



***God sent His greatest treasure
In Jesus Christ. His Son.***

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Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU HERE! We are pleased that you have come to receive God's gift of forgiveness. Pentecost and the Sundays after Pentecost emphasize the work of the Holy Spirit through God's Word and Sacraments in growing the Church, so we especially invite you to join us in our Bible Classes, as well as in all of our other activities. If you have no church home, you are cordially invited to consider making Pilgrim Lutheran Church 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.

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2026 JULY 26

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.151-166.)

+ + + IN THE NAME OF JESUS + + +

Catechesis	Section 2: Daily Prayers (Evening Prayer)	327
Confession and Absolution (right column)		151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn:	"God Himself Is Present"	907
Kyrie		152-153
Hymn of Praise:	"Gloria in Excelsis"	154
Salutation and Collect of the Day		156
Old Testament (& Response): Deuteronomy 7:6-9		156
Psalm: Psalm 125 (antiphon: v.2)		125

(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): Romans 8:28-39	156
Alleluia and Verse (Common)	156
Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 13:44-52	157
Hymn of the Day:	"From God Can Nothing Move Me" 713
Sermon	Matthew 13:44-52
Apostles' Creed	159
Reception of Members by Profession of Faith	
Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory	159-160

 ... Lord, in your mercy,  **hear our prayer.**

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

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Proper Preface, Sanctus, Prayer of Thanksgiving, (right column)	160-163
Lord's Prayer, The Words of Our Lord, Pax Domini, & Agnus Dei	
Distribution (& Distribution Hymns):	164
"Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee"	573
"Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode"	714
"Before the Throne of God Above"	574
Post-Communion Canticle	"Thank the Lord" 164
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction	166
Closing Hymn:	"If God Himself Be for Me" 724

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 26, 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 from the front of this insert.

LAST WEEK: There were 0 student but 1 teacher prepared for Sunday School; 10 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and 1 device was connected via Jitsi; 48 people were present in-person for the Sunday Divine Service (24 communed), and 5 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; 1 adult was present in-person for Tuesday early-afternoon catechesis; 3 people were present in-person for Midweek Bible Study, and 2 devices were connected via Jitsi; and 3 catechumens were present in-person for Thursday-evening catechesis. (The Tuesday afternoon youth in-person class and the Thursday afternoon youth Jitsi class were not held this week due to schedule conflicts and illness.)

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God in honor of today's 28th anniversary of Pastor Galler's ordination.

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: The Lord God chose and redeemed His people to be a treasured possession, not because of anything in them, but because of His love and faithfulness (Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Matthew 13:44-52). Those He chose He also predestined, calls, and ultimately will glorify, after conforming them to the image of His Son through sufferings (Romans 8:28-39). As God treasures His people, we treasure every life that He gives!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: Who is the man who found the treasure in the field, and who is the merchant in search of fine pearls (Matthew 13:44-52)? Jesus gave all that He had in order to redeem us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. We do not have to sell all that we have in order to acquire Him, but we can and do give of what He has entrusted to us in order to love and serve our neighbor, such as through Christ's Church.

RECEIVED TODAY BY PROFESSION OF FAITH: are Sharon Clark and Rudy, Christen, Taylor, and Maggie Stephens. We rejoice with them and thank God for bringing them to Pilgrim. Please welcome them into our Pilgrim family as brothers and sisters in Christ!

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

Announcements continue on the inside of this insert.

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 August 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for August and September; Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 07/18 column titled, "*Hamlet* prompts reflection on repentance and forgiveness"); *Portals of Prayer* for July-September 2026; Pilgrim's Constitution, Bylaws, and updated Standing Rules; 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.

"LOOSE-CHANGE SUNDAY": Please use the large Mite Box in the Narthex today 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.

HELP WANTED: Pilgrim urgently needs a Financial Secretary, a Facilities Coordinator, and an Inreach Coordinator, and we also could use another Elder and a Vice-President. If you are willing to take on such responsibility on a temporary interim or regular term basis, please speak with Acting-President Remo Gualtieri or Pastor Galler. Thank you for prayerfully considering the congregation's needs as you serve God and neighbor!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview invites students aged 4-12 and youth and adult volunteers to its "Tropical Trek-Jesus Comes to Seek and Save" VBS July 28-30 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. For more information or to register, contact Diane Braun at 713-443-6413 or visit <https://vbsmate.com/events/ORCLLongview/32574>.

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.

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CATECHESIS: This Tuesday, July 28, the in-person youth class will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. This Thursday, July 30, the youth class will meet at 4:15 p.m. via Jitsi, and the family class will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library.

"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY": Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study will continue this Wednesday, July 29 at 7:00 p.m. with at least Hosea 2:2-15. 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>.

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 15-2 Folk".

Readings: Is 55:1-5; Ps 136:1-9, 23-26; Ro 9:1-13; and Mt 14:13-21.

Hymns: LSB 874; 642; 628; 636; 629; and 648.

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, August 2, 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.

THE LETOURNEAU CHURCH FAIR is Saturday, August 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. At least one if not two volunteers are welcome to join Pastor Galler in reaching-out to the incoming students!

COUNCIL MEETING RESCHEDULED: Due to concerns about having a quorum today, Pilgrim's Church Council is now scheduled to have its regular Second-Quarter Meeting on Sunday, August 23, after the Divine Service. Before then the Packet with the working agenda and reports will be both distributed via email to Pilgrim's members and available in hardcopy in the Narthex.

BABY-SHOWER GIFTS: You can still put Newborn diapers or wipes in the Office and/or cash or gift cards in small box in the Narthex for the Fords!

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