



***The rich man died  
and was buried,  
and in Hades  
he was in torment.***

**+++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++**

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**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 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](http://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; 10 people were present in person for Adult Bible Class, and 2 participated via Jitsi; 49 were present in person for the Sunday Divine Service (36 communed); 4 were present in person for Midweek Bible Study and another 7 participated via Jitsi; there were 1 youth catechumen in person Thursday afternoon; 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:** Abortion and physician-assisted suicide find their primary motivation in protecting leisure and luxury. The prophet Amos proclaims woe to such priorities (Amos 6:1), and the Apostle Paul warns Timothy that such priorities invite evils (1 Timothy 6:10). Instead, we get to remind one another to "take hold of that which is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19), namely the Savior and the neighbor right in front of us (Luke 16:20-22).

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:** "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:8b). The book of Amos is a warning to God's people who have been given great material wealth. As Jesus Himself mentions, material blessings can turn into temptations—chiefly the temptation to think of ourselves as self-sufficient and independent. What does Amos suggest as a way to combat this temptation? Faith in the Lord and dependence upon Him! And, if our faith is right, then we will want to follow the rest of Amos' instructions—to bless the poor with our alms and to make sure that the Lord's House is properly cared for. In other words, we are called to align our actions with God's priorities and put others ahead of ourselves.

**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 October edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for October and November; 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 issue, too); Portals of Prayer both for October-December 2025; 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.

**"LOOSE-CHANGE SUNDAY"**: Please use the large Mite Box in the Narthex today after the service, in order to contribute your loose change and more, beyond your regular offering, for LWML mites that in part fund District and National mission grants (lists of grant recipients are on the bulletin board above the Mite Box).

**PILGRIM'S 2026 BUDGET**: A working draft of Pilgrim's 2026 Budget was distributed electronically to members and is available in hardcopy in the Narthex. Today after the Divine Service, the Church Council meets as the Budget Committee in the Great Room of the Parish Hall, and everyone is welcome to attend and speak at the meeting. Though only Council members can vote on the 2026 Budget at this point, the 2026 budget will be taken up at the October 26 Council Meeting, and voters will consider it at their November 9 meeting.

**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](mailto:pastor@pilgrimlc.org) or text/call 903-984-4333). For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Galler

**"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY"**: Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study continues this Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., taking up Joel 2:18-27. 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 Jitsi. For more information and for the handouts and audio and video files from past sessions, see <https://www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/prophets>.

*Announcements continue on the back of this insert.*

*Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.*

**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.

**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 next Sunday, October 5, so that the Packet for that Meeting can be distributed and otherwise available before that Meeting on October 26. Thank you!

**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 a gathering of "The 15-2 Folk".

Readings: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; and Luke 17:1-10.

Hymns: LSB 587, 843, 337, 855, and 764.

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

**"THE 15-2 FOLK"** will gather next 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!

**LIFE CHAIN:** Right to Life East Texas will have its annual Life Chain next Sunday, October 5, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. on Loop 281 in Longview (in front of the Longview Mall, on both sides of the road). Bring chairs, if you prefer to sit; umbrellas for sun or rain, and a cold drink; RTLET will provide the signs. Families are welcome and encouraged to come out for the hour!

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME** is Tuesday, October 7. To host your own party or to find parties close to you, contact the Kilgore Police Department's Sgt. Jon Holland, either by phone at 903-218-6917 or by email at [Jonathan.holland@cityofkilgore.com](mailto:Jonathan.holland@cityofkilgore.com).

**CIRCUIT FORUM:** The newly-formed "Electoral Circuit" consisting of "Visitation Circuit" #13 and "Visitation Circuit" #14 (of which Visitation Circuit Pilgrim is a part), is now scheduled to hold its Circuit Forum on Saturday, October 11, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, in order to elect its "Electoral Circuit" pastoral and lay delegates for the 2026 Synodical Convention. Pastor Galler may participate, but Pilgrim has not officially designated a lay delegate to represent the congregation.

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