



***Who does not
count the cost
of discipleship?***



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



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WELCOME TO PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH! We are pleased that you have come to receive God's gift of forgiveness. Pentecost and the Sundays after Pentecost emphasize the work of the Holy Spirit through God's Word and Sacraments in growing the Church, so we especially invite you to join us in our Bible Classes, as well as in all of our other activities. If you have no church home, you are cordially invited to consider making Pilgrim Lutheran Church your church home!

AS YOU ARRIVE, please move down the pew towards the wall, in order to leave room for others. If you arrive late, please wait for an appropriate time to enter the sanctuary, such as during a hymn. Please also remember to turn off your cell phones and/or any other electronic devices. Thank you!

ORDER OF SERVICE: To your right you will find today's order of service. The right side of that outline indicates from where the item listed comes: either in this bulletin or the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, with the Psalms towards the front, its liturgical pages towards the middle, and its hymns towards the back. The Δ symbol before a hymn stanza indicates that it especially gives glory to the Triune God; we stand before singing the stanza and, in most cases, conclude the stanza by singing "Amen.", if an "Amen" is not already included.

HOLY COMMUNION: At Pilgrim we value your presence among us and love and care about our guests and visitors! However, due to the sad divisions that exist in the world and even in Christianity, we cannot commune everyone at the Lord's Table here. We respectfully ask that guests and visitors who desire to commune first speak with the pastor well before the service. All those present but not communing still may approach the rail for a blessing: come forward and kneel with those who are communing, but fold your arms over your heart and place your hands on the opposite shoulders. For more information about the ancient practice of Closed Communion, see <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/closed-communion>.

INDIVIDUAL CUPS: The top of the tray contains several individual cups of highly-diluted wine. If you receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please be sure to wait to consume it until Pastor comes by with the chalice, so that he knows you are receiving it in that fashion. If the supply of individual cups is depleted, please accept the blood of Christ from the chalice.

CATECHESIS

(On the following page[s],
locate the specified portion of Luther's Small Catechism,
and, when prompted by the question, recite the given answer.)

The week's announcements follow the service at the back of the binder.

SECTION 4

Christian Questions
with Their Answers

*Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those
who intend to go to the Sacrament*

*[The "Christian Questions with Their Answers," designat-
ing Luther as the author, first appeared in an edition of the
Small Catechism in 1551, five years after Luther's death.]*

After confession and instruction in the
Ten Commandments, the Creed, the
Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of
Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the pastor
may ask, or Christians may ask them-
selves these questions:

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?*
Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
2. *How do you know this?*
From the Ten Commandments, which I
have not kept.
3. *Are you sorry for your sins?*
Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against
God.
4. *What have you deserved from God
because of your sins?*
His wrath and displeasure, temporal
death, and eternal damnation. See
Romans 6:21, 23.
5. *Do you hope to be saved?*
Yes, that is my hope.
6. *In whom then do you trust?*
In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
7. *Who is Christ?*
The Son of God, true God and man.
8. *How many Gods are there?*
Only one, but there are three persons:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
9. *What has Christ done for you that you
trust in Him?*
He died for me and shed His blood for me
on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. *Did the Father also die for you?*

He did not. The Father is God only, as is
the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true
God and true man. He died for me and
shed His blood for me.

11. *How do you know this?*

From the Holy Gospel, from the words
instituting the Sacrament, and by His
body and blood given me as a pledge in
the Sacrament.

12. *What are the Words of Institution?*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when
He was betrayed, took bread, and when
He had given thanks, He broke it and
gave it to the disciples and said: "Take,
eat; this is My body, which is given for
you. This do in remembrance of Me." In
the same way also He took the cup after
supper, and when He had given thanks,
He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it,
all of you; this cup is the new testament
in My blood, which is shed for you for
the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often
as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

13. *Do you believe, then, that the true
body and blood of Christ are in the
Sacrament?*

Yes, I believe it.

14. *What convinces you to believe this?*

The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My
body; drink of it, all of you, this is My
blood.

15. *What should we do when we eat His
body and drink His blood, and in this way
receive His pledge?*

We should remember and proclaim His
death and the shedding of His blood, as
He taught us: This do, as often as you
drink it, in remembrance of Me.

16. *Why should we remember and pro-
claim His death?*

First, so we may learn to believe that no
creature could make satisfaction for our

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

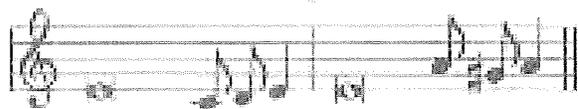
Introit

Psalm 119:28-32; antiphon: v.27

(Sing the Introit responsively using the tone provided.

The congregation sings the indented and bold portions of the text.

See *LSB* xxvi for how the tone and text correspond.)



Make me understand the way of your | precepts,*
and I will meditate on your | wondrous works.

My soul melts away for | sorrow;*

strengthen me according | to your word!

Put false ways | far from me*

and graciously teach | me your law!

I have chosen the way of | faithfulness;*

I set your just decrees be- | fore me.

I cling to your testimonies, | O Lord;*

let me not be | put to shame!

I will run in the way of your com- | mandments*

when you en- | large my heart!

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.

Make me understand the way of your | precepts,*

and I will meditate on your | wondrous works.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray. ... now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, altered

(Sing the Gradual responsively as the Introit using the tone provided.

Each of the Gradual's four half-lines corresponds
to one fourth of the double tone)



Fear the Lord, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the Lord delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle

Philemon 1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister
and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers,
⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward
the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of
your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every
good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived
much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the
hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command
you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal
to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ
Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I
became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you,
but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him
back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to
keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf
during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do
nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might
not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this
perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you
might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than
a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much
more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you
would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you
anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my
own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even

your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205; Galatians 6:14

(After a brief introduction, the congregation sings the triple Alleluia before and after Pastor sings the appointed Verse.)



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord
| Jesus Christ,*
by which the world has been crucified to me, and I |
to the world.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my

disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Hymns of the Day

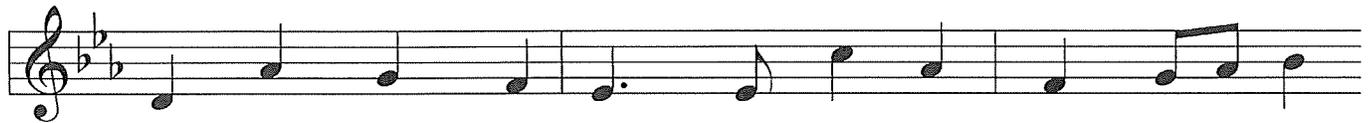
853 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord,
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find
3 We mar - vel how Your saints be - come
4 In what You give us, Lord, to do,



When once we heed Your call: To live ac - cord - ing
Your yoke is hard to bear; If world - ly pres - sures
In hin - dranc - es more sure; Whose joy - ful vir - tues
To - geth - er or a - lone, In old rou - tines or



to Your Word And dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
fray the mind, And love it - self can - not un - wind
put to shame The cas - ual way we wear Your name
ven - tures new, May we not cease to look to You,



That You are Lord of all And will not let us fall.
Its tan - gled skein of care: Our in - ward life re - pair.
And by our faults ob - scure Your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
The cross You hung up - on— All You en - deav - ored done.

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Congregational responses may be included according to one of the following forms:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A ... Lord, in Your mercy, | <input type="checkbox"/> C hear our prayer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A For ... let us pray to the Lord. | <input type="checkbox"/> C Lord, have mercy. |

Sit

Offering

Stand

Seasonal Offertory

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (stanzas 1 & 2)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The prayer continues as appropriate to the season and concludes as follows.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

Distribution Hymns

692 Praise to You and Adoration



1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in



Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with



share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,



From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your



joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



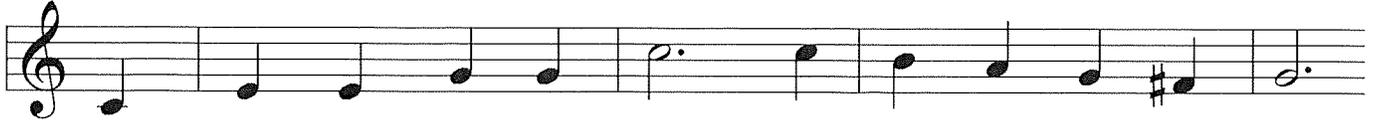
- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

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565 Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ



- 1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad - ness to this heart;
- 2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruis - ed soul;
- 3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the crush - ing load
- 4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran - som due;
- 5 Thy righ - teous - ness, O Christ, A - lone can cov - er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de - part.
Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
Of sins that none could bear But the in - car - nate God.
Ten thou - sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
No righ - teous - ness a - vails Save that which is of Thee.

Refrain



To whom save Thee, Who canst a-lone For sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty. Amen,

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
... one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

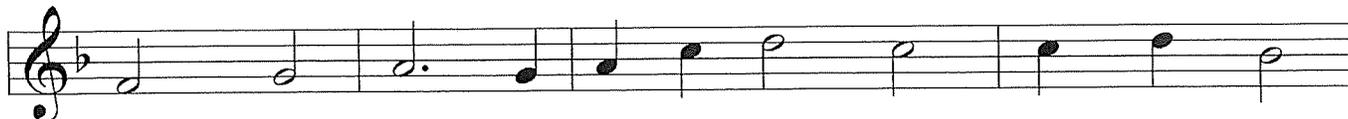
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ~~A~~ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.
 Trust Him still When He sends me sad - ness.
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood



For me won When His life was giv - en?
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.
 For my good, By His death to save me.

5 Now in Christ, death cannot slay me,
 Though it might,
 Day and night,
 Trouble and dismay me.
 Christ has made my death a portal
 From the strife
 Of this life
 To His joy immortal!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 07, 2025

BEFORE THE SERVICE: As you greet and visit one another, please be sensitive to others who may wish an opportunity for silence to pray and otherwise to prepare for worship.

OFFERING BOX: Offerings may be placed in the Offering Box in the Narthex before or after services. Envelopes are available on the side of the Box for your use, such as if you would like your cash offering to be recorded, tracked, and receipted in a report back to you.

PEW CUSHIONS: If you would like to use a cushion either for your seat or for your seat and back, cushions for your use are available in the Usher's Closet off the north side of the Narthex.

PEW SLIPS: *Visitors*, please register your attendance both by completing a slip from rack on the back of the pews and placing them in the Offering Box in the Narthex and by signing the Guest Register at the door. *Members*, please complete a slip only if your contact information has changed or you have a new or updated prayer-list request. (The Usher tracks church attendance and communion participation.)

GROWING IN WORSHIP: Parents, please make use of the bulletins available in the Narthex for children aged 5-10, including the bulletins' activities for the whole week!

LARGER-PRINT/FLOW-THROUGH BINDERS are available in the Narthex for those who have trouble seeing the smaller-print of the hymnal, those with other special needs who cannot follow the liturgy in the hymnal or handle its weight, and those who are visiting Pilgrim who are not already familiar with liturgical services and/or our hymnal. If you need or otherwise want to use a flow-through and can help minimize paper and copying expenses, a PDF of the flow-through binder's contents is available in the upper-right corner of Pilgrim's homepage, www.pilgrimlc.org, to open on or to download to your electronic device.

PRAYER REQUEST: If you have a special petition for the Prayers of the Church, please notify the Usher, Elder on Duty, or Pastor before the service.

IF A NEED SHOULD ARISE, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Restrooms are available in the Parish Hall (non-ADA Restrooms are available in the Office Area, one with a change table), and there is a Cry Room (also with a change table) off the south side of the Narthex. Let the Usher or Elder-on-Duty know if you need assistance or supplies.

Announcements continue on the inside of this insert.

Announcements continue from the front of this insert.

LAST WEEK: There were 4 students, 1 teacher, and 2 adult helpers for Sunday School; 13 people were present in person for Adult Bible Class; and 48 were present in person for the Sunday Divine Service (34 communed). Midweek Bible Study and Thursday-evening catechesis were not held due to Pastor Galler's vacation.

THANKS to all those caring for the inside and outside of Pilgrim's facilities; to Rev. Adler for the use of his chasubles; to Remo Gualtieri and all those helping with the video and audio for classes and services; and to Ellen Menconi for Church Office work.

SERVING TODAY: The Rev. David L. Adler, Guest Pastor; Jeromy McMurray, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: The LORD your God sets before you life and good, death and evil (Deuteronomy 30:19). His people, whom He has chosen for life and good, make the sanctified choice of life and good. Any choices for death and evil—like abortion and assisted suicide—diametrically oppose and dangerously depart from His express commandments, though even those can be forgiven His repentant people for Jesus's sake.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: Jesus says anyone who does not renounce all that he or she has cannot be His disciple (Luke 14:33). None of what we have is really ours; it all belongs to God. That understanding is the foundation of Christian stewardship. What God has entrusted to our use is to be used for God's purposes according to our callings in home, Church, and society. As we learn to live generously in these callings, we renounce our "ownership" of "our" wealth. It is not "ours"; it is His. God owns everything, and we manage it to further His goals.

AS YOU DEPART, please be mindful of those who are ushered out behind you, who may have difficulty standing and waiting, and so who may need an open path to the door and to get to their cars quickly. If you stop to talk to someone in the Sanctuary, please keep the aisle as clear as possible, and please delay lengthier conversations with the pastor until after he has greeted everyone. Thank you for your consideration!

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of the September edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter *The Pilgrimage; Portals of Prayer* for July-September 2025 and now also October through December; Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 08/16 column, "Ten-Commandment posters need the Gospel to do any good"); the larger-print

schedule of Daily Bible Reading for August and September; the latest Church Directory (dated 2025/07/01, printed on goldenrod paper); the Winter 2025 edition of *Christian Culture: A Magazine for Lutherans* from Luther Classical College (and some hardcopies of the Fall 2024 edition, too); and Pilgrim's Funeral Planning Worksheet for completing, discussing with Pastor Galler, and filing in the Church Office.

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather today, after the Divine Service in the Great Room of the Parish Hall, for heavy snacking and playing some Cribbage. All are welcome to stay for the heavy snacking, even if not staying for the Cribbage! If you do not know how to play Cribbage, they will teach you!

PASTOR'S VACATION: Pastor Galler's final two weeks of his 2025 vacation continue through midday Tuesday, September 16. Catechesis and Midweek Bible Study will not be held while he is away. An Elder will monitor the Church Phone and contact the on-call pastor if needed. Rev. Adler will teach a special Sunday Adult Bible Class and conduct the Divine Services September 14.

RIGHT TO LIFE EAST TEXAS is having a booth at the annual Gregg County Fair through this Saturday, September 13, in Longview. If you want to volunteer to help at the booth, please call Pat Smith at 903-240-1635 in order to schedule a time slot. They say that they will tell you what to do while at the booth.

NEXT SUNDAY: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class ("How the Gospel is Pastoral Care"); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service.

Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-24; 1 Timothy 1:5-17; and Luke 15:1-10.

Hymns: LSB 609, 611, 506, 836, and 685.

Prepare yourself for worship in advance by praying about, reading over, and meditating on the appointed Scripture Readings and Hymns.

ELDERS' BUDGET MEETING: Pilgrim's September Elders' Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. The Meeting's sole focus is revising the Board of Elders' share of Pilgrim's 2026 budget.

2026 BUDGET PIECES are due to Treasurer Debbie Shockley by Sunday, September 21, so that she can put the draft budget together and it can be discussed when the Church Council meets as the Budget Committee on Sunday, September 28, after the Divine Service.

Announcements continue on the back of this insert.

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PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will gather next on Sunday September 21 after the Divine Service, for lunch and some cleaning. All women are invited and welcome! On Sunday, October 19, the Society will continue its study of the Women of the Bible, focusing on Esther.

NOAH EVENT: Sight & Sound Theaters (for example, in Branson, Missouri) will "broadcast" a recording of the company's stage production of *Noah* to movie theaters across the country September 18-24. The AMC Classic Tyler 14 (7415 South Broadway in Tyler) will have shows at 7:00 p.m. those days. You can buy tickets at www.noahevent.com/tickets.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE 2025 NATIONAL CONFERENCE will be held September 24-26 in Colorado Springs. More information is available in the Church Office and online at www.lutheransforlife.org.

PILGRIM'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS AS ITS BUDGET COMMITTEE on Sunday, September 28, after the Divine Service, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend and discuss Pilgrim's plan to disburse the offerings the congregation expects to receive in 2026.

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS: Although Pilgrim does not pay to receive online offerings, some Pilgrim members make use of services such as a "bill pay" through their financial institutions, EFT/ACH (Electronic Funds Transfer/Automatic Clearing House transactions) from their employers, and Zelle (www.zellepay.com). If you need help setting up an electronic offering, especially to Pilgrim's latest bank, contact Treasurer Debbie Shockley.

WOULD YOU TEACH SUNDAY SCHOOL regularly or from time to time? If so, please speak to Christian-Education Coordinator Katy Myers, who is looking for additional teachers, as we anticipate expanding to three classes. The Missouri Synod's Concordia Publishing House Leader Guide each week maps out lots of lesson options from which you can easily choose and then follow!

CROSS PAINTINGS like the one that our member Jim Treadway created and donated, which is hanging in the entryway to the Parish Hall, are available from Jim and Holly for a minimal "price" of \$10 for an 8"x10" or \$15 for an 11"x14", with all proceeds from the "sale" donated to Pilgrim.

HELPING HANDS: Pilgrim has a bin below the Guest Register in the Narthex in order to receive your contributions of non-perishable food, plastic bags, and devotional material to be taken monthly to Kilgore's food pantry that we help support.

Acknowledgements

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