

✠ MIDWEEK OF LENT 3 ✠

March 26, 2025



Nain Evangelical Lutheran Church

1665 South 57th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

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Pastor: Joseph M. Berg

Organist: Darik Mischke

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Church Choir: Lois Buske

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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 3

Trial before the High Priest

This evening we continue to hear from the Passion History of our Lord according to the Gospel of St. Luke. After being captured in Gethsemane, Jesus was led to the house of the high priest and eventually to the members of the Sanhedrin. The conflict between Jesus and the enemies of God escalated as our Savior was tried unfairly, mocked, beaten, and rejected in unbelief.

In the hour of Jesus’ trial, Peter was also tested to give a confession of faith. In fear, he failed. Jesus’ look and the words he had spoke earlier brought Peter to tears of sorrow.

We too are tested by God to trust in him no matter what the circumstances and to boldly confess our faith in him as Lord and Savior. Like Peter, we often fail to follow God’s will. Therefore, we too must sorrow over our sins. However, our Lord Jesus looks at us in love and calls us to repentance. After moving our hearts to confess our sin, God restores us by his grace, and lifts us up from the pit of despair with his ever-forgiving love.

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.

Please remain silent as you prepare for worship.

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

Service of Light

Tolling of the Bells

Opening Hymn

429 vv 1, 2 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and
2 Men mock and taunt and jeer you, they smite you



shame weighed down, now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed,
coun - te - nance, though might - y worlds shall fear you



with thorns your on - ly crown, O sa - cred head, no
and flee be - fore your glance. How pale you are with



glo - ry now from your face does shine; yet, though de -
an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn! Your eyes with



spised and go - ry, I joy to call you mine.
 pain now lan - guish that once were bright as morn!

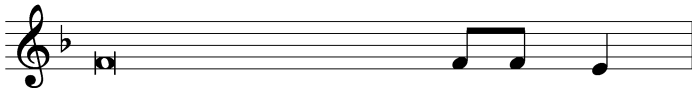
*Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153, abr.; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1546-1612
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758 Tune: Public domain*

Please stand

Opening Sentences

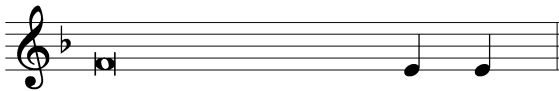
(John 8:12; Luke 24:29; 1 John 1:5)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



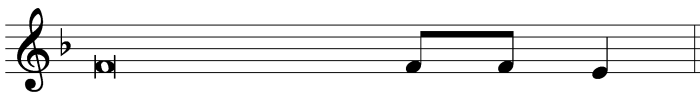
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

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. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Text and tune: © 2021 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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

Isaiah 50:4-10

Isaiah records the words of the LORD's Servant - the coming Messiah. Though the Servant listens to the Word of the LORD and obeys it perfectly, he suffers at the hands of evildoers. However, it is through his patient suffering that he brings salvation to those who worship him in faith. God did not abandon his Servant. He helped him by delivering him from all sorrow and pain and raising him from the grave. God kept his promise to his Son. He will not fail to keep his Son's promise to us!

- 4 The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue,
so I know how to sustain the weary with a word.
He wakes me up morning by morning.
He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned.
- 5 The LORD God opened my ear,
and I myself was not rebellious.
I did not turn back.
- 6 I submitted my back to those who beat me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard.
I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.
- 7 The LORD God will help me,
so I will not be disgraced.
Therefore I have made my face hard like flint.
I know that I will not be put to shame.
- 8 The one who will acquit me is near!
Who can accuse me?
Let us take our stand.
Who can pass judgment on me?
Let him approach me.
- 9 Look, the LORD God will help me.
Who then can declare me guilty?
Look, all of them will wear out like a garment.
A moth will consume them.
- 10 Who among you worships the LORD
and listens to the voice of his servant?
Anyone who walks in darkness
and who has no bright light—

let him trust in the name of the LORD,
and let him lean on his God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 102:1-22

Psalm 102 is the fifth of the seven penitential psalms. The Church sings Psalm 102 to ask for the Lord's consideration in times of weariness and poor health. Martin Luther said, "Psalm 102 is a psalm of prayer. (God's people) yearn and call out for the kingdom of grace promised in Christ because they are weary of laws, sins, and death. Without Christ there is indeed only brokenness in the midst of earthly life, but in his kingdom there is eternal life, and there is no dying there. May that kingdom come!"

- 1 O LORD, hear my prayer,
and let my cry for help come to you.
- 2 **Do not hide your face from me
on the day when I am distressed.
Turn your ear to me on the day I call.
Hurry! Answer me!**
- 3 For my days go up in smoke,
and my bones are burned like hot coals.
- 4 **My heart is cut down and withered like grass,
so I forget to eat my food.**
- 5 Because of the sound of my groaning,
my bones stick out of my flesh.
- 6 **I am like an owl in the wilderness,
like a screech owl among the ruins.**
- 7 I lie awake.
I have become like a lonely bird on a roof.
- 8 **All day long my enemies taunt me.
Those who ridicule me use my name as a curse,**
- 9 because I eat ashes like bread,
and I mix tears with my drinks.

- ¹⁰ **Because of your rage and your wrath,
you have picked me up and thrown me away.**
- ¹¹ My days are being stretched out like a shadow,
and I am dried up like grass.
- ¹² But you, LORD, sit on your throne forever,
and you will be remembered through all generations.
- ¹³ **You will rise and have compassion on Zion.
Yes, it is time to be gracious to her,
because the appointed time has come.**
- ¹⁴ Yes, your servants will show favor to her stones,
and they will have compassion on her dust.
- ¹⁵ **Then the nations will fear the name of the LORD,
and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.**
- ¹⁶ For the Lord will rebuild Zion.
He will appear in his glory.
- ¹⁷ **He will respond to the prayer of the naked.
He will not despise their prayer.**
- ¹⁸ Let this be written till the last generation,
so that a people not yet created may praise the Lord.
- ¹⁹ **For the Lord looked down from his high, holy place.
From heaven he viewed the earth**
- ²⁰ **to hear the groans of the prisoner,
to release those condemned to death.**
- ²¹ So the name of the Lord will be recorded in Zion
and his praise in Jerusalem,
- ²² **when the peoples and the kingdoms are gathered together
to serve the Lord.**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Under the custody of armed soldiers, Jesus was taken to the house of the high priest and then to the members of the Sanhedrin. He was unfairly mocked, beaten, rejected as the Christ, and accused of blasphemy. Nevertheless, he continued to testify to the truth and went uncomplaining forth to the cross where he would willingly sacrifice his life on behalf of others. Peter had the opportunity to testify to the truth like Jesus did. However, in the interest of self-preservation, he denied his Lord three times.

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

Peter followed at a distance. ⁵⁵ When they had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. ⁵⁶ A servant girl saw him sitting near the light. She looked closely at him and said, "This man also was with him."

⁵⁷ But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

⁵⁸ After a little while someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them!"

But Peter answered, "Man, I am not!"

⁵⁹ After about one hour had passed, someone else was firmly insisting, "Truly this man was with him too, because he is a Galilean!"

⁶⁰ But Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about!" At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord's word, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today you will deny me three times." ⁶² He went outside and wept bitterly.

⁶³ The men who were holding Jesus in custody mocked him while they were beating him. ⁶⁴ They blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who hit you?" ⁶⁵ And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against him.

⁶⁶ As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both the chief priests and experts in the law. They brought him into their Sanhedrin and said, ⁶⁷ "If you are the Christ, tell us."

But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, ⁶⁸ and if I ask you, you will not answer me or release me. ⁶⁹ But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

⁷⁰ They all said, "Are you then the Son of God?"

He said to them, "I am what you are saying."

⁷¹ Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!"

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

408 "He Stood before the Court"



1 He stood be - fore the court on trial in - stead of
2 These are the crimes that tell the tale of hu - man
3 The sen - tence must be passed, the un - known pris - 'ner
4 Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is



us; he met its pow'r to hurt, con - demned to
guilt; our sins, our death, our hell— on these the
killed; the price is paid at last, the law of
done; we live, for he has died, our con - dem -



face the cross— our King, ac - cused of treach - er -
case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays
God ful - filled. He takes our blame, and from that
na - tion gone. In Christ are we both dead and



y; our God, a - bused for blas - phe - my!
dumb. The guilt is ours, no an - swers come.
day th'ac - cu - ser's claim is wiped a - way.
raised, a - live and free— his name be praised!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938, alt. Tune: Leland B. Sateren, 1913–2007

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Tune: © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726758

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

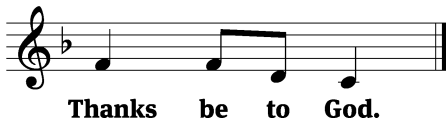
(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

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.



Thanks be to God.

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.



A - men.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn

406 w 1, 3 "In the Hour of Trial"



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me
3 Should your mer - cy send me sor - row, toil, and woe,



lest by base de - ni - al I un - wor - thy be.
or should pain at - tend me on my path be - low,



When you see me wa - ver, with a look re - call,
grant that I may nev - er fail your cross to view;



nor for fear or fa - vor ev - er let me fall.
grant that I may ev - er cast my care on you.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876 Text and tune: Public domain

The Pastor departs in silence

Please remain silent for meditation



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.



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 below.

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!

Special thanks to: Darik Mischke for playing organ...

Brooke Smith 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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