+ PALM SUNDAY +

March 24, 2024



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St. West Allis, WI 53214

+ Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church +

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Organist:
Church Choir:
Children's Choir:

Darik Mischke

Lois Buske

Peter Hermanson

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.

Sixth Sunday in Lent Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024



Lent **Rethinking Religion**

Everyone has assumptions about God. Likewise, everyone has assumptions about religion. Increasingly, those assumptions are negative. Americans are walking away from Christianity in breathtaking numbers. It raises the question. How do those people know if their assumptions about religion are correct? Do they really understand Christianity at all? Do we? Do we truly understand this religion?

In the season of Lent, as much as any other, Jesus teaches things that turns the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "*Christ*ianity." So, in this holy season, let us go straight to Christ and let him replace the world's assumptions with his truth.

Palm Sunday

Rethinking Real Strength

Most religions believe in a powerful God. It is assumed that God will use that strength for the benefit of his followers. That is a reasonable assumption, but it begs the question. What is real strength? It is easy to assume that real strength means exerting your will over another by using any means necessary, including force. But this week we see Jesus Christ demonstrate a different kind of strength.

We have come to Holy Week. It begins with Jesus humbly riding a donkey colt straight into the hands of his enemies. As the week progresses, it will appear that Christ's adversaries are the ones in a position of power and Jesus is in a position of weakness. Yet what Christ does this holy week—setting his divine strength aside, being passive in the face of death—would change the world. To do what Christ did for us and our salvation took real strength.



Instructions for the Procession into Church

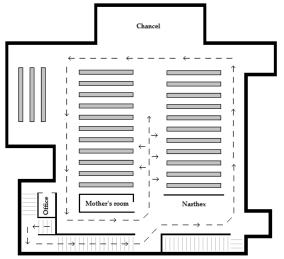
The annual festival of Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on the week of his death, as he rode on to die. We will remember this event by opening today's service with a procession into the church. All worshippers are invited to participate.

If you would like to join the procession into the church:

- Please gather in the downstairs fellowship hall. Palm fronds and bulletins will be available on the table there... If you cannot manage the stairs, but would still like to join the procession, please gather in the narthex... If you sat in your pew when you arrived at church, but would still like to join the procession, you may do so as it passes your pew.
- The procession will be led by the crucifer. Please follow him into the nave and around the church (see the diagram below).
- Once you walk down the center aisle for the last leg of the procession, you may enter a pew
 of your choice at any point.
- Please remain standing until the conclusion of the Prayer of the Day.

If you would not like to join the procession into the church:

 You may take a palm frond from the narthex and take a seat in the pew of your choice as you normally would.



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

Tolling of the Bells

Please stand as the bells are tolled

Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Call to Worship

Dear friends in Christ, during the weeks of Lent we have been preparing to commemorate our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Today we come together to begin the solemn journey of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Savior and to gain for us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We follow him in faith and praise him with joy.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Prayer

Let us pray.

God our Father, we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as a king by those who shouted "Hosanna" and spread their clothing and palm branches in his path.

Accept our praise and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

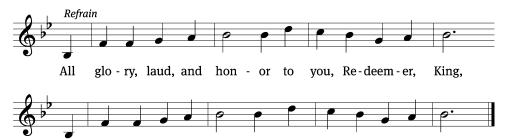
Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of the Lord.

Those sitting in the pews may join the procession as it passes them around the church

Processional Hymn

412 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring.



- 1 You are the King of Is rael and Da vid's roy al Son,
- 2 The com-pa-ny of an-gels is prais-ing you on high,
- 3 The peo-ple of the He-brews with palms be-fore you went;
- 4 To you be-fore your pas-sion they sang their hymns of praise;
- 5 As you re-ceived their prais es, ac cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One. and we with all cre - a - tion in cho-rus make re - ply. our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent. to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise. O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, our good and gra-cious King.

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.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

The prophet Zechariah foretold a king who is both infinitely strong and perfectly humble. He would enter Jerusalem riding on the colt of a donkey.

- 9 Rejoice greatly, Daughter of Zion!
 Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!
 Look! Your King is coming to you.
 He is righteous and brings salvation.
 He is humble and is riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem.
 The battle bow will be taken away, and he will proclaim peace to the nations.
 His kingdom will extend from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.

- As for you,
 because of the blood of my covenant with you,
 I will release your prisoners from the waterless pit.
- Return to the stronghold, you prisoners who have hope.
 This very day I declare that I will restore double to you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24 H "Let the LORD Enter; He Is the King of Glory"

The entire congregation will sing together the whole Psalm







The earth is the LORD's, and every- / thing in it, the world, and all who / live in it; for he founded it / on the seas and established it on the / waters.

Who may ascend the mountain / of the LORD?

Who may stand in his / holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart, they will receive blessing from God their / Savior. *Refrain*

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient doors, that the King of glory / may come in.

Who is this King of / glory?

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The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in / battle.

Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors, that the King of glory / may come in.

Who is he, this King of / glory?

The LORD Almighty—he is the King of / glory.

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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Text: Lectionary for Mass (refrain) Tune: Richard T. Proulx Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Second Reading Hebrews 12:1-3

Jesus demonstrated strength by enduring the cross. He did so for the joy set before him: redeeming us from our sin.

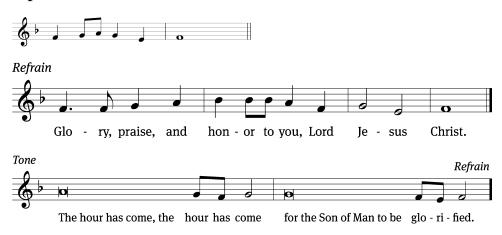
of every burden and the sin that so easily ensnares us, and let us run with patient endurance the race that is laid out for us. ² Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal. In view of the joy set before him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of God's throne.

³ Carefully consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinful people, so that you do not grow weary and lose heart.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced



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

Gospel Mark 11:1-10

The almighty Son of God demonstrates real strength by humbly riding into Jerusalem knowing he will soon be put to death.

11 As they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, on the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and told them, "Go into the village ahead of you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it, and he will send it back here without delay.'"

⁴They left and found a colt on the street, tied at a door; and they untied it. ⁵Some who were standing there asked them, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶The disciples answered them just as Jesus had instructed them, and the men let them go.

⁷They brought the colt to Jesus, threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their garments on the road. Others spread branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹Those who went in front and those who followed were crying out,

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!

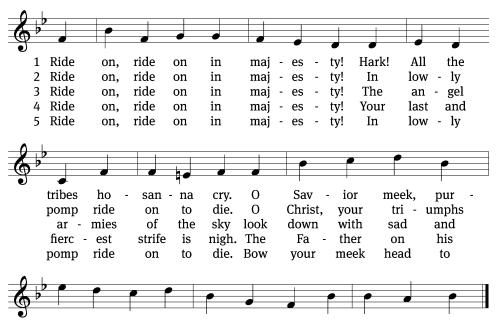
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

411 "Ride on, Ride On in Majesty"



your road, with palms and gar - ments strowed. scat - tered be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin. won-d'ring eyes to see th' ap-proach - ing sac - ri fice. sap - phire throne a waits his own a - noint - ed Son. mor - tal pain, then take, 0 Christ, your pow'r and reign.

> Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Mark 11:1-10

Please stand

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.

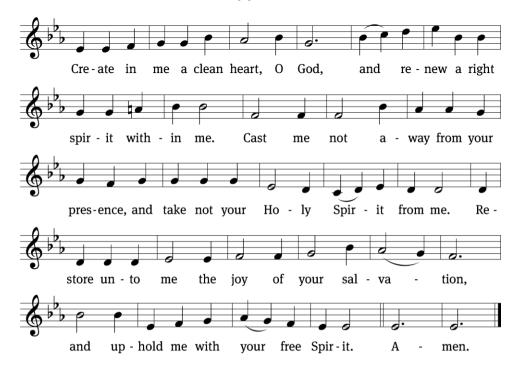
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

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.

Create in Me a Clean Heart (CW 942)

(Psalm 51:10-12)



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

Lent

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart. Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions

The Christian Church has traditionally marked March 25 as a day to remember the Annunciation of Our Lord. We will recognize this minor church year festival in our prayers today.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Please stand

The Sacrament

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

Prefaces

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

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

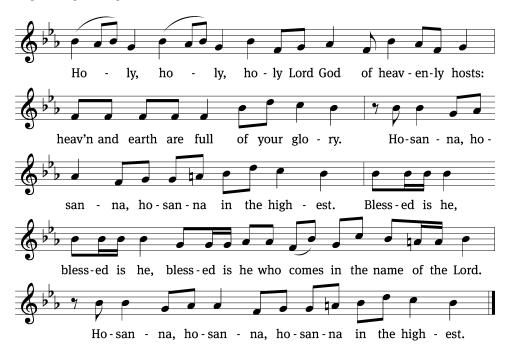


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 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:



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."

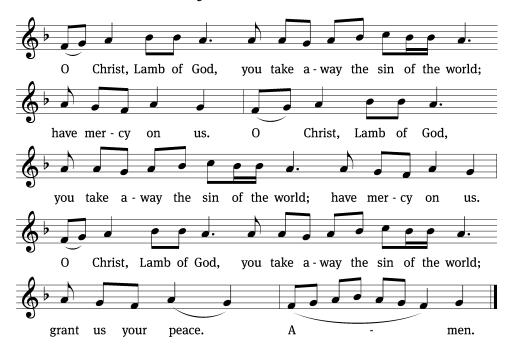
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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.



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.

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Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

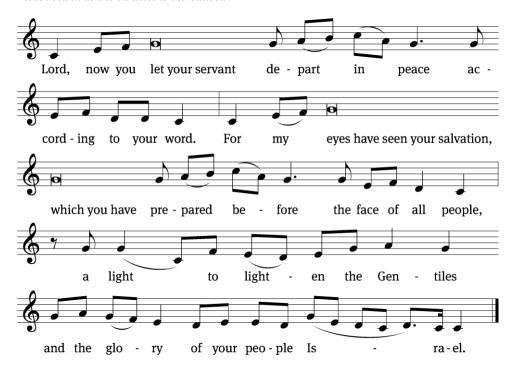
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Please stand as the canticle is introduced



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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)

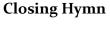
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

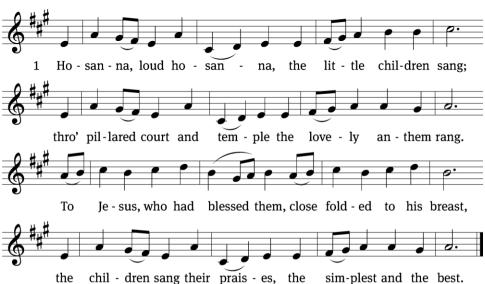
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

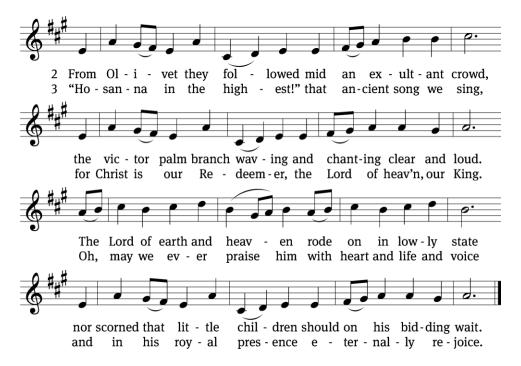
Please remain standing for the first verse of the closing hymn



413 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"



Please be seated



Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–1880, alt. Tune: Gesang-Buch Herzogl. Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784 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.

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: Darik Mischke for playing organ... Ben Leyrer for serving as crucifer and distribution assistant... Aaron Palmer and Luther Schmeling for serving as ushers... Brooke Smith for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream... and Jessica Reichardt 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 <u>PayPal</u>, 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: <u>www.wels.net</u>



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

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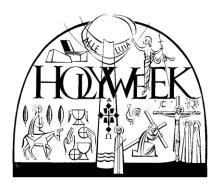
www.wartburgproject.org

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Holy Week Service Schedule

The final week of Lent marks the most pivotal week in human history. Nearly a third of the words written in the four Gospels are devoted to the events that took place during this single week. The Holy Spirit considered them that important! Believers slow down during Holy Week to ponder all that Christ did for them – from his humble entrance into Jerusalem, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to his victory over sin, death, and hell on Easter morning.

Please join us for these worship services as we focus on Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection to save us from our sins!

Palm Sunday	March 24	Sunday	10:00 am
Holy Thursday	March 28	Thursday	7:00 pm
Good Friday	March 29	Friday	7:00 pm
Holy Saturday	March 30	Saturday	7:00 pm
Easter Day	March 31	Sunday	10:00 am

Palm Fronds

It is a laudable custom for worshippers to retain their palm fronds after the Palm Sunday service and to place them behind a cross, crucifix, or a Christian picture in one's home. This is done in remembrance of our King, Jesus Christ riding on into Jerusalem to die for our salvation. Please feel free to take a palm frond home with you for this purpose, or to bring to someone who couldn't worship today. These fronds can be brought back to the church next year on Transfiguration Sunday for the Palm Burning Ceremony. The ashes of the burnt palms will be used for the Imposition of the Ashes on Ash Wednesday.