

***Blessed are those
who have not seen
and yet have believed.***

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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

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! He is risen indeed, alleluia! That ancient exchange of greetings on Easter morning says it all and so is often used throughout the Easter season. You are especially welcome to our chief Divine Service this day during the Easter season! We are glad that you are here and invite you to be present with us each and every Sunday. You are also welcome to any of our congregation's other activities, to seek out spiritual direction from our pastor, and to 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.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 2026 APRIL 12
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.151-166.)

+++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++



Catechesis	Section 1 The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (Second)	325
Confession and Absolution	(right column)	151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn:	"Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom"	481
Kyrie		152-153
Hymn of Praise:	"This Is the Feast"	155
Salutation and Collect of the Day		156
First Reading (& Response):	Acts 5:29-42	156
Psalm: Psalm 148 (antiphon: v.13)		148

(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):	1 Peter 1:3-9	156
Alleluia and Verse (Common)		156
Holy Gospel (& Responses):	John 20:19-31	157
Hymn of the Day:	"O Sons and Daughters of the King"	471
Sermon	John 20:19-31	
Nicene Creed		158
Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory		159-160

 For ... let us pray to the Lord:  **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
The Words of Our Lord, Proclamation of Christ, (Prayer of Remembrance,) Lord's Prayer, Pax Domini, & Agnus Dei		
Distribution (& Distribution Hymns):		164
	"Make Songs of Joy"	484
	"He's Risen, He's Risen"	480
	"Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing"	421
Post-Communion Canticle	"Nunc Dimittis"	165
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction		166
Closing Hymn:	"The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"	464

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 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: 6 students, 1 teacher, and 3 adult helpers were in Sunday School; 26 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class; 79 people were present in-person for the Easter Sunday Divine Service (50 communed), and 3 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; 5 were present in person for Midweek Bible Study, another 3 people participated via Jitsi; 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; Jeromy McMurray, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: Honoring God's gift of human life is not easy! In today's Epistle Reading the Divinely-inspired St. Peter refers to our "now for a little while" being "grieved by various trials" (1 Peter 1:3-9). He says the purpose or result of those trials is "that the tested genuineness" of our faith "may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ." When our various trials involve the life of another, such as an unborn child or an aging adult, the tested genuineness should be not only of our faith but also of theirs!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: God the Father "has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:3-4). We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That reality should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But, we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

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!

Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 04/04 column titled, "As Jews watched for Passover, Christians watch for Easter"); the April 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for April and May; Pilgrim's Constitution, Bylaws, and updated Standing Rules; *Portals of Prayer* for April-June 2026; 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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEAL: Whether or not you brought any food to share, all are invited and welcome to stay after the Divine Service today for the Congregational Meal in the Great Room of the Parish Hall!

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING: After today's Divine Service and Congregational Meal, all are encouraged to participate in the Special Voters' Meeting that will consider Pilgrim's options for "Walking Together" with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so also the Texas District and its Circuit #14. This Meeting does not have a predetermined or foregone conclusion: neither Pilgrim's Elders nor Pilgrim's Church Council are recommending one or more specific options. This Meeting is everyone's opportunity to be a part of the decision and let a true majority of the congregation—not just a majority of those attending the Voters' Meeting—make the decision.

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.

ELDERS' MEETING: Pilgrim's next regular Elders' Meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, April 14, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. If you have an item of concern that the Elders should address, please share it with Pastor Galler, your Elder, or one of the other Elders before then. Elders will please come having read and being prepared to discuss Augsburg Confession and Apology Article XVI: Civil Government/Political Order, *Concordia*, pp.39-40, 194-196.

Announcements continue on the back of this insert.

"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY": Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study continue this Wednesday, April 15, at 7:00 p.m. with Amos 3:1-15. 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>.

CATECHESIS will be held this Thursday, April 16: 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.

LWML TEXAS EAST TEXAS ZONE EVENT: All women are invited to the Event this Saturday, April 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Centerville. The theme is "Jesus, Our Good Shepherd", and the featured speaker is Lutheran children's author Ruth Meyer. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and costs only \$5. There will be an Ingathering for Domestic Violence of Leon County. RSVP ASAP to Debbie Curry: text or call 936-635-8530, or email debbietexaslwml@gmail.com. For more information, see the flyer on the LWML bulletin board in the Narthex.

NEXT SUNDAY: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class ("Basic Bible Accounts"); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service, followed by a gathering of the Mary Martha Society.

Readings: Ac 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 116:1-14; 1 Pt 1:17-25; Lk 24:13-35.

Hymns: LSB 810, 483, 598, 476, 474, 879.

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

"BASIC BIBLE ACCOUNTS": Pilgrim's Sunday morning Adult Bible Class is now considering "just the facts, ma'am" about essential Bible "stories", with each session covering one account. The course is intended to help improve everyone's Biblical "literacy", especially if you did not grow up in Sunday School, but even if you did. If you have not regularly been attending Sunday Adult Bible Class, this new course is a great opportunity for you to begin or get back into the habit, in person or via Jitsi! For more information, and for the handouts and audio and video files from past sessions, see <https://pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/basic-bible-accounts>.

PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will gather next Sunday, April 19, after the Divine Service to share lunch and to continue its study of the Women of the Bible, focusing on the Virgin Mary. All women are invited!