+ SECOND WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT +

December 11, 2024

NAME ABOVE + SUS EVERY NAME

Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St. West Allis, WI 53214

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

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Pianist: Sarah Bortulin

Church Choir: Lois Buske

Children'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.

Second Wednesday in Advent

December 11, 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.

Second Wednesday in Advent

"Christ"

"(Jesus) said to (the disciples), 'But you, who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God'" (Matthew 16:15,16).

Christ is the Greek form of the Hebrew Messiah. Both words mean, "the Anointed One" – an Old Testament title for the coming Savior. In Old Testament times, people were anointed with oil to show that they had been set apart by God to serve in special positions or offices – as prophets, priests, or kings. But these men were only a shadow of someone greater to come; someone who would perfectly carry out his role as *the* Prophet, Priest, and King. Jesus is this promised Messiah. He is the only One anointed "with the Holy Spirit and with power" (Acts 10:38) and sent by God to save us from our sins. Truly, *the Christ* has lived up to his name!

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.

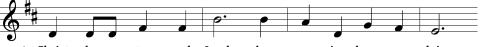
A personal prayer for before worship is printed on the first page of the blue hymnal.

The hymns are located in the middle to back portion of the blue hymnal.

Service of Light

Opening Hymn

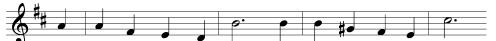
521 vv 1-3 "Christ the Eternal Lord"



- 1 Christ the e ter nal Lord, whose prom-ise here we claim,
- 2 Christ the un-chang ing Word to ev 'ry pass ing age,
- 3 Christ the re-deem ing Son who shares our hu-man birth,



whose gifts of grace are free-ly poured on all who name your name; whose time-less teach-ings still are heard set forth on Scrip-ture's page; and by his death sal - va - tion won for ev - 'ry child of earth;



with thank-ful - ness and praise trans - form our thought and mind, in - spire our hearts, we pray, we stand be - fore your throne, en - light - en all who read, to tell your love a - broad,



in - tent to serve you all our days and make your glo - ry known. with - in your Word by faith to find the bread of life in - deed. that all may hon - or Christ to - day and fol - low him as Lord.

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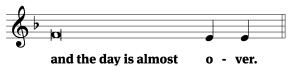
Opening Sentences

(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

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

I will praise you among the nations, LORD.

To your name I will make music.

(Psalm 18:49)

By providing great salvation for his King,

he shows mercy to his Anointed One, to David and to his Descendant forever.

(Psalm 18:50)

A shoot will spring up from the stump of Jesse,

and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit.

(Isaiah 11:1)

The LORD says, "I will make a horn shoot up for David.

I will set up a lamp for my Anointed One."

(Psalm 132:17)

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.

For behold, I bring you good news of great joy,

which will be for all people:

(Luke 2:10)

Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you.

He is Christ the Lord."

(Luke 2:11)

When the set time had fully come,

God sent his Son to be born of a woman,

so that he would be born under the law,

(Galatians 4:4)

in order to redeem those under the law,

so that we would be adopted as sons.

(Galatians 4:5)

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)

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,

and that by believing you may have life in his name.

(John 20:31)

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 Acts 17:1-4

17 When Paul and Silas had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ² As was his custom, Paul went to the Jews, and on three Sabbath days he led them in a discussion from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. He also said, "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ." ⁴ Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great number of God-fearing Greeks and more than a few of the prominent women.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reading Matthew 16:13-16, 21

- ¹³ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"
- ¹⁴ They said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
 - ¹⁵ He said to them, "But you, who do you say that I am?"
 - ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- ²¹ From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



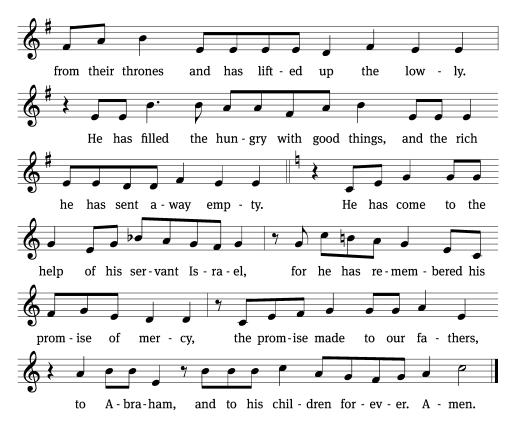
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Song of Mary Magnificat

(Luke 1:46-55)

Please remain seated

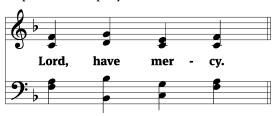




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Please stand

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:

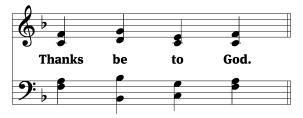
Lord, have mercy.

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:



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

(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.

Benedicamus (Psalm 103:1)

Let us praise the Lord.

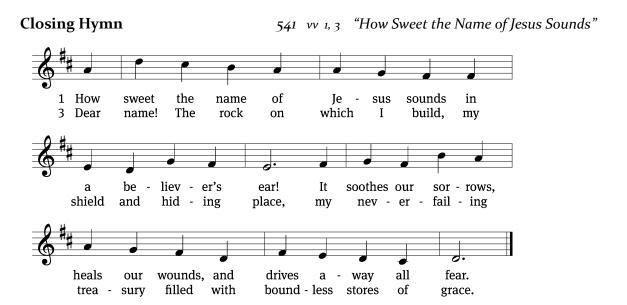


Blessing (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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



Please be seated



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





Special thanks to: Sarah Bortulin for playing piano... and Mark Buske 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 PayPal, 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: www.wels.net



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

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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

Sunday | December 22 | 10:00 am

A Real Christmas Will Lift Up the Lowly

Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Eve

Tuesday | December 24 | 5:00 pm

God Gives Heaven's Best Gift in Earth's Unlikeliest Place

Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

Wednesday | December 25 | 10:00 am

God Gives Himself as One of Us

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday | December 29 | 10:00 am

God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice

Second Sunday after Christmas

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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.