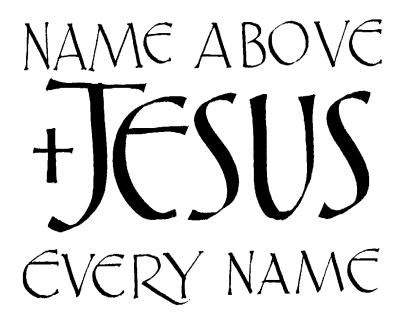
+ FIRST WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT +

December 4, 2024



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St. West Allis, WI 53214

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

Pianist:Sarah BortulinChurch Choir:Lois BuskeomChildren's Choir: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.

First Wednesday in Advent

December 4, 2024



Midweek Advent

The Name That Is Above Every Name

"Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).

When we speak of *God's name*, we aren't just talking about the sounds of the letters *G*-*o*-*d*. God's name is every name, title, word, or phrase by which he reveals who he is and what he has done for us. God's name recalls everything that is true about him. God's name is how he defines himself. Therefore, God's different names have meaning behind them.

So, why was the Second Person of the Holy Trinity given the name "Jesus"? Why do we call him "Christ"? What does it mean that he is our "Lord"? During our Midweek Advent services, we will explore the meaning behind these and some of the other names for our Savior and delight in what they reveal about his love for us.

First Wednesday in Advent **"Jesus"**

"After eight days passed, when the child was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb" (Luke 2:21).

Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name *Yeshua* (i.e. Joshua). The name Jesus means, "The LORD is salvation," "Salvation is of the LORD," or "The LORD saves." There had been other boys named "Jesus" before this one was born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph some 2,000 years ago. But *this* Jesus was different from all the others. *This* Jesus lived up to his name. *This* Jesus saved his people from their sins. Therefore, the name *Jesus* is precious to us. It calls to mind God's love for us sinners and his promise that we will live forever in heaven. Indeed, *Jesus* is the name that is above every name! May we praise his name forever!

Evening Prayer

Vespers

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.

Service of Light

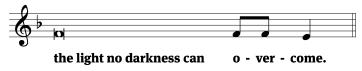
Opening Hymn 512 vv 1-3 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall; 1 2 Crown him, ve mar-tvrs of our God who from his al - tar call; 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ve ran-somed from the fall, bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all. ex - tol the stem of Ies - se's rod and crown him Lord of all. hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him of Lord all. Ex - tol the stem of Ies - se's rod and crown him all. Lord of Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him all. Lord of

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, abr., alt. Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

Opening Sentences

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



Be our light and scatter the darkness,



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Opening Dialogue

Sing to the Lord. Praise his name.	(Psalm 96:2)
Give thanks to him and bless his name.	(Psalm 100:4)
Make music to the glory of his name!	(Psalm 66:2)
I will make music to the name of the Lord Most High.	(Psalm 7:17)
For there is no other name under heaven	
given to people by which we must be saved.	(Acts 4:12)
This then is (God's) command:	
that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ.	(1 John 3:23)
"Look, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son."	(Matthew 1:23)
"And you are to give him the name Jesus,	
because he will save his people from their sins."	(Matthew 1:21)

God also highly exalted him	
and gave him the name that is above every name,	
so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow,	
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,	(Philippians 2:9,10)
and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,	
to the glory of God the Father.	(Philippians 2:11)
Everything you do, whether in word or deed,	
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.	(Colossians 3:17)
So that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ	
may be glorified in (us) and (us) in him.	(2 Thessalonians 1:12)

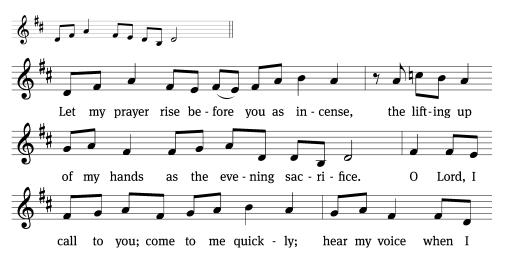
Prayer

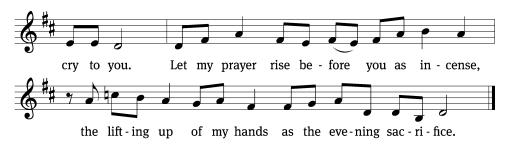
Eternal Son of God, we give thanks that you have revealed your holy name to us. Yours is the name in which we were baptized, the only name by which we are saved, and at your name every knee will bow. Give us strength to live each day to the honor of your blessed name; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Psalm 141

(Psalm 141:1-4,8)





Tune: David Schack Tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Service of the Word

Reading

4 As Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the commander of the temple guard, and the Sadducees approached them. ² They were very upset because Peter and John were teaching the people and proclaiming the resurrection from the dead in connection with Jesus. ³ They arrested them and put them in jail until the next day because it was already evening.

⁷ After they made Peter and John stand in front of them, they began to question them: "By what power or by what name did you do this?"

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, ⁹ if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.

¹² "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Acts 4:1-3, 7-12

Reading

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother, Mary, was pledged in marriage to Joseph. Before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph, her husband, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her. So he decided to divorce her privately. ²⁰ But as he was considering these things, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

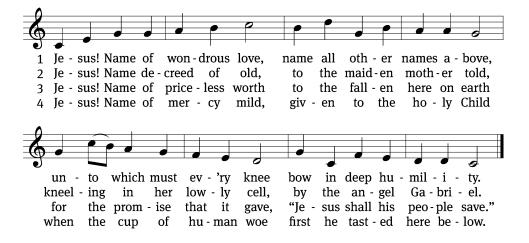
²² All this happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son. And they will name him Immanuel," which means, "God with us."

²⁴ When Joseph woke up from his sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him. He took Mary home as his wife, ²⁵ but he was not intimate with her until she gave birth to her firstborn son. And he named him Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn

496 "Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"



5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n under all the mighty heav'n whereby those to sin enslaved burst their fetters and are saved. 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, human name of God above; pleading only this, we flee helpless, O our God, to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1704, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

"The Name That Is Above Every Name: Jesus"

Song of Mary Magnificat

(Luke 1:46-55)

Please remain seated

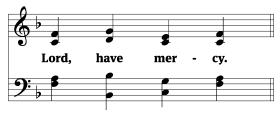




Tune: Kurt J. Eggert Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

Please stand

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

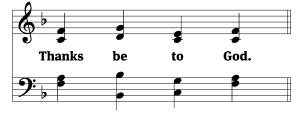
Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For... [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]... let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.



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

Silence for individual prayer

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our Lord:



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Prayer

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and 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.

Benedicamus



(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

(Psalm 103:1)

Blessing

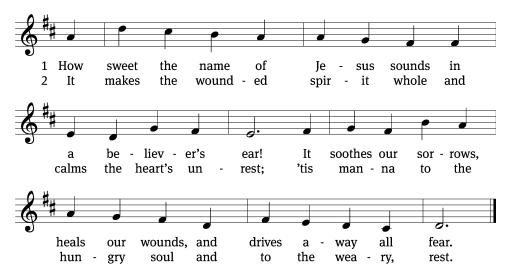
The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.





Closing Hymn

541 vv 1, 2 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877 Text and tune: Public domain

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Special thanks to: Sarah Bortulin for playing piano... and Peter Hermanson for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream.

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. If you wish to give your offering via <u>PayPal</u>, you can scan the QR code on the last page of this bulletin. Thank you for your financial support of our congregation!

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



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Advent & Christmas Service Schedule

First Sunday in Advent A Real Christmas Requires Remembering Why Christ Came Sunday | December 1 | 10:00 am Midweek of Advent 1 The Name That Is Above Every Name: "Jesus" Wednesday | December 4 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm Second Sunday in Advent A Real Christmas Is Rooted in Repentance Sunday | December 8 | 10:00 am Midweek of Advent 2 The Name That Is Above Every Name: "Christ" Wednesday | December 11 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm Third Sunday in Advent A Real Christmas Results in Great Joy Sunday | December 15 | 10:00 am Midweek of Advent 3 The Name That Is Above Every Name: "Lord" Wednesday | December 18 | 4:00 & 7:00 pm Fourth Sunday in Advent A Real Christmas Will Lift Up the Lowly Sunday | December 22 | 10:00 am Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Eve God Gives Heaven's Best Gift in Earth's Unlikeliest Place Tuesday | December 24 | 5:00 pm Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day God Gives Himself as One of Us Wednesday | December 25 | 10:00 am **First Sunday after Christmas** God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice Sunday | December 29 | 10:00 am Second Sunday after Christmas God Gives Satisfaction to Those Who Patiently Wait Sunday | January 5 | 10:00 am **Epiphany of Our Lord** The Gift of God Is for All People Monday | January 6 | 7:00 pm



The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is believed to have originated in Germany, as a folk custom. The evergreen branches symbolize God's unending love for us, and eternal life found in Christ. The four candles set in the wreath represent the four Sundays in the season of Advent. The lighting of the candles each week in Advent marks the growing anticipation for the birth of Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World.

The color of the candles is significant. Some churches use three purple or violet candles on the first, second, and fourth Sundays to remind us that Advent is a season of repentance. Other churches use three blue candles on these Sundays to symbolize our hope and expectation at the coming of Jesus, especially his second coming in glory on the Last Day. A rose or pink candle is often used on the third Sunday, historically observed as Gaudete (Rejoice!) Sunday as a reminder that Advent is also a time of joy. The fifth candle, if used, is white. It is lighted on Christmas Day and symbolizes the perfection and purity of God's gift to sinners: his righteous Son, Jesus Christ.

Some traditions associate a theme with each candle. One tradition is as follows...

The **Prophecy Candle** – Also called the Hope Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the Old Testament prophecies of Christ's coming.

The **Bethlehem Candle** – Also called the Peace Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the birth of Jesus to the Virgin May in the town of Bethlehem.

The **Shepherds' Candle** – Also called the Joy Candle, this pink or rose-colored candle symbolizes the coming of the Savior into the hearts and lives of believers, like he did with the shepherds at his birth.

The **Angels' Candle** – Also called the Good News Candle, this purple/violet or blue candle symbolizes the final glorious coming of the Savior with all his angels on the Last Day.

The **Christ Candle** – This white candle symbolizes the day of Jesus' birth, the coming we've been waiting for, the advent of Jesus, the Light of the World.