

✝ ASH WEDNESDAY ✝

February 22, 2023



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.

West Allis, WI 53214

✚ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✚

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg
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Organist: Linda Loeffel
Choir Director: Lois Buske

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.

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023



Lent

Our Greatest Needs

Mankind's greatest problems are universal. We all live under the curse of sin. That sin makes us utterly helpless in our natural state. Natural man is confused, unable to make sense of life. Left in sin, man is doomed to death, and not just physical death. After one's heart stops comes another type of death that is infinitely worse, an eternal nightmare.

Lent is the season of the Church Year when we wrestle with our greatest needs. Lent also shows us that in Christ, all our greatest needs are met. Here is what the Spirit makes clear this season. If you lack Christ, you have nothing. If you have Christ, you have everything you truly need.

Ash Wednesday

A Wholly Humbled Heart

To understand our greatest needs, we need to understand our greatest problems. So, here is the irony. One of our greatest problems is we do not think we have many problems at all. This can be especially true of those who are religious. We look to our religious activity—our regular time in prayer, our generous offerings, our volunteerism—as proof that we are just fine, certainly better than most. This belief is reinforced when others notice all the good we do and praise us for it.

Ash Wednesday is the antidote to pride. If we are so good, then why are we slowly turning back into dirt? The sobering truth is that one day soon, people won't see the best version of ourselves, but the dead one. "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." That Ash Wednesday refrain echoes the funeral rite that will one day be spoken over us all: ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

On this first day of Lent, God intends to give us what we badly need—a wholly humbled heart that looks to Christ in contrition and true repentance. Such a heart will produce piety without any of the posing and pomp that pride tries to inject.



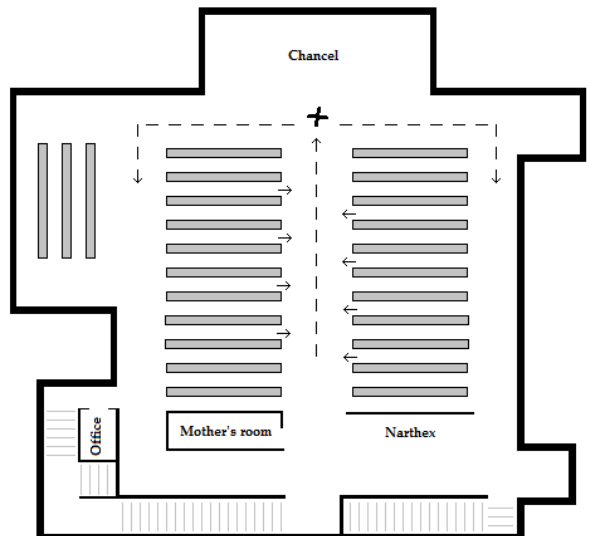
Instructions for the Imposition of Ashes

The Imposition of Ashes is intended to serve as a sign of Christ-centered repentance. The use of ashes proclaims God's Holy Law in a dramatic way. Ashes are a visual reminder that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23), and that death means our bodies will return to the dust from which Adam was made (Genesis 3:19). The ashes also proclaim God's Holy Gospel. The form of the cross reminds us that because Christ gave his holy life as a sacrifice to pay for our sins, our guilt has been removed, we are made righteous in God's sight, and are united to our living-Lord Jesus Christ through faith.

Participation: Taking part in this rite is voluntary; worshippers will not be required or expected to participate. Those who do not wish to receive ashes can remain seated in their pews.

Instructions: Those who wish to receive ashes can walk up one at a time to the foot of the chancel where Pastor will use ashes to draw a cross on their forehead (or the back of their hand) while saying, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (cf. Genesis 3:19). After receiving the ashes, participants will walk back to their pew using the side aisles (cf. the map below).

- Participants who want the ashes placed on their forehead are asked to simply step forward in front of pastor.
- Participants who want the ashes placed on the back of their hand are asked to extend that hand toward pastor.
- Parents who bring their children with them are asked to somehow make it clear if they *do not want them* to receive ashes. Otherwise, pastor will assume that they do.



The Service

Setting Four

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

Tolling of the Bells

Please remain seated and silent

Psalm 51

- ¹ Be gracious to me, God,
according to your mercy.
Erase my acts of rebellion
according to the greatness of your compassion.
- ² Scrub me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.
- ³ For I admit my rebellious acts.
My sin is always in front of me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned,
and I have done this evil in your eyes.
So you are justified when you sentence me.
You are blameless when you judge.
- ⁵ Certainly, I was guilty when I was born.
I was sinful when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Since you desire truth on the inside,
in my hidden heart you teach me wisdom.

- ⁷ Remove my sin with hyssop, and I will be clean.
Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness.
Let the bones you have crushed celebrate.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins.
Erase all my guilty deeds.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God.
Renew an unwavering spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence.
Do not take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation.
Sustain me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³ I will teach rebels your ways,
and sinners will turn to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
the God who saves me.
My tongue will shout for joy about your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you do not delight in sacrifice,
or I would give it.
You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifices God wants are a broken spirit.
A broken and crushed heart, O God, you will not despise.
- ¹⁸ As it pleases you, do good for Zion.
Build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- ¹⁹ Then you will be pleased with righteous sacrifices,
burnt offerings and whole offerings.
Then bulls will be offered up on your altar.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Introduction to Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in fellowship with him, to love all people, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the forty days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

Let us confess our sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to this struggle.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Confession

(1 John 1:8-9; Luke 18:13)

Most holy and merciful Father,
**We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have placed our wants before your will.
We have gratified the desires of our sinful nature.
We have merited your punishment now and forever.
Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives
We confess to you, O Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people, our anger when
our selfish aims are denied, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves
We confess to you, O Lord.

Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, our
negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the faith that is in us
We confess to you, O Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and
suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
Forgive us, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and
contempt for those who differ from us,
Forgive us, Lord.

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,
Forgive us, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes

(Genesis 3:19; 18:27; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; Matthew 11:21)

Please read the “Instructions for the Imposition of Ashes” on the fourth page of this bulletin.

Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes can walk up one at a time to the chancel.

The pastor will apply ashes to the forehead or hand of each in the form of a small cross, and say:

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Sentences

Accomplish in us, Lord, the work of your salvation
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and suffering of your Son,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Please stand

Absolution

(Matthew 16:19; John 20:21-23)

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. He sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and 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.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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 and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; 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

Hymn

393 "Savior, When in Dust to You"



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom - age due,
2 By your help - less in - fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de - spair, by your ag - o - ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, by the sad se - pul - chral stone,



when, re - pent - ant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes,
by your days of deep dis - tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God,



O, by all your pains and woe suf - fer - ed once for us be - low,
by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of th' in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,
O, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,



bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn, O turn a fa - v'ring eye, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

*Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, abr., alt.
Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903
Text and tune: Public domain*

The Word

First Reading

Isaiah 59:12-20

True humility comes from understanding the multitude of our offenses. True faith looks to the Redeemer who will come to the penitent.

- ¹² Yes, our rebellious deeds are many before you,
and our sins testify against us.
Our rebellious deeds are with us,
and as for our guilty deeds, we are aware of them.
- ¹³ Those deeds are rebellion and treachery against the LORD.
We turn back from following our God.
We incite oppression and apostasy.
We conceive and mutter deceitful words from our hearts.
- ¹⁴ Justice is turned back,
and righteousness stands far away,
for truth stumbles in the city square,
and honesty cannot enter it.
- ¹⁵ The truth is missing,
and anyone who turns from evil makes himself prey.
The LORD looked and saw something evil—
there was no justice.
- ¹⁶ He saw that there was no one.
He was appalled that there was no one who could intervene.
So his own arm worked salvation for him,

and his own righteousness supported him.

¹⁷ He clothed himself with righteousness like armor
and wore a helmet of salvation on his head.

He dressed in garments for vengeance,
and he wrapped himself with zeal like a cloak.

¹⁸ He will repay in full what they have earned,
namely, wrath to his foes and full payment to his enemies.
He will repay even the distant coastlands.

¹⁹ From the west they will fear the LORD's name,
and from the rising of the sun they will fear his glory,
for he will come like a raging river,
driven by the Spirit of the LORD.

²⁰ Then a redeemer will come for Zion
and for those in Jacob who turn from rebellion.
This is the declaration of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 51 "Be Merciful, O Lord"

Refrain



Tone



Have mercy on / me, O God,
according to your un- / failing love;

according to your great com- / passion
blot out my trans- / gressions.

Wash away all my in- / iquity
and cleanse me / from my sin.
For I know my trans- / gressions,
and my sin is always be- / fore me. *Refrain*

Against you, you only, / have I sinned
and done what is evil / in your sight.
Surely I was sin- / ful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother con- / ceived me.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I / will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whit- / er than snow.
Hide your face / from my sins
and blot out all my in- / iquity.

**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***

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Second Reading

2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

St. Paul teaches the blessing of godly sorrow that flows from a wholly humbled heart.

⁸ For even if I caused you sorrow with my letter, I do not regret it (even though I did regret it, for I see that my letter caused you sorrow—yet only for a little while). ⁹ Now I rejoice, not because you were made to feel sorrow, but because this sorrow resulted in repentance. Yes, you were made sorry in a godly way. So you were not harmed in any way by us. ¹⁰ In fact, godly sorrow produces repentance, which leads to salvation, leaving no regret. On the other hand, worldly sorrow produces death.

¹¹ Yes, look what godly sorrow produced in you: what diligence, what eagerness to clear yourself, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what zeal, what correction! In every

way you proved yourselves to be pure in this matter. ¹² So although I wrote to you, it was not because of the one who did what was wrong, or because of the one who was harmed by it. I wrote instead so that your genuine concern for us would be revealed to you in the sight of God. ¹³ For that reason we have been comforted.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced

Gospel Acclamation

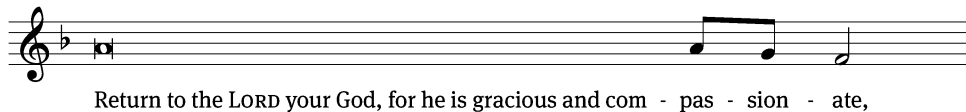
Joel 2:13



Refrain



Tone



Tune: © 2021 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus tells a parable about what makes us righteous in God's eyes, not trust in one's own goodness, but trust in God's great mercy.

⁹ Jesus told this parable to certain people who trusted in themselves (that they were righteous) and looked down on others: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple courts to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself like this: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people, robbers, evildoers, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of all my income.’

¹³ “However the tax collector stood at a distance and would not even lift his eyes up to heaven, but was beating his chest and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’

¹⁴ “I tell you, this man went home justified rather than the other, because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

650 “From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry”



1 From depths of woe, Lord God, I cry; O hear my
2 What we have done on our best day is flawed from
3 Thus an - y mer - it of my own is void and
4 If it de - lays in - to the night or waits un -
5 Al - though our sin is great in - deed, the grace of

hum - ble plead - ing! Lis - ten in mer - cy to my sigh,
its be - gin - ning; on - ly your grace can clear a - way
un - a - vail - ing; I trust in God and God a - lone,
til to - mor - row, my heart will lean on God's great might,
God is great - er; no loss we suf - fer can ex - ceed



my prayer for res - cue heed - ing! Were you, O
the guilt of all our sin - ning. Be - fore you
he is my hope un - fail - ing. Since he is
dis - card - ing doubt and sor - row. The Spir - it
the help of our Cre - a - tor. Our shep - herd



Lord, to fix your gaze on our re - bel - lious,
pride must dis - ap - pear; each soul must live in
good, I soon will see the com - fort he has
of the Lord is near, pro - vid - ing strength to
good and true is he, who will at last his



sin - ful ways, then who could stand be - fore you?
rev - 'rent fear, up - on your grace re - ly - ing.
prom - ised me; I wait for its ar - ri - val.
per - se - vere; de - pend on God to help you!
peo - ple free from all their sin and sor - row.

Text: tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, alt.

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Luke 18:9-14

“God, Be Merciful to Me, a Sinner!”

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 the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second and third staves contain the second line, the fourth staff contains the third line, and the fifth staff contains the fourth line. The melody is written in a soprano clef.

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

Ash Wednesday

Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. Let us pray for the people of God in Christ Jesus that, through repentance and faith in the gospel, they may remain secure in your love.

Lord God, gracious Father, we thank you for setting your Son's sacrifice between us and sin's reward. By your Spirit work in us through the gospel, give us repentant hearts, make our faith firm in Christ, and enliven us to serve you faithfully.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, almighty Father, renew your Church throughout the world that it may constantly look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Bless us with faithful ministers who always proclaim Christ's cross and resurrection for the salvation of the world.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, loving Father, in your mercy you abundantly supply our needs of body and soul. Create in us the mind of Christ, that in humility and generosity—considering not only our own interests, but also the interests of others—we may be merciful to those in need. Direct our efforts to help poor, lonely, troubled, and ill people.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, heavenly Father, comfort all who are mourning the death of people they loved. Lift their eyes to the cross where your Son defeated death and to the empty tomb where he assured us that we will live with him forever. Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, heavenly Father, look with favor upon all sick, injured, and recovering people. If it be your will deliver them from their infirmities. Let them hear of your unfailing love.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Lord God, eternal Father, we praise you that you have delivered the Christian souls who have gone before us from this world of dust and ashes to paradise. As their prayers continually ascend before your throne, join our prayers to theirs as fragrant incense. Hear us for the sake of him who was crucified for us and always intercedes on our behalf, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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

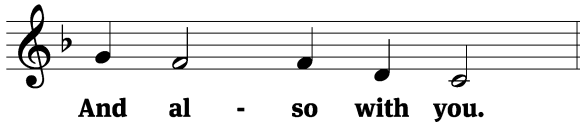
Visitors, before approaching the altar, please read the notes printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Our Holy Communion Practices"

Please stand

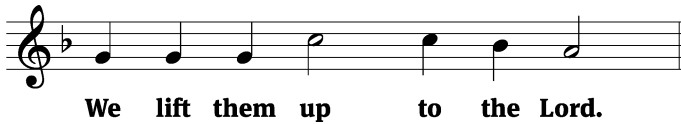
Prefaces

(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.



Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer
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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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome.

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)

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second staff begins the lyrics. The third staff continues the lyrics. The fourth staff continues the lyrics. The fifth staff continues the lyrics. The sixth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

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)

The musical score is written on eight staves, each with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is a short introductory phrase. The second and third staves form the first phrase: 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' The fourth and fifth staves form the second phrase: 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' The sixth and seventh staves form the third phrase: 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace.' The eighth staff is a short concluding phrase: 'A - men. A - men.'

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. A - men.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer
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Please be seated

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 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.

Distribution Hymn

653 “Lord, to You I Make Confession”



1 Lord, to you I make con - fes - sion: I have sinned and
2 Yet, though con-science' voice ap - pall me, Fa - ther, I will
3 For your Son has suf - fered for me, giv'n him - self to
4 Lord, on you I cast my bur - den— sink it in the



gone a - stray; I have mul - ti - plied trans - gres - sion,
seek your face. Though your child I dare not call me,
res - cue me, died to save me and re - store me,
deep - est sea! Let me know your gra - cious par - don,



cho - sen for my - self my way. Led by you to
yet re - ceive me to your grace. Do not for my
rec - on - ciled and set me free. Je - sus' cross a -
cleanse me from in - iq - ui - ty. Let your Spir - it



see my er - rors, Lord, I trem - ble at your ter - rors.
 sins for - sake me, do not let your wrath o'er - take me.
 lone can van - quish these dark fears and soothe this an - guish.
 leave me nev - er, make me on - ly yours for - ev - er.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

982 “With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh”



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, a trem - bling
 2 I bow my head by sin dis - tressed, with deep and
 3 Far off I stand with tear - ful eyes nor dare up -
 4 No gifts, no deeds that I have done can for a
 5 And when, re - deemed from sin and hell, with all the



sin - ner, Lord, I cry. Your par - d'ning grace is
 pain - ful guilt op - pressed, the cross of Christ my
 lift them to the skies, but you can all my
 sin - gle sin a - tone. To Cal - va - ry a -
 ran - somed souls I dwell, my joy - ous song shall



rich and free— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 on - ly plea— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 an - guish see— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 lone I flee— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 ev - er be: God has been mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Cornelius Elven, 1791–1873, alt.

Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707

Text and 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,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.

Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925–1980

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

823 verses 1,2,5 "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, fount of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would op - press me
5 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me. Ah, how long in an - guish
can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,



shall my spir - it lan - guish, yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
though the storms may gath - er, still have peace with - in.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
Light - nings flash and thun - ders crash; yet, though sin and
Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, thou art still my



naught to hide thee; naught I ask be - side thee.
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
pur - est plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

*Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain*



There won't be any post-service music or announcements.

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

Please refrain from conversation until after you have departed the church to allow any who wish to remain the opportunity to pray and meditate in silence.

Pastor Berg will be available in the narthex shortly after the service if you would like to speak with him.

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

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.

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!

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

RETURN to the LORD your GOD +

Special thanks to: Linda Loeffel for playing organ... Aaron Palmer for serving as distribution assistant... Jerry Loeffel for serving as usher... and Peter Hermanson 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

Scripture taken from: The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version™ (EHV™)

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OUR GREATEST NEEDS

Mankind's greatest problems are universal. We all live under the curse of sin. That sin makes us utterly helpless in our natural state. Natural man is confused, unable to make sense of life. Left in sin, man is doomed to death, and not just physical death. After one's heart stops comes another type of death that is infinitely worse, an eternal nightmare.

Lent is the season of the Church Year when we wrestle with our greatest needs. Lent also shows us that in Christ, all our greatest needs are met. Here is what the Spirit makes clear this season. If you lack Christ, you have nothing. If you have Christ, you have everything you truly need.

Lent & Holy Week Service Schedule

Ash Wednesday	February 22	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
First Sunday in Lent	February 26	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Midweek Lent	March 1	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Second Sunday in Lent	March 5	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Midweek Lent	March 8	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Third Sunday in Lent	March 12	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Midweek Lent	March 15	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Fourth Sunday in Lent	March 19	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Midweek Lent	March 22	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Fifth Sunday in Lent	March 26	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Midweek Lent	March 29	Wednesday	4:00 pm	7:00 pm
Palm Sunday	April 2	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am
Maundy Thursday	April 6	Thursday	- - -	7:00 pm
Good Friday	April 7	Friday	- - -	7:00 pm
Holy Saturday	April 8	Saturday	- - -	7:00 pm
Easter Dawn	April 9	Sunday	- - -	6:30 am
Easter Day	April 9	Sunday	- - -	10:00 am