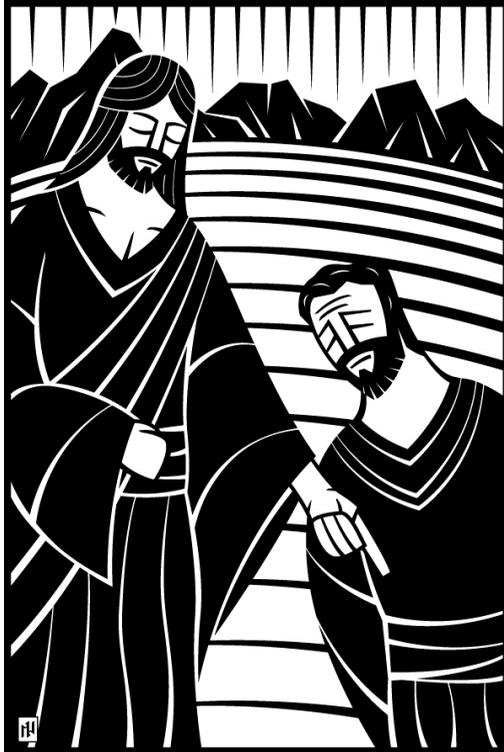


✝ FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ✝

September 3, 2023



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.

West Allis, WI 53214

✝ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church ✝

1665 South 57th Street | West Allis, Wisconsin 53214
414-545-6925 | www.nainlutheran.org | www.facebook.com/nainlutheran



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

Pianist: Jess Brewster
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.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 17

September 3, 2023



Sundays after Pentecost

The Church God Wants

“I want a church that...” How would you complete that statement? What exactly do you want in a church? In this worship series, we see that that is not the right question. Scripture says Jesus bought the Church with his blood. So, the right question then becomes: what does God want in a church? You might find a church that does everything you want. But if that church is not doing what Christ wants it to do, then it really is not a spiritually healthy place to be. So, let us think about the church God wants. What does it look like? What are its priorities? What does it all do?

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

A Church That Takes Up Its Crosses

Some churches teach that if one follows God, God responds by granting prosperity and peace. Today Jesus teaches that is nonsense. The Son of God tells us that if we are his disciples, if we are part of his Church, we will have to bear crosses. Believers will suffer in this world, oftentimes for no other reason than they are believers. It is painful to struggle against the temptations and priorities of this world. It can be agonizing to face the same scorn and ridicule Jesus faced.

Why bother? We carry our crosses in gratitude for Jesus carrying his cross, one too heavy for us to bear because it was weighted down with our sin. We carry our crosses because we know that in those moments of struggle, we are forced to turn to Christ and rely on his strength. The church takes up its crosses, because this is the Christian path, the one Jesus himself walked: first the cross, then the crown.

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

621 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"



- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your
- 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple
- 3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble
- 4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,
frame he knows. In his hand he gent - ly bears us,
face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,
res - cues us from all our foes; Al - le - lu - ia,
all who dwell in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
al - le - lu - ia! wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows!
al - le - lu - ia! praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847 Tune: John Goss, 1800-1880 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the † 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 † 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.



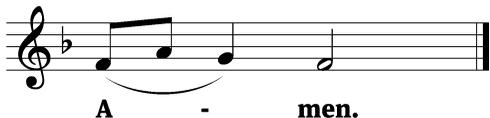
Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

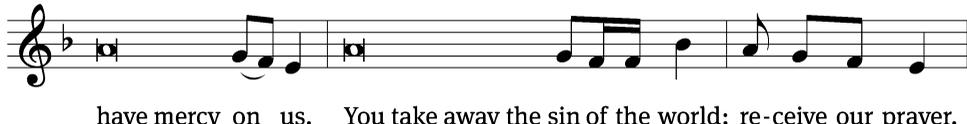
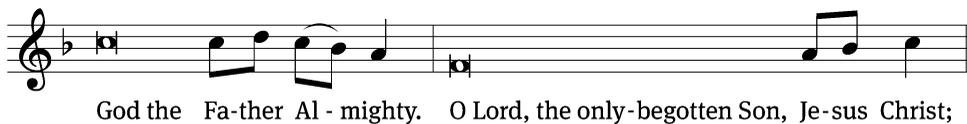
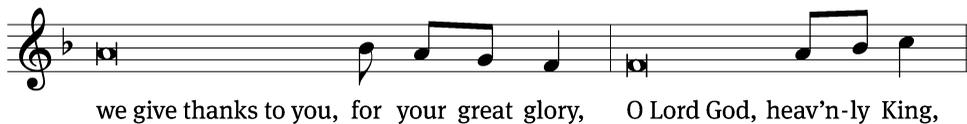
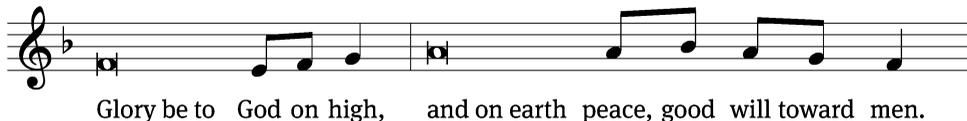
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

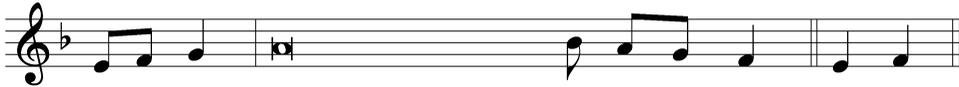


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Glory be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

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





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, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; 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

Jeremiah 15:15-21

When the prophet Jeremiah grew tired of carrying his cross and complained, the LORD called on him to repent and promised salvation.

- ¹⁵ O LORD, you understand.
Remember me and care for me.
Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.
You are slow to anger.
Do not take me away.
Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.
- ¹⁶ Your words came to me, and I devoured them.
Your words became my joy,
the delight of my heart,

because I bear your name,
O LORD God of Armies.

¹⁷ I did not sit with the band of partygoers,
nor did I celebrate with them.
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.
You filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unending?
Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?
Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

¹⁹ Therefore this is what the LORD says.
If you repent, I will take you back,
so that you may stand before me.
If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless,
you will be my spokesman.
They must turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰ I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.
They will fight against you,
but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.

²¹ I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 31 A "In You, O LORD, I Have Taken Refuge"

The entire congregation will sing together the whole Psalm

Refrain



In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge.

Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God.

My life is consumed by / anguish
and my years by / groaning;
my strength fails because of my af- / fliction,
and my / bones grow weak. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pur- / sue me.
Let your face shine on your / servant;
save me in your un- / failing love.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Hal H. Hopson; arr. Dale A. Witte
Setting: Hal H. Hopson; arr. Dale A. Witte

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Second Reading

Romans 8:18-25

St. Paul teaches God's Church that no cross can compare with the crown of glory that is waiting.

¹⁸ For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in the hope ²¹ that even creation itself will be set free from slavery to corruption, in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

²² For we know that all of creation is groaning with birth pains right up to the present time. ²³ And not only creation, but also we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we eagerly await our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ Indeed, it was for this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for something we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patient endurance.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

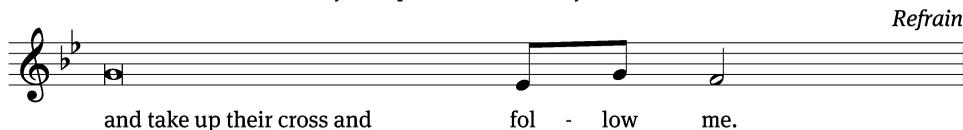
Mark 8:34



Refrain



Tone





fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to



my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.

Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Matthew 16:21-26

“It Had to Happen This Way”

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)



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.

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.

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

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

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven. Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Offertory

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

Offerings to Our Lord

God, who blesses us with all we have, gives us the privilege of showing him our thanks in many ways. One way 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.

How to Submit Your Offering

If you have an offering, you can place it in the collection box located in the narthex, mail it to the church, or if you wish to give electronically via [PayPal](#), you can scan the QR code printed at the back of the bulletin, or visit <https://www.nainlutheran.org/resources/online-giving>.

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

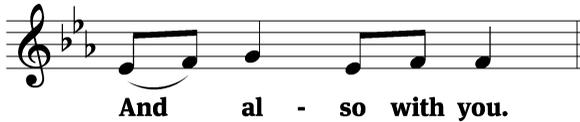
Visitors, before approaching the altar, please read the notes printed later in this bulletin under the section titled "Our Holy Communion Practices"

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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of 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 minister 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

783 "Abide with Me"



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Thou on my head in ear - ly youth didst smile,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
but kind and good, with heal - ing in thy wings,
and though re - bel - lious and per - verse mean - while,



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea;
thou hast not left me oft as I left thee;



help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
on to the close, O Lord, a - bide with me.

- 5 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!
- 6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if thou abide with me.

7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

831 “Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me”



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, and I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, for I am
 5 Since I know God nev - er fails me, in his voice



with his cheer; nev - er will he leave me.
 may be great, they will not de - feat me.
 trust him still when he sends me sad - ness.
 his dear lamb, he, my Shep - herd ev - er.
 I'll re - joice when grim death as - sails me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en that God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sees them; he who knows
 God is good; his love at - tends me day by day,
 I am his be - cause he gave me his own blood
 Trust - ing in my Sav - ior's mer - it, safe at last,



for me won when his life was giv - en?
 all my woes knows how best to end them.
 come what may, guides me and de - fends me.
 for my good, by his death to save me.
 trou - bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

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, 1925-1989 ... 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

529 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, from the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no



sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bid.



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 collection box located in the narthex.

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: Jess Brewster for playing piano... Aaron Palmer for serving as distribution assistant...

Kyle Peterson for serving as usher... and Kathy Sutton for serving on Altar Duty.

For more information about today's Scripture readings, the current season of the Church Year, and the words and symbols featured on the paraments, please visit the "[Worship Resources](#)" page of our website to read this Sunday's "**About the Propers**," a weekly document that explains the changeable parts of the service.

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

"The Congregation at Prayer," a document offering suggestions for daily devotions and Scripture readings, is also posted on the "[Worship Resources](#)" page of our church website.

"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.

Electronic Giving: If you wish to give your offering via [PayPal](#), you can scan the QR code below or visit <https://www.nainlutheran.org/resources/online-giving>. 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



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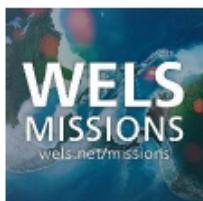
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Do you know how WELS mission work is funded? It's a part of the synod's overall work and is funded largely through the Congregation Mission Offerings. There's always a shortfall of income when measured against mission ministry requests and opportunities. That is where Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) comes in.



The LWMS is an organization solely dedicated to supporting the endeavors of the WELS home and world missions. They help by enabling non-budgeted mission projects to be completed. Help is offered in 3 ways:

** Mission Awareness is increased as updates are posted on the LWMS website: www.lwms.org.

** Prayers for mission work are promoted.



**BE FRIEND
A MISSION**

** Financial Support is provided through kids c.a.r.e.; circuit and convention mission project offerings; mission box offerings; and the Befriend A Mission program.



One Latin Team

16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive
Waukesha WI 53188-1108
wels.net/serving-others/missions/latin-america/

Stateside Correspondence:

Pastor Abram Degner
W217N9801 Whitehorse Drive
Colgate WI 53017-9540

Monetary Donations:

Please make checks payable to: WELS World Missions
N16W2337 Stone Ridge Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188
Memo Line MUST contain Latin American Special Projects Fund.
Please email Denyce Baker informing her of your gift at
baker021074@gmail.com.



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River of Life Lutheran Church

725 S Estrella Pkwy #120
Goodyear AZ 85338-9327
azriveroflife.com

Correspondence:

Pastor Lincoln (Jenni) Albrecht
17040 W Cocopah St
Goodyear AZ 85338-7356

* * * * *

For further information please contact Joan Vitense, Reporter for Nain at
joanv@mail.com.

THE CHURCH *God* ~~WE~~ WANTs

Sundays after Pentecost

The Church God Wants

“I want a church that...” How would you complete that statement? Would you focus on size—big or small? Would you think more about style—formal versus laid back? Is it certain desired church programs that come to mind? What exactly do you want in a church?

In this worship series, we see that that is not the right question. Scripture says Jesus bought the Church with his blood. So, the right question then becomes: what does God want in a church? You might find a church that runs all the youth programs you want or has a vibe that you enjoy or is in your ideal location. But if that church is not doing what Christ wants it do, then it really is not a spiritually healthy place to be. So, let us think about the church God wants. What does it look like? What are its priorities? What does it all do? Our worship follows this pattern:

8/20	9:00 am	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	A Church for All People
8/27	9:00 am	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	A Church That Really Knows Jesus
9/3	9:00 am	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	A Church That Takes Up Its Crosses
9/10	10:00 am	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	A Church Willing to Say Hard Things
9/17	10:00 am	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	A Church That Is Quick to Forgive

*Please note that on Sunday, **September 10** we will begin worshipping at **10:00 am**.*

Our Divine Service will be preceded by Sunday School (8:45-9:45 am) and Bible Study (9:00-9:45 am).