

✠ MIDWEEK OF LENT 2 ✠

March 19, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

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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.

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Lent

Return to the LORD!

The word Lent comes from an Old English word for spring (“lengthen,” the time of the year when the days grow longer). For over 1400 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a journey of repentance and prayer, of remembrance and renewal of our baptism. God’s merciful call to his people serves as one of the themes of this penitential season - “Return to the LORD your God” (Joel 2:13).

Midweek of Lent 2

Gethsemane

This evening we continue to hear from the Passion History of our Lord according to the Gospel of St. Luke. After teaching his disciples in the Upper Room and instituting the Lord’s Supper, Jesus went out to the Mount of Olives to pray. There, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus told his disciples to watch and pray so they would not fall into temptation. While the disciples slept, Jesus prayed to his Heavenly Father. Although he was in agony because he knew of his imminent suffering and death, as well as his betrayal at the hands of Judas, he resisted the temptation to abandon his work as our Savior.

Christ also calls us to watch and pray. When tempted, we “go to dark Gethsemane,” where we see Jesus endure temptation for us. Through the Word and by faith, the Holy Spirit moves us to submit to our Father’s will, resist temptation and the assaults of Satan, and find mercy and grace in Jesus “who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

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.

There will be no pre-service music or announcements.

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

Service of Light

Opening Hymn

429 *v* 1, 4 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

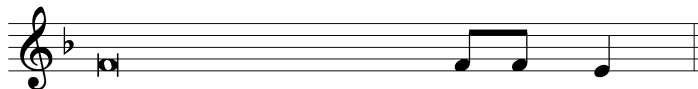
1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and
4 My bur - den in your pas - sion, Lord, you have
shame weighed down, now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed,
borne for me, for it was my trans - gres - sion,
with thorns your on - ly crown, O sa - cred head, no
my shame, on Cal - va - ry. I cast me down be -
glo - ry now from your face does shine; yet, though de -
fore you; wrath is my right - ful lot. Have mer - cy,
spised and go - ry, I joy to call you mine.
I im - plore you; Re - deem - er, spurn me not!

Please stand

Opening Sentences

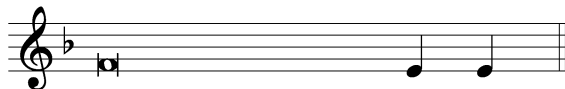
(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



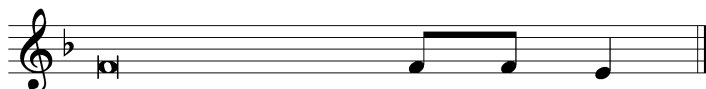
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,



and hear our evening prayer and praise.

*Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.
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Hymn of Light *Phos hilaron*

(Psalm 18:28; Isaiah 9:2; John 1:5-9)



1 Glad - d'ning light of pur - est glo - ry, shin - ing
2 In the fad - ing light of eve - ning, as the
3 For your gift of life un - end - ing, joy - ful



down from heav'n on high, from the ev - er -
set - ting sun de - parts, Fa - ther, Son, and
voic - es ev - er sing hymns of praise that



liv - ing Fa - ther— hail, most bless - ed Je - sus Christ!
Ho - ly Spir - it— we a - dore you, Lord our God.
right - ly hon - or, Son of God, your sav - ing name.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, for you are merciful and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Psalm 141

(Psalm 141:1-4,8)



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing up
of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

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

Jeremiah 11:9-10, 18-20

The LORD revealed to the prophet Jeremiah that his own people were plotting to kill him. Their desire was to silence his message, even though it came from God himself. In the same way, Jesus' enemies conspired to kill him because they refused to believe and obey the Word of the Lord which he declared him to be the promised Christ and Savior of the world.

⁹ The LORD also said to me:

A conspiracy has been uncovered among the men of Judah and those who live in Jerusalem. ¹⁰ They have returned to the sins of their fathers, who refused to obey my words. They are following other gods and serving them. The house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken the covenant I made with their fathers.

¹⁸ The LORD revealed their plot to me so I became aware of it. He showed me what they were doing. ¹⁹ I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. I had not realized that they had plotted against me. They were saying:

“Let us destroy the tree along with its fruit.
Let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered.”

²⁰ But, LORD of Armies, you judge righteously.
You test the heart and mind.
Let me see your vengeance on them,
for I have presented my case to you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130 is the sixth of the seven penitential psalms. The Church sings Psalm 130 in services that emphasize repentance and forgiveness through faith in Jesus. Martin Luther said, "The psalmist confesses that no one is righteous before God, and that no one can become righteous by their own works and righteousness. People can only become righteous through grace and the forgiveness of sins, which God has promised. The psalmist prophesies Christ in verse 8, and the entire psalm is based on this promise."

- 1 Out of the depths I have called to you, O LORD.
- 2 **Lord, hear my voice.**
Let your ears be attentive to the sound of my cry for mercy.
- 3 If you, LORD, kept a record of guilt,
O Lord, who could stand?
- 4 **But with you there is pardon,**
so you are feared.
- 5 I wait for the LORD. My soul waits,
and in his word I have put my hope.
- 6 **My soul waits for the Lord**
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.
- 7 Israel, wait confidently for the LORD,
because with the LORD there is mercy.
With him there is abundant redemption.
- 8 **So he himself will redeem Israel from all its guilt.**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Passion History

Luke 22:39-54

Knowing that the evil forces of darkness surrounded him, Jesus prayed to his Heavenly Father for strength. Trusting wholeheartedly that it was his Father's will that he drink the cup of suffering by dying on the cross, Jesus resisted the temptation to abandon his mission and willingly submitted to betrayal and arrest.

³⁹ Jesus left and went out to the Mount of Olives, as was his custom. His disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ When he reached the place, he told them, "Keep praying that you may not enter into temptation."

⁴¹ He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴² "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done."

⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ As he was in agony, he prayed more fervently. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.

⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer, he went to the disciples and found them sleeping as a result of sorrow. ⁴⁶ He said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and keep praying so that you may not enter into temptation."

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd appeared, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He came near to Jesus to kiss him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

⁴⁹ When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, "Lord, should we strike with a sword?" ⁵⁰ Then one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

⁵¹ But Jesus responded, "Stop! No more of this!" Then he touched the servant's ear and healed him. ⁵² Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as you would against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour—when darkness rules."

⁵⁴ Then they seized him, led him away, and brought him into the high priest's house.

Thus far the Passion History of Our Lord.

All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:6, NIV)

Please remain silent for meditation

Sermon Hymn

425 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 life ar - raign'd. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall,
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay; all is sol - i - tude and gloom.



watch with him one bit - ter hour. Turn not from his
 oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 pain, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Luke 22:39-54

Song of Praise

947 v1 "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.

All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
 have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546 Text and tune: Public domain

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

(Psalm 51:1; Mark 10:47; Luke 17:13)

Please stand

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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 minds set on heavenly things, for hearts that long for heavenly glory, and for the will to bear our earthly crosses, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the gifts of humility and repentance, for faith that finds security in Christ and does not use God's patience as an excuse for sin, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For perspective to see that, apart from Christ, gain is loss, and in Christ, loss is gain, and for the perseverance to press on and take hold of our heavenly prize, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

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

Closing Hymn

404 *v* 1, 3 "Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing"



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing in your ho - ly
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es with the broad and



wounds I find, ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing pains of
eas - y road, with se - duc - tive, sin - ful vic - es, let me



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
weigh the aw - ful load you were will - ing to en - dure.



tempt my treach-'rous heart to sin, show the per - il,
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure, mas - ter - ing each



and from sin - ning keep me ere its first be - gin - ning.
wild temp - ta - tion, calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647, abr.; tr. Composite Tune: Johann B. König, 1691-1758 Text and tune: Public domain

The Pastor departs in silence

Please remain silent for meditation



*A **personal prayer for after worship** is printed on the first page of the hymnal.*

*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!*

There will not be any post-service music or announcements.

***You will not be ushered out.** You may depart any time after the closing hymn.*

Please refrain from conversation until after you have departed the church

so those who wish to remain in church to pray and meditate may do so in silence.

***Pastor Berg will be available in the narthex** shortly after the service if you would like to speak with him.*

***Special thanks to:** Linda Loeffel for playing piano...*

Joe Lopina for operating the A/V equipment for the live stream...

and the Campbell family for making the rough cross we display during the seasons of Lent and Easter.

*For more information about 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.*

*"**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.*

*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™ (EHV™)

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Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

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Psalm introduction from Christian Worship: Psalter

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