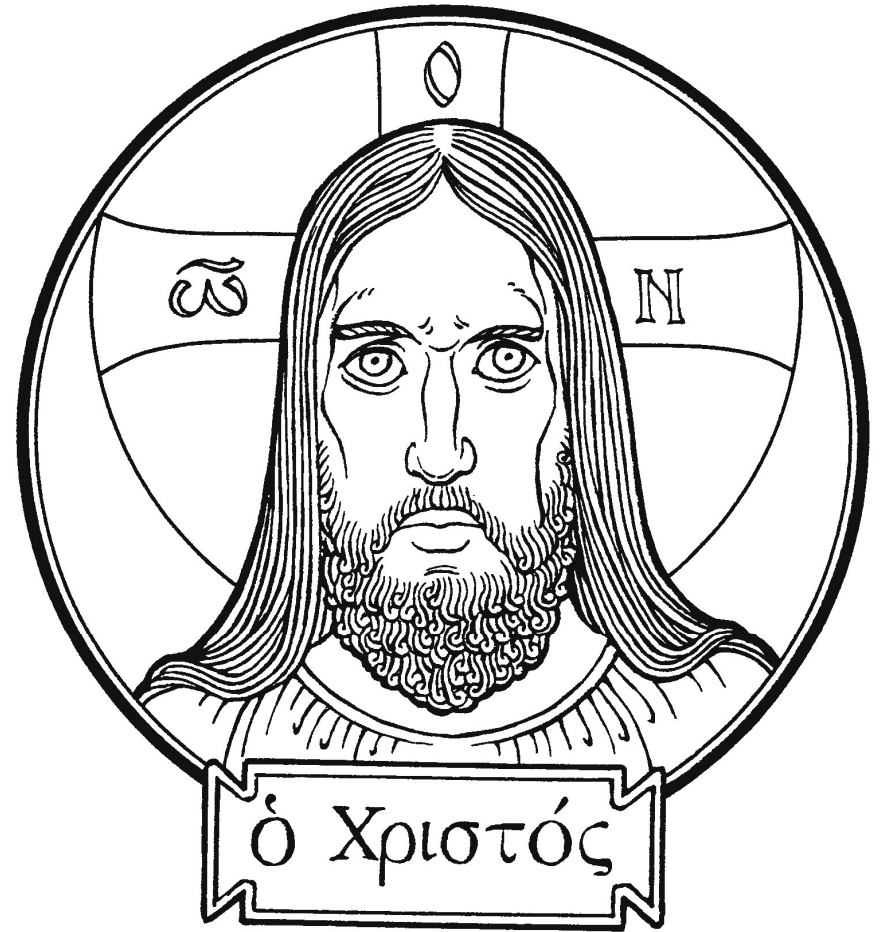




***Jesus builds His Church  
on the confession  
of Him as the Christ.***

The black and white line-art drawing on the front cover is by Lutheran Artist Edward Riojas of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is part of a package purchased from Higher Things and donated to Pilgrim for such uses. The letters in the halo around Jesus's head identify Him with the Name of God, "The One Who is", from a Greek translation of Exodus 3:14, and the Greek words in the banner are translated "The Christ". The Psalm tone inside is © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, reproduced by permission under license #110005153.



# Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Corner of Broadway and Florey



713 Florey Street  
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503  
[www.pilgrimlc.org](http://www.pilgrimlc.org)

Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor  
903- 984-4333  
[pastor@pilgrimlc.org](mailto: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  $\Delta$  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.

13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2026 AUGUST 23

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

## +++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Holy Baptism                       | 268 |
| Baptismal Hymn: "O Blessed Spring" | 595 |

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

|                                                                 |                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Entrance Hymn: "How Wide the Love of Christ"                    | 535              |
| Kyrie                                                           | 152-153          |
| Hymn of Praise: "Gloria in Excelsis"                            | 154              |
| Salutation and Collect of the Day                               | 156              |
| Old Testament (& Response): Isaiah 51:1-6                       | 156              |
| Psalm: Psalm 138 (antiphon: v.8a [see below])                   | 138              |
| $\text{P}$ The LORD will fulfill his pur-   pose for me,*       |                  |
| $\text{C}$ your steadfast love, O LORD, endures for-   ever.    |                  |
| Epistle (& Response): Romans 11:33 - 12:8                       | 156              |
| Alleluia and Verse (Common)                                     | 156              |
| Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 16:13-20                     | 157              |
| Hymn of the Day: "Built on the Rock"                            | 645              |
| Sermon                                                          | Matthew 16:13-20 |
| Apostles' Creed                                                 | 159              |
| Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory                     | 159-160          |
| $\text{P}$ ... Lord, in your mercy, $\text{C}$ 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 Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"                             | 623     |
| "Lord of All Good"                                              | 786     |
| "O God of Light"                                                | 836     |
| Post-Communion Canticle "Thank the Lord"                        | 164     |
| Post-Communion Collect & Benediction                            | 166     |
| Closing Hymn: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"                | 575     |

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 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:** 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; 25 people were present in-person for the Sunday Divine Service (21 communed), and 10 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; 1 catechumen was present in-person for the Tuesday afternoon youth class (and 4 others participated); and 3 people were present in-person for Midweek Bible Study, and 2 devices were connected via Jitsi. (Thursday-afternoon and Thursday-evening catechesis did not meet, due to Pastor Galler's traveling to attend a family funeral.)

**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; Remo Gualtieri, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

**BAPTIZED TODAY** is Daniel Gordon Ford, the newest son of our members Ben and Melody Ford. Daniel's sponsors are Remo and Kathy Gualtieri. We rejoice that Daniel could be born from above of water and the Spirit this day at Pilgrim (John 3:3, 5), and we welcome him into our family!

**LIFE THOUGHTS:** Through Isaiah, the Lord told the Israelites to look to Abraham as the rock from which they were hewn and to Sarah as the quarry from which they were dug (Isaiah 51:1-6). At Abraham and Sarah's ages they were unlikely to be blessed and multiplied, but the Lord miraculously works in mysterious ways beyond our understanding. Likewise our and every other human life has a Divine plan and purpose (Psalm 138)!

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:** The Apostle Paul's appeal to us, by the mercies of God, to present our bodies as living sacrifices gets the order right: God's mercies, then our sacrifices (Romans 11:33-12:8). Like the crucified and resurrected Jesus, we can offer our very selves knowing we will be resurrected. Individual members of the Body of Christ have different functions. Let us carry them out!

**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 Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 08/15 column titled, "Commandments back in court as children go back to school"); the August 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; 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 2026/01/22 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.

**QUARTERLY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:** Pilgrim's Church Council will have its regular Third-Quarter Meeting today, August 23, after the Divine Service. The Packet with the working agenda and reports was distributed via email to Pilgrim's members and is available in hardcopy in the Narthex. Even though only Council Members can vote in Council Meetings, everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend and to join in the discussion. The Council makes some decisions and recommends other decisions to the Voters' Assembly. Humanly speaking, our participation in the administration of Pilgrim's secular affairs is necessary for the congregation's survival, and, spiritually speaking, our participation is fruit of our faith.

**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](mailto:pastor@pilgrimlc.org) or text/call 903-984-4333). For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Galler.

*Announcements continue from the inside of this insert.*

**CATECHESIS:** This Tuesday, August 25, the in-person youth class will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. This Thursday, August 27, 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.

**KILGORE CITY COUNCIL MEETING:** Pastor Galler is scheduled to open the Kilgore City Council Meeting with prayer this Tuesday, August 25, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. All are welcome to be present

**ELDERS' MEETING:** A special combined August and September Elders' Meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, August 25, 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 XX: Good Works, *Concordia*, pp. 41-44, 199-201.

**"ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY":** Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study will meet this Wednesday, August 26, 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>.

**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 ("Loose-Change Sunday"), followed by a Fifth-Sunday Meal & Game Day.

Readings: Jer 15:15-21; Ps 26; Ro 12:9-21; and Mt 16:21-28.

Hymns: LSB 872; 531; 621; 843; 753; and 582.

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

**FIFTH-SUNDAY MEAL & GAME DAY:** After the Divine Service next Sunday, August 30, we will have our "quarterly" Fifth-Sunday Meal and Game Day. You can bring a dish you would like to share and a game you would like to play and enjoy time with your brothers and sisters in Christ! Also that day, Pilgrim's Mary/Martha Society will have a Silent Auction of baked goods, with proceeds designated for Pilgrim's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Offering.

*Announcements continue on the back of this insert.*