



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



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WELCOME TO PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH! Though the liturgy and hymns on the Sundays that fall in the penitential season of Lent are more subdued and solemn, nevertheless we are glad that you are here with us as we receive God's forgiveness in Word and Sacrament and prepare to celebrate our Lord's resurrection. Please come again soon, join us for all of our other activities, seek out our pastor for spiritual direction, and, if you do not already have a church home, make Pilgrim 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.

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 2026 FEBRUARY 22
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.151-166.)

+++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++

Catechesis	Section 1 The Lord's Prayer (The Fifth Petition)	324
Confession and Absolution	(right column)	151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn:	"O Bless the Lord, My Soul"	814
Kyrie		152-153

(The Hymn of Praise is omitted during penitential seasons such as Lent.)

Salutation and Collect of the Day (& additional Collect for Lent)	156
Old Testament (& Response): Genesis 3:1-21	156
Psalm: Psalm 32:1-7 (antiphon: v.7a [see below])	32

P You are a hiding | place for me;*

G you preserve me from | trouble.

Epistle (& Response): Romans 5:12-19	156
Alleluia and Verse: Lent	157
Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 4:1-11	157
Hymn of the Day:	"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" 656
Sermon	Matthew 4:1-11
Nicene Creed	158
Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory	159-160

P ... Lord, in your mercy: **G** Hear our prayer.

(Offerings placed in the Box in the Narthex before the Service are brought forward here.)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface, Sanctus, Prayer of Thanksgiving, (left column)	160-163
The Words of Our Lord, Proclamation of Christ, (Prayer of Remembrance,) Lord's Prayer, Pax Domini, & Agnus Dei	
Distribution (& Distribution Hymns):	164
"In the Shattered Bliss of Eden"	572
"Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken"	521
"Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode"	714
Post-Communion Canticle "Nunc Dimittis"	165
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction	166
Closing Hymn:	"O Christ, You Walked the Road" 424

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



***Then Jesus
was led up by the Spirit
into the wilderness
to be tempted by the devil.***

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 Psalm tone inside is © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, reproduced by permission under license #110005153

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

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.

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LAST WEEK: 4 students, 1 teacher, and 1 helper were present in-person for Sunday School; 11 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and another 3 participated via Jitsi; 37 people were present in-person for Sunday Divine Service (33 communed); 27 people were present in-person for the Ash Wednesday Divine Service (23 communed), and another 1 person streamed the service live via YouTube; 3 catechumens and 2 others connected via Jitsi for Thursday-afternoon Catechesis; 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 and Ben Ford, and 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; Don Gibson, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

CRUCIFIX VEIL: At the request of Pilgrim's Board of Elders, our Altar Crucifix was veiled this year beginning on Ash Wednesday. Regardless of when it is veiled, the cross is not forgotten, but, with the veil's somewhat transparent material, the cross's outlines are still apparent, while only its finer artistic details are concealed. In that way and others, the veil can be a sign of austerity and restraint, symbolize the rejection of Jesus, intensify our focus on the cross by making us think about beyond what our eyes can see, and remind us that we are not worthy to look on the cross.

LIFE THOUGHTS: Deceived by the serpent, the woman acts to live like God but brings death to herself and to all of those who descend from her (Genesis 3:1-21). Yet, God promises her the ultimate victory over death and acts to cover her sin. Despite our sins against God's gift of human life, we who repent share in His forgiveness and in His victory on Christ's cross!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: The gift is not like the trespass (Romans 5:12-19). What an understatement! Adam brings death to all, but Jesus offers life to all. Those who receive God's grace want to share it in turn!

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.

“LOOSE-CHANGE SUNDAY”: Please use the large Mite Box in the Narthex today, after the Divine 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).

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of Pastor Galler’s recent newspaper columns (including his 02/21 column titled, “Jesus’s Passion fulfilled prophecies for you”); the February 2026 edition of Pilgrim’s monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for February and March; the latest Church Directory (dated 2026/01/22 on light-blue paper); *Portals of Prayer* for January-March 2026; issue #16 (Autumn 2025) of *Christian Culture: A printed Magazine for Lutherans* from Luther Classical College; and Pilgrim’s Funeral Planning Worksheet for completing, discussing with Pastor Galler, and filing in the Church Office

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.

“SOUP AND SERMON” AT ST. LUKE’S METHODIST CHURCH: Pastor Galler will be the presenter this Wednesday, February 25. Lunch starts at 11:30 a.m. (the church is at 401 E. Main, Kilgore). All are welcome to attend.

MIDWEEK LENT SOUP/SALAD SUPPERS: This Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. is our first of five Soup/Salad Suppers. If you (and maybe a partner) are willing to provide and serve one of the remaining four meals, please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or otherwise get with Inreach Coordinator Joy McHargue.

MIDWEEK LENTEN VESPERS: All are invited and welcome to join us Wednesday for the first of five Midweek Lenten Vespers Services at 7:00 p.m., including the praying of a penitential Psalm and the Great Litany, the reading of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, and a Special Sermon Series titled, “St. Matthew’s account of Jesus’s Passion’s fulfilling prophecy”, this week focusing on Psalm 41:9 and Matthew 26:23-24.

Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.

CIRCUIT #14 PASTORS’ MEETING: The February meeting of Circuit #14’s pastors is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview. (The March meeting will be at Pilgrim. If you can help with refreshments and lunch, please speak to Debbie Shockley.)

CATECHESIS: This Thursday Pastor Galler continues both the youth class starting at 4:15 p.m. via Jitsi and the family class starting at 7:30 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 a gathering of “The 15-2 Folk”.

Readings: Gen 12:1-9; Ps 121; Ro 4:1-8, 13-17; and Jn 3:1-17.

Hymns: LSB 591, 708, 601, 637, 918, and 722.

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, March 1, after the Divine Service, in the Great Room of the Parish Hall, for heavy snacking and Cribbage playing. All are welcome to stay for the heavy snacking, even if not staying for the Cribbage playing! If you do not know how to play Cribbage, they will teach you! You can stay also to observe the games or just to visit with those playing.

PILGRIM’S CHURCH COUNCIL IS REQUESTING plastic Easter Eggs of medium and larger sizes and especially things healthier than candy with which to fill the Eggs, such as small toys, stickers, and currency. Pilgrim’s Mary/Martha Society will likely stuff the Eggs at its March 15 Gathering, before the April 5 Egg Hunts. Your contributions of Eggs and stuffings can be placed at any time in the Mary/Martha Society Room (Sunday School Room #4 in the Parish Hall).

“WALKING TOGETHER”: With a Special Voters’ Meeting presently scheduled for April 12, all are encouraged to review the Special Congregational Studies (available online at www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/walking-together); the September 26, 2025, “Options” mailing; the November 23, 2025, “FAQ” mailing (if needed, copies may be requested from the Church Office); and the February 8 “Open Forum” audio or video (available on Pilgrim’s website). Please direct comments and questions to your Elder, any other Elder, or Pastor Galler; and also pray for God’s wisdom and guidance through this process.

Announcements continue on the back of this insert.