



Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



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WELCOME TO PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH! We are glad that God has brought you here! Today is a “red” festival in the midst of the long “green” season of Sundays after Pentecost. Today we remember St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, and we learn from him and his confession of Christ’s Name. As we care about this saint of old, we also care about the present and future saints, people made holy by God through His Word and Sacraments. So, we invite you to join us for all of our services, Bible classes, and other activities!

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 △ 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.

ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST 2025 SEPTEMBER 21
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.203-212)

+++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++

Catechesis: Section 4: Christian Questions/Answers (#12-17) 329-330
Confession and Absolution (left column) 203

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit Back Cover
Kyrie (After a brief introduction, the congregation sings the Kyrie as indicated) 204
Gloria in Excelsis 204
Salutation & Collect of the Day 205
Old Testament (& Response): Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 205
Gradual Back Cover
Epistle (& Response): Ephesians 4:7-16 205
Alleluia and Verse: Matthew 28:19a, 20b 205
(After a brief introduction, the congregation sings the triple Alleluia both before and after Pastor sings the appointed Verse.)
Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 9:9-13 206
Nicene Creed 206
Hymn of the Day: “What Is the World to Me” 730
Sermon: “Speaking the Lord’s Word” Ezekiel 2:8-3:11
Prayer of the Church and Offering 207
☞ For ... let us pray to the Lord: ☞ **Lord, have mercy.**
(Offerings placed in the Box in the Narthex will be brought forward.)
Seasonal Offertory “O God of Mercy, God of Might” (stanza 2) 851
(There will be a longer or a shorter introduction to the hymn stanza.)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface, Sanctus, Prayer of Thanksgiving, Lord’s Prayer, 208-210
The Words of Our Lord, Pax Domini, and Agnus Dei
Distribution and Distribution Hymns: 210
“O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee” 632
“God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets’ Sons” 682
“By All Your Saints in Warfare” (stanzas 1, 25, 3) 518
Nunc Dimittis (sing “Amen”), Post-Communion Collect, & 211-212
Benedicamus and Benediction
Closing Hymn: “O God, My Faithful God” 696

+++ TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +++

INTROIT:



(Sing the Introit responsively by half verse 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.)

I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*
For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.
It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*
to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*
and your faithful- | ness by night,
to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.
For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.
How great are your works, | O LORD!*

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.

I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*
For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.

Psalm 92:1-5; antiphon: Matthew 9:13b, c

GRADUAL:



(Sing the Gradual responsively by half verse as the Introit using the tone provided.)

Your word is a lamp | to my feet*
and a light | to my path.
How sweet are your words | to my taste,*
sweeter than honey | to my mouth!
My heart overflows with a | pleasing theme;*
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe

Psalm 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c



***Jesus saw and called Matthew,
and he rose and followed Him.***

The black and white line-art drawing on the front cover is by Lutheran Artist Edward Riojas of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is part of a package purchased from Higher Things and donated to Pilgrim for such uses. The Introit and Gradual tones are © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, reproduced by permission under license #110005153.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 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 0 students but 1 teacher prepared for Sunday School; 13 people were present in person for Adult Bible Class; 27 were present in person for the Sunday Divine Service (26 communed), and another 1 participated via YouTube; 4 were present in person for Midweek Bible Study and another 3 participated via Jitsi; there were 3 youth catechumens Thursday afternoon via Jitsi; and 3 catechumens were present in person for Thursday-evening catechesis.

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 all those helping with the video and audio for classes and services; and to Ellen Menconi for her Church Office work.

SERVING TODAY: The Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor; Jeromy McMurray, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: First-century tax-collectors like Matthew exploited their neighbors, their own kin, for personal profit. Yet, Jesus in forgiveness and fellowship made them an illustration of how family ought to be treated (even when embryos or elderly relatives make us uncomfortable). Let us, like the repentant evangelist, proclaim how Christ crucified can release us even from the guilt of sins regarding the sanctity of life.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: After Christ descended to earth in order to die for our sins, when He ascended back to heaven, He gave people the gifts of those who fill the Office of the Holy Ministry (Ephesians 4:7-16). Through pastors, Christ Himself equips the saints, does the work of ministry, and builds up His Body, the Church, in love. As the Rev. Dr. Tom Winger comments on the passage, "The body that is loved grows; the body that grows loves."

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 Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 09/20 column, "New starts at school remind us of new starts with God"); the latest issue of *Christian Culture: A Magazine for Lutherans* from Luther Classical College (and some copies of

the Winter 2025 and Fall 2024 issues, too); the September edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter *The Pilgrimage*; *Portals of Prayer* both for July-September 2025 and for October-December 2025; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for August and September; the latest Church Directory (dated 2025/07/01, printed on goldenrod paper); and Pilgrim's Funeral Planning Worksheet for completing, discussing with Pastor Galler, and filing in the Church Office.

PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will gather today 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.

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

STUDY HOURS: Pastor Galler is usually in his study Tuesdays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and Saturdays Noon to 3:00 p.m. Come for Individual Confession and Absolution (see *Lutheran Service Book* 292-293) or for any other reason. Pastor Galler is also available at other times by appointment at Pilgrim, or he can come to you (email pastor@pilgrimlc.org or text/call 903-984-4333). For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Galler

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.

"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY": Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study continues this Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., taking up Joel 2:12-17. All of the prophetic books testify that everyone who believes in Jesus receives life in His Name (Acts 10:42-43). All people are welcome to participate in the Study, either in-person in the Conference Room/Library or on-line via

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Jitsi. For more information and for the handouts and audio and video files from past sessions, see <https://www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/prophets>.

CIRCUIT #14 PASTORS' MEETING: The pastors of Circuit #14 are scheduled to meet this Thursday, September 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at a place and with presenters yet to be announced.

CATECHESIS: This Thursday Pastor Galler continues the new youth class starting at 4:15 p.m. via Jitsi, and he continues the family class starting at 7:00 p.m. in-person in the Conference Room/Library.

NEXT SUNDAY: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class ("Romans: The Righteousness of God"); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service, followed by Pilgrim's "Budget Committee" Meeting.

Readings: Amos 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; and Luke 16:19-31.

Hymns: LSB 708, 625, 504, 681, and 675.

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

LWML FALL EVENT: The LWML Texas Northeast Texas and East Texas Zones are combining for a Fall Event, presumably on Saturday, September 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview. RSVPs were requested by this past Thursday, September 18, but registration is usually possible at the door. See the flyer on the LWML bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

PILGRIM'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS AS ITS BUDGET COMMITTEE next 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.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Please submit reports for the Third Quarter of 2025 and agenda items for the Fourth Quarter Council Meeting to Recording Secretary Joy McHargue by Sunday, October 5, so that the Packet for that Meeting can be distributed and otherwise available before that Meeting on October 26. Thank you!

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather next on Sunday, October 5, 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!

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