



**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  $\Delta$  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.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 2026 MARCH 15  
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.151-166.)

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

Catechesis	Section 1 The Lord's Prayer (The Conclusion)	325
Confession and Absolution	(right column)	151

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Entrance Hymn:	"Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten"	914
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
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Old Testament (& Response): Isaiah 42:14-21	156
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Psalm 142 (antiphon: v.5)	 142
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(Chant the Psalm responsively: the congregation sings the indented and bold portions.

The indicated antiphon is sung both before the Psalm and after the *Gloria Patri*.

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

Epistle (& Response): Ephesians 5:8-14	156
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Alleluia and Verse: Lent	157
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Holy Gospel (& Responses): John 9:1-41	157
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Hymn of the Day: "I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone"	<b>Back Cover</b>
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Sermon	John 9:1-41
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Nicene Creed	158
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Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory	159-160
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**P** For... let us pray to the Lord: **G** Lord have mercy.

(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
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The Words of Our Lord, Proclamation of Christ, (Prayer of Remembrance,) Lord's Prayer, Pax Domini, & Agnus Dei

Distribution (& Distribution Hymns):	164
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"Christ, the Life of All the Living"	<b>420</b>
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"On My Hear Imprint Your Image"	<b>422</b>
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"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"	<b>425</b>
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Post-Communion Canticle "Nunc Dimittis"	165
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Post-Communion Collect & Benediction	166
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Closing Hymn: "Church of God, Elect and Glorious"	<b>646</b>
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**+++ TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +++**

## I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone

1 I trust, O Christ, in You a-lone; No earth-ly hope a-  
2 My sin and guilt are plagu-ing me; O grant me true con-  
3 Con-firm in us Your Gos-pel, Lord, Your prom-ise of sal-

vails me. You will not see me o-ver-thrown  
tri-tion And by Your death up-on the tree  
va-tion. And make us long to hear Your Word

When Sa-tan's host as-sails me. No hu-man strength, no  
Your par-don and re-mis-sion. Be-fore the Fa-ther's  
And fol-low our vo-ca-tion: To spend our lives in

earth-ly pow'r Can see me through the e-vil hour,  
throne a-bove Re-call Your match-less deed of love  
love for You And show Your love in all we do.

For You a-lone my strength re-new. I cry to You!  
That He may lift my dread-ful load, O Son of God!  
And then, at last, when death shall loom, O Sav-ior, come

I trust, O Lord, Your prom-ise true.  
I plead the grace Your death be-stowed.  
And bear Your loved ones safe-ly home.

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Tune: Public domain.



***Jesus came that those who  
do not see may see, and  
those who see may become  
blind.***

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 15, 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](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:** 2 students and 1 teacher for Sunday School; 12 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and another 2 participated via Jitsi; 39 people were present in-person for Divine Service (33 communed), and another 6 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; 15 people were present in-person for Midweek Lenten Vespers, and another 4 devices streamed the service live via YouTube; and 3 catechumens were present in-person for Thursday-evening catechesis (Thursday-afternoon Catechesis was not held due to Spring Break).

**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; to Ellen Menconi for her Church Office work; and to Dawn Shen for providing the Soup/Sandwich Supper this past Wednesday.

**SERVING TODAY:** The Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor; Carl Gardner, Elder on Duty; and Debbie Shockley, Substitute Organist Service Operator.

**SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST SERVICE:** Today is the third Sunday of the month, and so our usual accompanist Elaine Navaille rests her hands, and we stay familiar with using the Substitute Organist Service. Remember that there are short introductions to some liturgical pieces, that we hear the Psalm tone once at the beginning and then sing it *a capella*, and that any Amens added to hymn stanzas marked with  $\triangle$  will also be sung *a capella* after the music ends.

**LIFE THOUGHTS:** Sin makes us blind to the things of God (Isaiah 42:16, 18). Not only do we often fail to recognize our neighbors and the many needs they have, but we also have a hard time seeing our own lack of love and need for salvation (John 9:41). Thankfully, Jesus has come to open our blind eyes and turn our darkness into light (John 9:6, Isaiah 42:16). The Lord not only grants us faith to see Him and know His salvation, He also empowers us to "walk as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8), to better see and serve our neighbors in need, from the least of them to the greatest.

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:** "I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living'" (Psalm 142:5). The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we confidently can follow His Word and support the work of His Church and be generous towards others.

*Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.*

**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 Pilgrim's Constitution, Bylaws, and updated Standing Rules; Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 03/07 column titled, "'Epic Fury' is not a 'Holy War'"); the March 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; *Portals of Prayer* for April-June 2026; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for February and March; the latest Church Directory (dated 2026/01/22 on light-blue paper); 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.

**DIRECTORY CORRECTION:** The LeBlancs' ZIP Code is 75785-4516.

**PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY** will gather today after the Divine Service for lunch and to clean the sanctuary in preparation for Holy Week/Easter. (On April 19, the Society will continue its study of the Women of the Bible, focusing on the Virgin Mary.) All women are invited and welcome!

**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.

**CELEBRATE LIFE:** Reservations are requested by this Wednesday, March 18, for Right to Life of East Texas's annual Celebrate Life banquet and awards ceremony on Saturday, March 28, in Longview. For more information and to make your reservation, visit [www.rtlet.org](http://www.rtlet.org).

**MIDWEEK LENT SOUP/SALAD SUPPERS:** This Wednesday, March 18, at 6:00 p.m. is our fourth of five Soup/Salad Suppers. Thank you to those who have provided and will provide these meals!

*Announcements continue on the back of this insert.*

**MIDWEEK LENTEN VESPERS:** All are invited and welcome to join us Wednesday for the third 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 St. Matthew's account of Jesus's Passion, and a Special Sermon Series titled, "St. Matthew's account of Jesus's Passion's fulfilling prophecy", this week focusing on Jeremiah 18:2-3; 19:11; 32:6-11; and Zechariah 11:13.

**CATECHESIS:** This week the afternoon youth Class will connect via Jitsi starting at 4:15 p.m., and the evening family Class will meet in-person in the Conference Room/Library starting at 7:30 p.m.

**BE THE EASTER BUNNY'S HELPERS:** Please donate 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 is now planning to stuff the Eggs next Sunday, March 22, 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).

**ANNUAL SPRING-CLEANING WORKDAY:** Please plan to come this Saturday, March 21, starting at 9:00 a.m., to help clean Pilgrim inside and out. For more information, speak to Facilities Coordinator Brady Gage.

**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 the Mary/Martha Society's "Egg Stuffing".

Readings: Ezek. 37:1-4; Psalm 130; Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-53.

Hymns: LSB 916, 430, 522, 543, 433, 647.

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

**SPECIAL WEEKDAY MATINS:** Join us Thursday, March 26, at 9:00 a.m. for the Matins service before the Circuit #14 Pastors' Meeting that day at Pilgrim. All are invited and welcome to attend in-person or stream on-line!

**IF YOU CAN HELP** with refreshments and lunch on March 26 when Pilgrim hosts the Circuit #14 Pastors, please speak to Debbie Shockley.

**APRIL 12 CONGREGATIONAL MEAL & SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING:** Inreach Coordinator Joy McHargue is now planning a "blessed-pot" or "covered-dish" meal following the Divine Service before the Meeting. Please use her sign-up sheet or communicate otherwise with her.