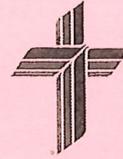


***Jesus came that those who
do not see may see, and
those who see may become
blind.***



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



713 Florey Street
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503
www.pilgrimlc.org

Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor
903- 984-4333
pastor@pilgrimlc.org

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.

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.

from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Conclusion

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.* Amen.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.*

What does this mean?

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

** These words were not originally in Luther's Small Catechism.*

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH IT IN A SIMPLE WAY TO HIS HOUSEHOLD

FIRST

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 28:19*

SECOND

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized

will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." *Mark 16:16*

THIRD

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." *Titus 3:5-8*

FOURTH

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans, chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." *Romans 6:4*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May

the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn

914 Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten



1 Light of Light, O Sole - Be - got - ten Ra - diance of the
 2 Word e - ter - nal, through Your be - ing God cre - at - ed
 3 Still Your brood - ing Spir - it hov - ers O - ver cha - os,
 4 Come, Lord Je - sus, by Your Spir - it In our hearts Your



Fa - ther's face, Word made flesh, who lived a - mong us
 all we see, When the emp - ty spac - es ech - oed
 dark and deep, Call - ing out with in - vi - ta - tion:
 work be - gin, Bring the heal - ing res - to - ra - tion

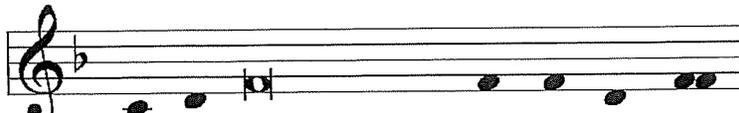


Full of truth and full of grace, Shine up - on our
 With the Fa - ther's "Let there be..." Light and life burst
 "Rise, a - wak - en from your sleep; Christ the Lord will
 Of Your im - age lost by sin; From Your full - ness



hu - man dark - ness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.
 from the glo - rious Pow - er of Your maj - es - ty!
 shine up - on you And from death your soul shall keep."
 all re - ceiv - ing Grace on grace, new life with - in!

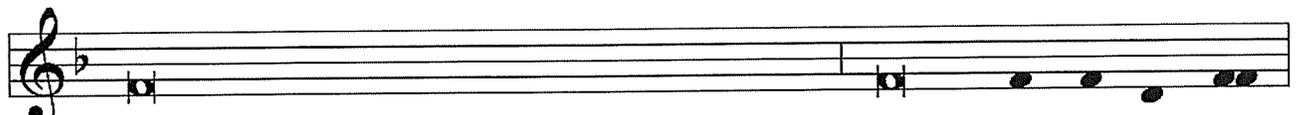
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



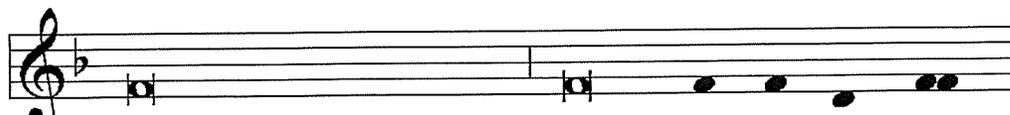
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



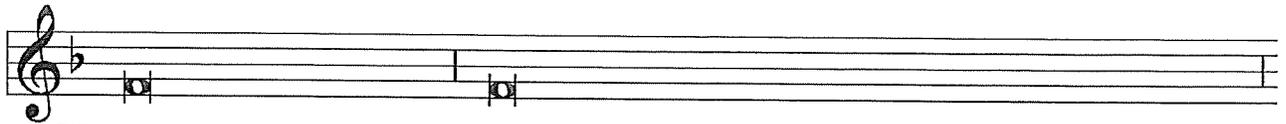
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



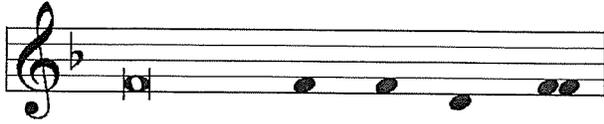
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



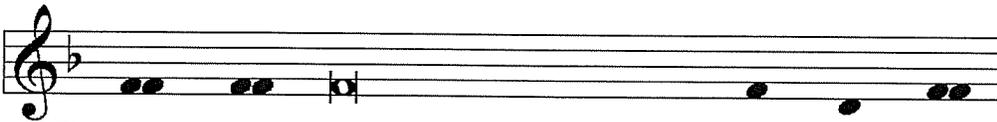
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
...now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

⁵I cry to you, | O LORD;*

I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the |
living."

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse: Lent

C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do

such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

972 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.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100013870.

Tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down
from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin
Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

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

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| A ... Lord, in Your mercy, | C hear our prayer. |
| A For ... let us pray to the Lord. | C Lord, have mercy. |

Sit

Offering

Stand
Offertory



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



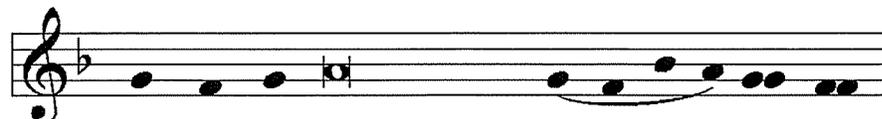
C And al - so with you.



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 . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(Prayer of Remembrance)

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**☐ 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.**

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

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

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of
All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.
might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,
That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

The next stanza is on the next page

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction
 And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion,
 Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented
That my doom should be prevented.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
 For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
 I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
 For that last triumphant cry,
 And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Public domain

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo-ry and sal - va - tion!

Public domain

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Public domain

Post-Communion Canticle



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

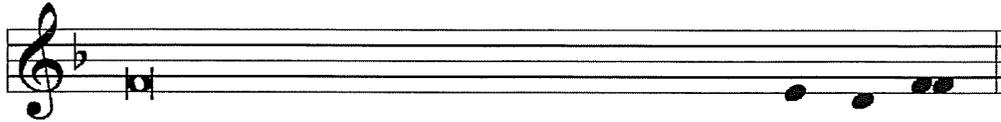
Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.
... one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction



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 ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn

646 Church of God, Elect and Glorious



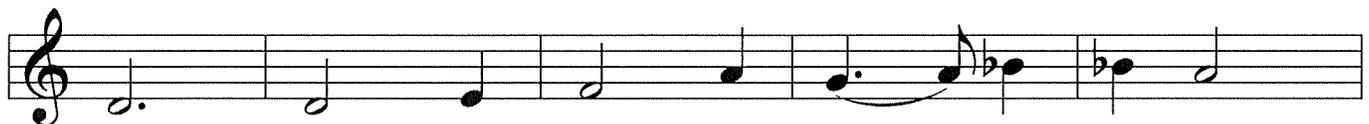
1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
 His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to
 to God's heart of love; But He brought you
 peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
 bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

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, 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.

nnouncements 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.

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 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.

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.

Announcements continue from the inside 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.

Acknowledgements

Any black and white line-art drawings on front covers are by Lutheran Artist Edward Riojas of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and are part of a package purchased from Higher Things and donated to Pilgrim for such use.

Unless otherwise indicated, all hymns and liturgies are from *Lutheran Service Book* copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House.

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Lutheran Worship tones D, E, F, J, and K are copyright © 1982 by Concordia Publishing House. Reproduced by permission under license number 16: 06-03B.

Lutheran Service Book tones A-K are copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Reproduced by permission under license number 110005153.

Created in part by the Lutheran Service Builder website, copyright © 2025 and 2026 by Concordia Publishing House (license number 110005153, which license number supersedes any other indicated general liturgy and hymn license numbers).