yours a -
light; the heav'n - ly dawn broke forth on those who
lone, for you are with the Fa - ther and the
dwelt in death and night, who dwelt in death and night.
Spir - it ev - er one, the Spir - it ev - er one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–1798, abr., alt.

Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text and tune: Public domain



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

You will not be ushered out. You may depart any time after the closing hymn and post-service announcements.

*If you haven't done so already, **please write your name in the Friendship Register before you leave.***

If you have an offering, you can place it in the 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.

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

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



Special thanks to: Juanita Becker for playing piano... Mark Buske for serving as distribution assistant... Michael Kraft for serving as usher... and Ben Leyrer for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream.

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.

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.

“**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.

“**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.

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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