

# ✠ EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD ✠

January 6, 2025



**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](http://www.nainlutheran.org) | [www.facebook.com/nainlutheran](http://www.facebook.com/nainlutheran)



Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

Organist: David Porth

Phone: 414-810-3392

Church Choir: Lois Buske

Email: [revjberg@gmail.com](mailto:revjberg@gmail.com)

Children's Choir: Peter Hermanson

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## 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.

# Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2025



*Christmas*

## ***The Gift of God***

In the season of Christmas, we receive the gift of God. That does not simply mean we receive the gifts God gives. When we look into the manger, we see that God *is* the gift. In the person of Jesus, God gave us himself. And because our God became true man and did everything necessary for our salvation, he is able to give us so many other Christmas gifts: forgiveness, hope, peace, a place in his family, and eternal life in heaven!

*Epiphany of Our Lord*

## ***The Gift of God Is for All People***

On Christmas Eve the angel told the shepherds, “I bring you good news of great joy, which will be for all people” (Luke 2:10). One wonders if those words struck those Jewish shepherds as odd. For centuries, God had given special attention to one nation – Israel. There were Jewish religious leaders who taught that only members of that chosen nation would be saved. Not according to the Christmas angel! The birth of the Savior was good news *for all people*.

Today we celebrate the Festival of Epiphany. Epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning “reveal.” When the Savior was born, he was first revealed to Israelites: the shepherds, Simeon, Anna. But today, we see the Lord miraculously guides foreigners across countless miles so the Savior could be revealed to them as well. How did the magi respond? “They rejoiced with overwhelming joy” (Matthew 2:10).

The Festival of Epiphany is sometimes known as “The Gentiles’ Christmas.” We Gentiles (non-Jews) rejoice in the good news that this baby is not just a gift for the physical descendants of the Israelites. He is a gift for all people – the Savior of the world.

# The Service

## Setting Four

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**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.*

*There will be no pre-service announcements.*

*Our worship begins with the tolling of the bells, followed by the opening hymn.*

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## The Preparation

### Tolling of the Bells

### Opening Hymn

347 w 1-4 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing  
3 Ma - gi, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er



flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -  
o'er your flocks by night, God with us is  
vi - sions beam a - far; seek the great de -



a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
now re - sid - ing; yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
sire of na - tions, you have seen the Sav - ior's star.

### *Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,

wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

*Please stand for the stanza 4 and direct your attention to the processional cross as it is brought to the chancel*

4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing

long in hope and fear, sud - den - ly the

Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,

wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

## Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Confession

(1 John 1:8-9; Luke 18:13)

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## Absolution

(Matthew 16:19; John 20:21-23)

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Epiphany Dialogue

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. (*Isaiah 9:2, NIV*)

**Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.**

(*Isaiah 60:1, NIV*)

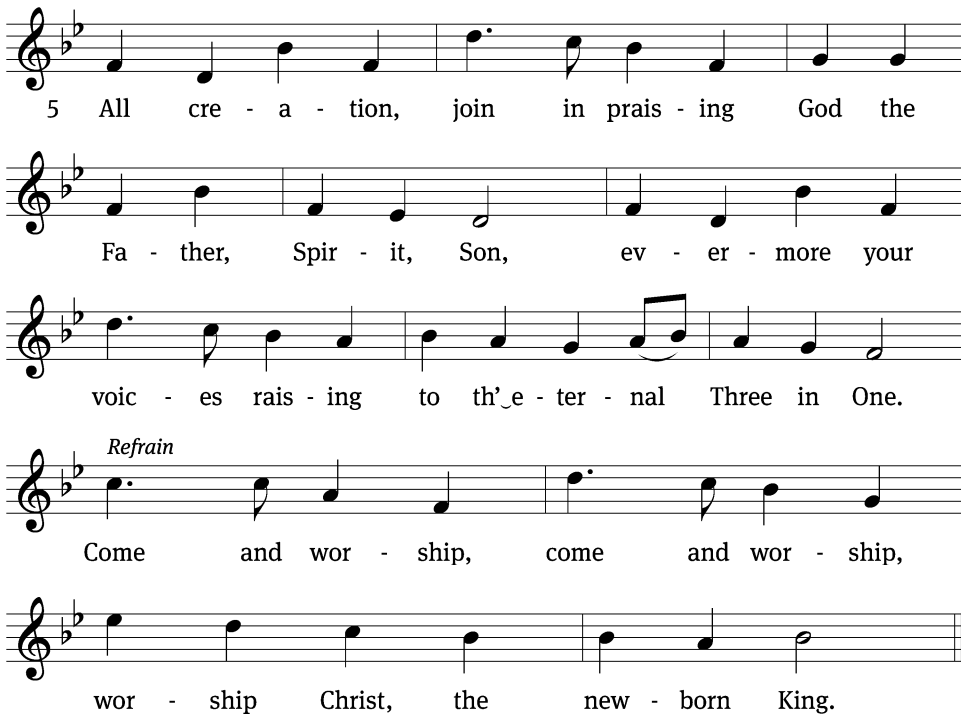
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

(*John 1:1-4, NIV*)

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.** (*John 1:5, NIV*)

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (*John 8:12, NIV*)

**We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.** (*Matthew 2:2, NIV*)



5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the  
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your  
voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*  
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,  
wor - ship Christ, the new - born 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.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; 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

1 Kings 10:1-9

*An African queen visits Israel to test the wisdom of King Solomon. The result of her visit: she ends up praising the LORD for his love. The gift of God is for all people.*

**10** The Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon's fame, which was connected with the fame of the LORD, so she came to test him with hard questions. <sup>2</sup> She came to Jerusalem with a very great entourage—with camels carrying spices and a large quantity of gold and precious stones. She came to Solomon and told him everything that was on her heart.

<sup>3</sup> Solomon answered all her questions. There was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her.

<sup>4</sup> The Queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon, the house which he built, <sup>5</sup> and the food on his table. When she saw the council meeting of his officials, the careful attention of his ministers, as well as their attire, his cupbearers, and the whole burnt offerings which he offered at the House of the LORD, it took her breath away.

<sup>6</sup> She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your accomplishments and your wisdom is true. <sup>7</sup> I did not believe the report until I came and saw it with my own eyes. The truth is, not even half of it was told to me! Your wisdom and



wealth surpass the report which I heard. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are your men, blessed are your servants, who stand before you continually hearing your wisdom! <sup>9</sup> May the LORD your God be blessed, who was pleased to put you on the throne of Israel. Because the LORD loves Israel forever, he made you king to administer justice and righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 72 A “Lord, Every Nation on Earth Will Adore You”

*Recognizing the reference to kings bowing down and presenting gifts to the great King, the Church sings Psalm 72 in services that celebrate the Epiphany.*

[ *The Congregation will sing the refrains and the “Glory be to the Father...”*  
*The Cantor will sing the verses* ]

**Congregation:**   
Lord, ev - 'ry na-tion on earth will a - dore you.

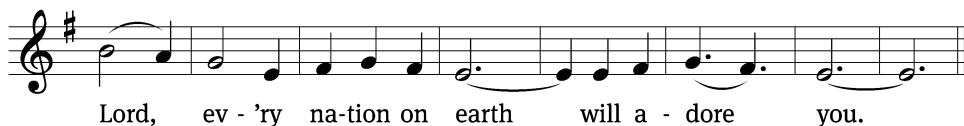
**Cantor:** Endow the king with your justice, / O God,  
the royal son with your / righteousness.  
May he endure as long / as the sun,  
as long as the moon, through all gener- / ations.  
May he be like rain falling on a / mown field,  
like showers water- / ing the earth.  
In his days may the righteous / flourish  
and prosperity abound till the moon / is no more.

**Congregation:**   
Lord, ev - 'ry na-tion on earth will a - dore you.

**Cantor:** May all kings bow / down to him  
and all nations / serve him.  
Long may he live! May gold from Sheba be / given him.  
May the kings of Sheba and Seba pre- / sent him gifts.

May people ever / pray for him  
and bless him / all day long.  
Then all nations will be / blessed through him,  
and they will / call him blessed.

**Congregation:**    **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.**



*Tune: Stephen Pishner    Setting: Stephen Pishner  
Text: © 1969, 1981, 1997 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758  
Music: © 2013 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758*

## Second Reading

Acts 13:46-49

*The focus of St. Paul's ministry would be to share the gift of eternal life with the Gentiles.*

<sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas responded fearlessly, "It was necessary that God's word be spoken to you first. But since you reject it and consider yourselves unworthy of eternal life, look: We are now turning to the Gentiles! <sup>47</sup> For this is what the Lord has instructed us:

I have made you a light for the Gentiles,  
that you may bring salvation to the end of the earth."

<sup>48</sup> When the Gentiles heard this, they were rejoicing and praising the word of the Lord. All who had been appointed for eternal life believed.

<sup>49</sup> And the word of the Lord was being carried through the whole region.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as the Gospel Acclamation is introduced*

## Gospel Acclamation

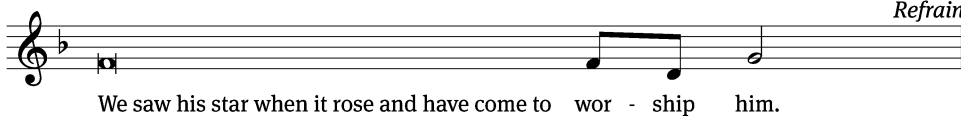
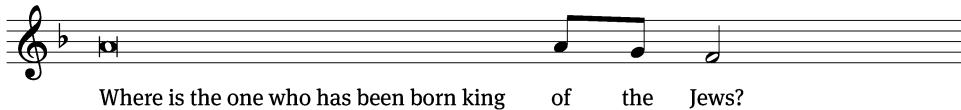
Matthew 2:2



### Refrain



### Tone



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

## Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

*The Lord miraculously led Magi across many hundreds of miles of difficult terrain, so that they might worship the child who offered the gift of salvation.*

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, <sup>2</sup>“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. <sup>11</sup> After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

370 "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"



1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing Star!      The na - tions see  
 2 O high - est joy by mor - tals won,      true Son of God  
 3 O might - y Fa - ther, in your Son      you loved me ere  
 4 Oh, joy to know that you, my friend,      are Lord, be - gin -  
 5 Lift up the voice and strike the string,      let all glad sounds



and hail a - far      the light in Ju - dah shin - ing,  
 and Mar - y's son,      the high - born King of a - ges!  
 you had be - gun      this an - cient world's foun - da - tion.  
 ning with - out end,      the first and last, e - ter - nal!  
 of mu - sic ring      in God's high prais - es blend - ed.



O Da - vid's son of Ja - cob's race,      my Bride - groom and  
 In your blest bod - y let me be,      e'en as the branch  
 Your Son has made a friend of me,      and when in spir -  
 And you at length— O glo - rious grace—      will take me to  
 Christ will be with me all the way,      to - day, to - mor -



my King of grace, for you my heart is pin - ing.  
is in the tree, your life my life sup - ply - ing.  
it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.  
that ho - ly place, the home of joys su - per - nal.  
row, ev - 'ry day till trav - 'ling days are end - ed.



Low - ly, ho - ly, great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious  
Sigh - ing, cry - ing for the sa - vor of your fa - vor,  
What bliss is this! He is liv - ing, to me giv - ing  
A - men, a - men! Come and meet me, quick - ly greet me!  
Sing out, ring out tri - umph glo - rious, O vic - to - rious



Prince of grac - es, fill - ing all the heav'n - ly plac - es.  
rest - ing nev - er till I rest in you for - ev - er.  
life for - ev - er; noth - ing me from him can sev - er.  
With deep yearn - ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing.  
cho - sen na - tion; praise the God of your sal - va - tion.

*Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt  
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text and tune: Public domain*

**Sermon**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

*“The King Brings You Gifts”*

**Nicene Creed**    *Credo*

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

*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.**

*Please be seated*

# O Lord, Our Lord (CW 939)

(Psalm 8:1; 103:2-4; John 1:1,14,18; Romans 8:32)

*Refrain*

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa - ther, you crown our life

with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;

you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your

on - ly Son, but gave him up for us all. *Refrain* O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of

God, e - ter-nal Word of the Fa - ther, you came to live with us;

you made your Fa - ther known; you washed us from our sins in

your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!

*Refrain*

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O Lord, Our Lord'. It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff is the 'Refrain' and is followed by the main text. The second staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The fifth staff is the 'Refrain' and is followed by the main text. The sixth staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The seventh staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The eighth staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The ninth staff has a triplet of eighth notes. The tenth staff is the 'Refrain' and is followed by the main text. The score includes lyrics and musical notation for a single voice part.

## Prayer of the Church

Epiphany

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

**You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging.

**You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope.

**Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

**Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

*Special prayers and intercessions*

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

**Amen.**

*Please stand*



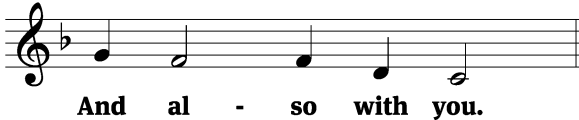
# The Sacrament

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

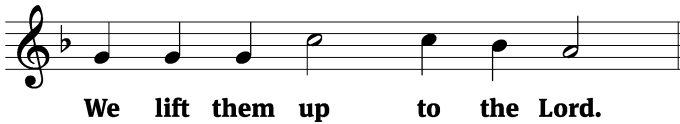
## Prefaces

*(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.



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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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.

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

## Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

(John 1:3; Romans 8:32)

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## Words of Institution *Verba*

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

## Peace of the Lord *Pax Domini*

(John 14:27; 20:19; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**Amen.**

# O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

(John 1:29; Isaiah 53:4-7; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second and third staves contain the first phrase: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." The fourth and fifth staves contain the second phrase: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." The sixth and seventh staves contain the third phrase: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace." The eighth and ninth staves contain the final phrase: "A - men. A - men." The score concludes with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

A - men. A - men.

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*Please be seated*

## 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

372 "As with Gladness Men of Old"



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold,  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low-ly bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy cra-dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;  
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre-at-ed light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright,  
there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore,  
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
and, when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down.



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led by thee.  
so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.  
There for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our King!

# Distribution Hymn

373 "Brightest and Best"



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 Shall we not yield him in cost - ly de - vo - tion  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.  
 rar - est of fra - granc - es, trib - ute di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure.  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 Rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

## 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.**

## Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise (CW 948)

(Psalm 105:1-5; Isaiah 55:12)

*Please stand as the canticle is introduced*

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re-news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010  
Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758*



## 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 you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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 stanza of the closing hymn and direct your attention to the processional cross as it is brought out of the nave*

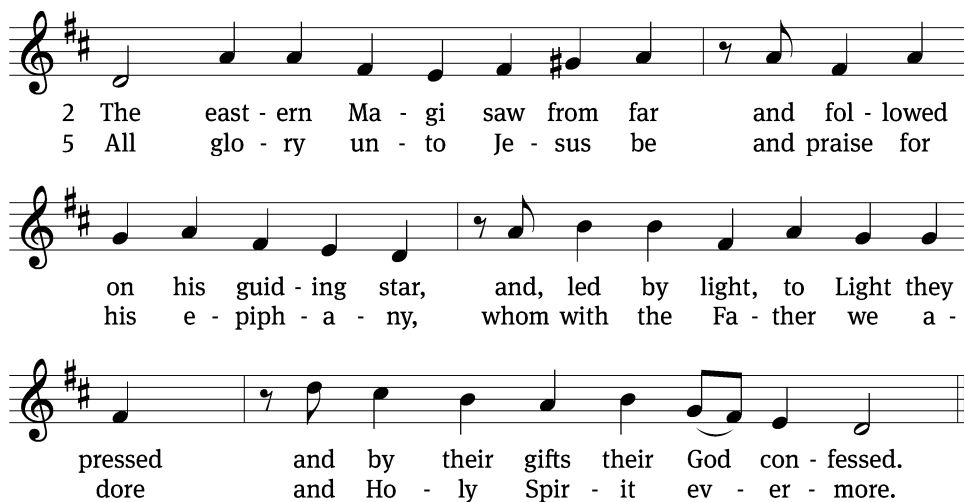
## Closing Hymn

374 vv 1,2,5 "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here"



1 The star pro-claims the King is here; but, Her - od,  
why this sense-less fear? For he who came from heav-en's  
throne does not de-sire an earth-ly crown.

*Please be seated*



2 The east-ern Ma-gi saw from far and fol-lowed  
5 All glo-ry un-to Je-sus be and praise for  
on his guid-ing star, and, led by light, to Light they  
his e-piph-a-ny, whom with the Fa-ther we a-  
pressed and by their gifts their God con-fessed.  
dore and Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more.

*Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug 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.

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!

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**Special thanks to:** David Porth for playing organ... Matt Reichardt for serving as cantor...  
Peter Hermanson for serving as crucifer and distribution assistant... Aaron Palmer for serving as usher...  
Joe Lopina for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...  
and Donna and Joe Burtch 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.

Nain is a member congregation of the **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**.

For more information about our synod, please visit its website: [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

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