



***Jesus says:
“If anyone would come after me,
let him deny himself and
take up his cross and follow me.”***

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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

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.

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2026 AUGUST 30

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

+ + + IN THE NAME OF JESUS + + +

Catechesis Section 3: Table of Duties (Hearers owe their Preachers) 328
Confession and Absolution (right column) 151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn: "Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star" 872
Kyrie 152-153
Hymn of Praise: "Gloria in Excelsis" 154
Salutation and Collect of the Day 156
Old Testament (& Response): Jeremiah 15:15-20 156
Psalm: Psalm 26 (antiphon: v.8)  26
(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 12:9 - 21 156
Alleluia and Verse (Common) 156
Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 16:21-28 157
Hymn of the Day: "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus" 531
Sermon Matthew 16:21-28
Apostles' Creed 159
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

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
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" 621
"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" 843
"All for Christ I Have Forsaken" 753
Post-Communion Canticle "Thank the Lord" 164
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction 166
Closing Hymn: "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage" 582

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30, 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: There were 0 students but 1 teacher prepared for Sunday School; 14 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and 1 device was connected via Jitsi; 46 people were present in-person for the Sunday Divine Service (26 communed), and 4 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; and 1 catechumen was present in-person for the Tuesday afternoon youth class. (Midweek Bible Study, Thursday-afternoon catechesis, and Thursday-evening catechesis did not meet, due to Pastor Galler's being under the weather.)

THANKS: to all those caring for the inside and outside of Pilgrim's facilities; to all those helping with the video and audio for classes and services; to Rev. Adler for the use of his chasubles; 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: At the end of earthly life, we might cry out: "Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?" (Jeremiah 15:18). Don't take your life, or anyone else's, into your own hands. Receive St. Paul's encouragement for all your for-life conversations: "Love one another with brotherly affection ... associate with the lowly ... live peaceably with all ... do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:9-21). Even though many of us may "taste death" before the Son of Man returns, we set our minds on the things of God—life!—and not the things of man (Matthew 16:23, 28).

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?" (Matthew 16:26) He who dies with the most toys...is dead. But, the one who trusts in the Lord, even though he dies, yet shall he live. We live out our trust in the Lord by faithfully fulfilling the roles God has given us to play in home, church, and society as loving, generous people. Those who don't know the Lord are afraid to be generous because they think that what they give away is lost to them. But we who know the Lord know that the things of this world become true blessings when they are used for God's kingdom.

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.

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of the September 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 08/15 column titled, "Commandments back in court as children go back to school"); the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for August and September; *Portals of Prayer* for July-September 2026; Pilgrim's Constitution, Bylaws, and updated Standing Rules; the latest Church Directory (dated 2026/08/27 on ivory 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 after the 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. (Current lists of grant recipients are now on the bulletin board above the Mite Box.)

FIFTH-SUNDAY MEAL & GAME DAY: After the Divine Service today, we will have our "quarterly" Fifth-Sunday Meal and Game Day. Also today, Pilgrim's Mary/Martha Society will have a Silent Auction of baked goods, with proceeds designated for Pilgrim's 75th Anniversary Offering. Whether or not you brought food to share or a game to play or buy any baked goods, please stay and enjoy time with your brothers and sisters in Christ!

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!

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.

CATECHESIS: This Tuesday, September 1, the in-person youth class will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. This Thursday,

Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.

September 3, the on-line youth class will meet at 4:15 p.m. via Jitsi, and the in-person family class will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library.

"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY": Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study will meet this Wednesday, September 2, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss Hosea 4:1-19. 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>.

RIGHT TO LIFE EAST TEXAS will have a booth at the annual Gregg County Fair, September 4-12, in Longview. If you want to volunteer to help at the booth, please call Pat Smith at 903-240-1635 in order to schedule a time slot. They say that they will tell you what to do while at the booth.

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" Cribbage group.

Readings: Ezek 33:7-9; Ps 32:1-7; Ro 13:1-10; and Mt 18:1-20.

Hymns: LSB 948 (with trumpet), 820, 622, 579, 843, and 762.

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

"BASIC BIBLE ACCOUNTS": Next Sunday, Pilgrim's Sunday-morning Adult Bible Class continues its "just the facts, ma'am" approach to essential Bible "stories", with each session covering one account. All are welcome! The course is intended to help improve everyone's Biblical "literacy", especially if you did not grow up in Sunday School, but also even if you did. The course also is a great opportunity for you to begin, or get back into, the habit of regularly attending Sunday Adult Bible Class, 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>.

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather next on Sunday, September 6, 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.

Announcements continue on the back of this insert.