# + ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS +

# September 24, 2023



# Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57<sup>th</sup> St. West Allis, WI 53214

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



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

Pianist:Juanita BeckerChoir 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.

# St. Michael and All Angels

September 24, 2023



St. Michael and All Angels **"Let Your Holy Angel be with Me"** 

In his Morning and Evening Prayers, Dr. Martin Luther models how we can pray to God for angelic protection to befuddle the power of Satan: "Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe have no power over me." Today, as we celebrate the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, we are reminded that our Father in heaven protects his children by giving his holy angels charge over us.

We live in a time of trouble, in the midst of great tribulation. Satan and his wicked angels have been thrown out of heaven and have come down to earth in great wrath, with woeful temptations to sin and with constant accusations. Even so, we are encouraged by the presence and protection of St. Michael and the holy angels, whom God sends to help us in the strife. By the authority of his Christ, his holy angels guard and keep us in body and soul. These heavenly servants of God preserve his human messengers on earth against all the power of the enemy; for by the Word of Christ, the Church is saved, and the devil is defeated.

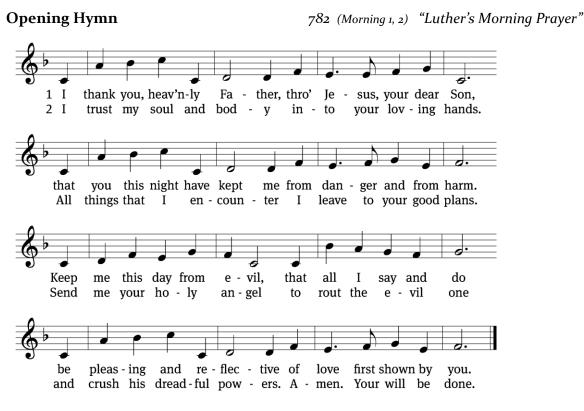
The archangel Michael is mentioned several times in the book of Daniel, where he is described as the guardian of the Israelites, "the great prince who protects (God's) people" (Daniel 12:1). In the New Testament he is represented in the epistle of St. Jude as disputing with the devil over the body of Moses (Jude 1:9), and in the Revelation to St. John as fighting against the dragon, "that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray" (Revelation 12:9).

# 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



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Please stand

# Invocation

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.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



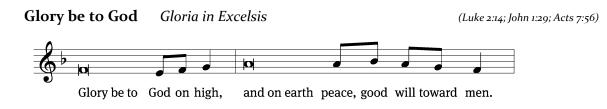
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

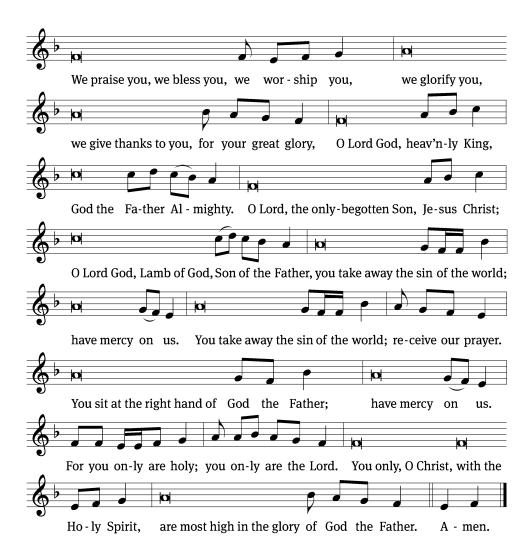


Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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The Word

#### **Salutation**

(Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

# Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth; 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**

2 Kings 6:8-17

Elisha's ministry had resulted in Elisha and his servant being surrounded by an enemy army. But they didn't need to fear, for the LORD and his mighty army of angels were with them.

<sup>8</sup>Now when the king of Aram was waging war against Israel, he would make plans with his officials, saying, "My camp will be at such and such a place."

<sup>9</sup> But the man of God would send a message to the king of Israel, saying, "Be careful when you pass this place because the Arameans are going down there." <sup>10</sup> So the king of Israel would send scouts to the place that the man of God had pointed out. So the man of God warned him, and he was kept safe—and not just once or twice.

<sup>11</sup> The king of Aram was enraged because of this. He summoned his officials and said to them, "Won't you tell me who of us is for the king of Israel?"

<sup>12</sup> One of his officials said, "No, my lord the king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of Israel the words which you speak in your bedroom."

<sup>13</sup> Then he said, "Go and see where he is. Then I'll send men and capture him."

He was told, "Dothan is where he is."

<sup>14</sup> So he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They came at night and surrounded the city. <sup>15</sup> When the man of God's servant got up early and went out, there were soldiers, horses, and chariots surrounding the city. So his attendant said to Elisha, "Oh no, my lord! What will we do?"

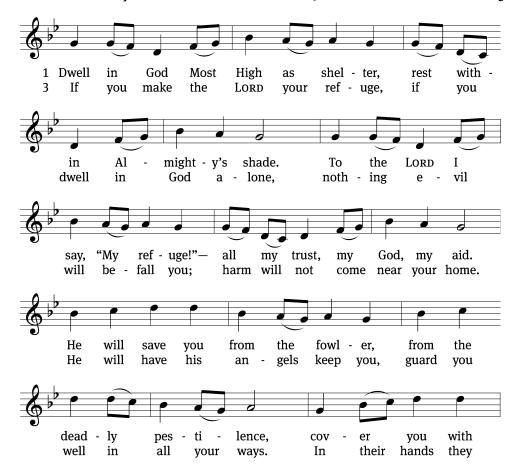
<sup>16</sup> He answered, "Don't be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

<sup>17</sup> Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, open his eyes so that he can see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire, all around Elisha.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 91 E "Dwell in God Most High as Shelter"





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# Second Reading

Revelation 12:7-12

Christ revealed to St. John a picture of a great war. It was between Michael and all his angels and Satan and his. Satan was hurled from heaven to the earth along with his army, and there was rejoicing in heaven.

<sup>7</sup> There was also a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon. The dragon fought back along with his angels, <sup>8</sup> but he was not strong enough. There was no longer a place for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> The great dragon was thrown down—the ancient serpent, the one called the Devil and Satan, the one who leads the whole inhabited earth astray—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

<sup>10</sup> I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying:

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ,

because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down,

the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

<sup>11</sup> They conquered him

because of the blood of the Lamb and

because of the word of their testimony.

They did not love their lives in the face of death.

<sup>12</sup> For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and those who dwell in them.

Woe to the earth and the sea,

for the Devil has gone down to you.

He is full of rage, because he knows that his time is short.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Refrain Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al le - lu ia. Tone Refrain O 0 Praise the LORD, you his an - gels, you mighty ones who do his bid - ding.

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

### Gospel

Christ sent out the seventy-two armed with nothing but the Word of God. Satan fell from heaven when the Spirit worked faith in the hearts of men through the Word.

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name!"

<sup>18</sup> He told them, "I was watching Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> Look, I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy. And nothing will ever harm you.<sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names have been written in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ!

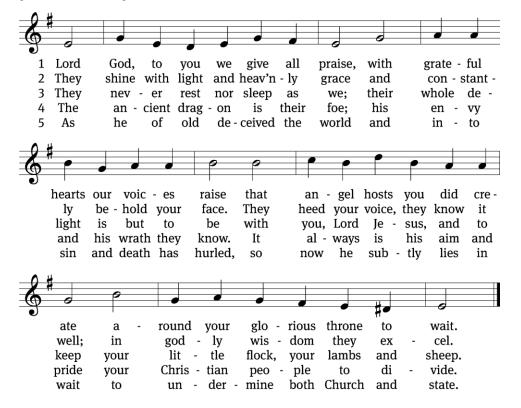
Please be seated

Luke 10:17-20



Psalm 103:20

Hymn of the Day



- 6 A roaring lion, round he goes, no halt nor rest he ever knows; he seeks the Christians to devour and slay them by his dreadful pow'r.
- 7 But watchful is the angel band that follows Christ on ev'ry hand to guard his people where they go and break the counsel of the foe.
- 8 O Lord, awaken songs of praise for angel hosts that guard our days; teach us to serve you and adore as angels do forevermore.

#### Sermon

Please stand

Nicene Creed Credo

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

Revelation 12:7-12 "Seen and Unseen"

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.

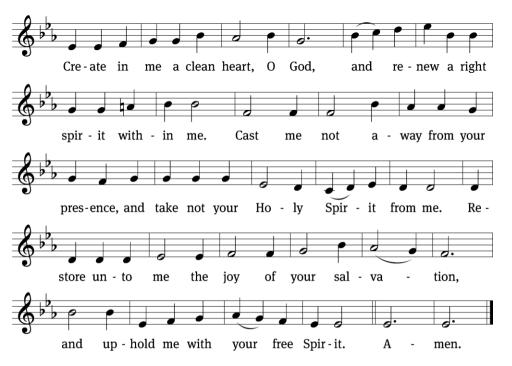
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

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





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(Psalm 51:10-12)

# **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray.

O Lord of hosts, eternal, immortal, and invisible King, we praise and thank you for protecting your people through your holy angels, who always behold your face and worship your majesty. Grant, we pray, as you have commanded them to do your will and to serve those who are the heirs of salvation, that they may also care for us that we may be delivered from every peril of body and soul that threatens us. Lord, in your mercy,

### Hear our prayer.

Be merciful to the people of all nations, O Lord. And since you will reveal your Son Jesus from heaven with his mighty angels to take vengeance on all who have denied you and rejected your love in Christ, extend for the nations their time of grace so that they might come to believe and live eternally. Use us as messengers of your gospel to penetrate the powers of darkness and to bring many to glory. Lord, in your mercy,

# Hear our prayer.

Look on our own land with your favor. Give our citizens a love for what is true and right. Grant your blessing to all who have authority over us. Prosper our schools and colleges as they train many to proclaim your grace. Bless those who work with their minds and those who labor with their hands so that all human work may benefit your holy Church. Lord, in your mercy,

### Hear our prayer.

Direct your holy angels to serve all who are in want, trouble, pain, sorrow, disappointment, anxiety, or any other trouble. Comfort them with your power and grace. Grant that your presence may brighten our homes, that children may learn of your tender love, and that all parents may walk in the counsel of your Son. Lord, in your mercy,

### Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

#### Silent prayer

May your holy angels serve you as they serve us and at the end of our lives lead them to carry us to the riches of paradise. Lord, in your mercy,

#### Hear our prayer. 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 <u>PayPal</u>, you can scan the QR code printed at the back of the bulletin, or visit <u>https://www.nainlutheran.org/resources/online-giving</u>.

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.

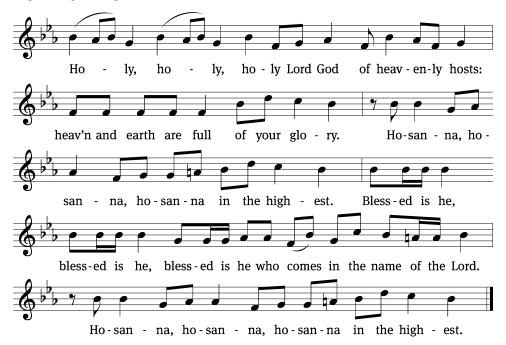


It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, at whose bidding the holy angels carry out your good and gracious will as they are sent forth to serve those who will inherit salvation.

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)



# 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

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."

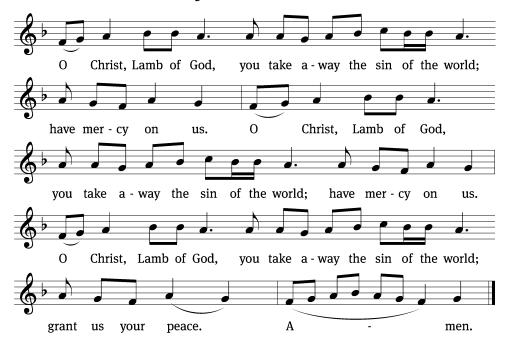
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

# 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



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** 



6 Jesus, send your angel legions

when the foe would us enslave.

- Hold us fast when sin assaults us;
  - come then, Lord, your people save.
- Overthrow at last the dragon;

send him to his fiery grave.

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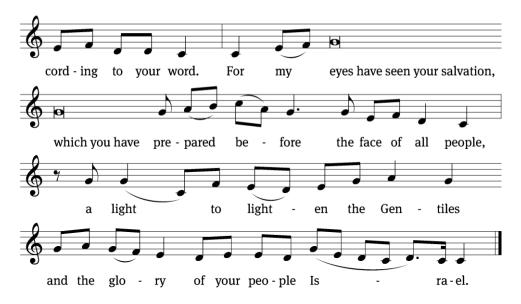
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### Lord, Now You Let Your Servant (CW 951) Nunc Dimittis

(Luke 2:29-32)

Please stand as the canticle is introduced





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# Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

### Proclamation

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

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.

(1 Corinthians 11:26)

(Romans 15:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 3:12, 5:11)

(Psalm 118:1)

#### (Numbers 6:24-26)

# Blessing

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** 481 verse 4 "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" 4 Al - le - lu - ia! prais-es ring! Let Un - to our tri - une God sing; blest be his name for - ev we er! \_ 0 0 With an gel hosts let a - dore and sing his us all prais - es more and more for his grace and fa - vor. ho - ly, ho - ly, God is Sing - ing, ring - ing: ho - ly; 0 of God, the Lord of glo spread the sto - ry our ry!

> Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698, abr. Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 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 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:** Juanita Becker for playing piano... Peter Hermanson for serving as distribution assistant... Michael Kraft for serving as usher... Brooke Smith for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream... 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 "<u>Worship Resources</u>" 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 "<u>Worship Resources</u>" 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 <u>PayPal</u>, you can scan the QR code below or visit <u>https://www.nainlutheran.org/resources/online-giving</u>. 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: <u>www.wels.net</u>



Scripture taken from: The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version <sup>™</sup> (EHV <sup>™</sup>) © 2016 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. <u>www.wartburgproject.org</u>

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