



***Jesus says: "Unless you turn
and become like children,
you will never enter
the Kingdom of Heaven."***



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



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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.

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.

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (445)

Returning Thanks

Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love. *Psalm 136:1, 25; 147:9-11*

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen. (446)

SECTION 3

Table of Duties

CERTAIN PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE FOR VARIOUS HOLY ORDERS AND POSITIONS, ADMONISHING THEM ABOUT THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers

1 Timothy 3:2-4
1 Timothy 3:6
Titus 1:9

What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

1 Corinthians 9:14
Galatians 6:6-7
1 Timothy 5:17-18
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
Hebrews 13:17

Of Civil Government

Romans 13:1-4

Of Citizens

Matthew 22:21
Romans 13:5-7
1 Timothy 2:1-3
Titus 3:1
1 Peter 2:13-14

To Husbands

1 Peter 3:7
Colossians 3:19

To Wives

Ephesians 5:22
1 Peter 3:5-6

To Parents

Ephesians 6:4

To Children

Ephesians 6:1-3

To Workers of All Kinds

Ephesians 6:5-8

To Employers and Supervisors

Ephesians 6:9

To Youth

1 Peter 5:5-6

To Widows

1 Timothy 5:5-6

To Everyone

Romans 13:9
1 Timothy 2:1

*Let each his lesson learn with care,
And all the household well shall fare.*

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.

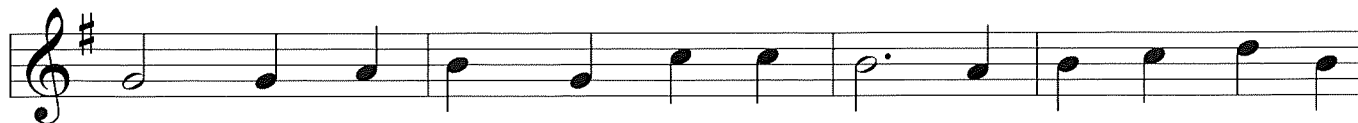
C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn

948 All Glory Be to God Alone



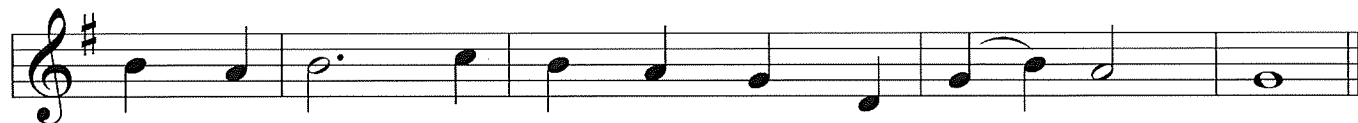
1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, For - ev - er - more the
 2 We praise You, God; Your name we bless And wor - ship You in
 3 Lord God, our King on heav - en's throne, Our Fa - ther, the Al -
 4 You take the whole world's sin a - way; Have mer - cy on us,



high - est one, Who did our sin - ful race be - friend And
 hum - ble - ness; From day to day we glo - ri - fy The
 might - y One. O Lord, the sole - be - got - ten One, Lord
 Lord, we pray. You take the whole world's sin a - way; O



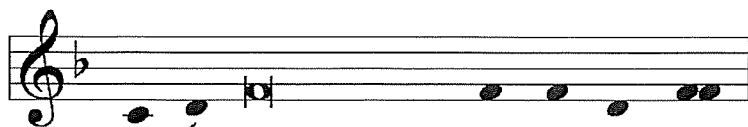
grace and peace to us ex - tend. A - mong us may His
 ev - er - last - ing God on high. Of Your great glo - ry
 Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's Son, True God from all e -
 Lord, re - ceive our prayer this day. From God's right hand Your



gra - cious will All hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.
 do we sing, And to Your throne our thanks we bring.
 ter - ni - ty, O Lamb of God, to You we flee.
 mer - cy send, To all the world Your grace ex - tend.

5 You only are the Holy One
 And over all are Lord alone.
 O Jesus Christ, we glorify
 You and the Spirit, Lord Most High;
 With Him You evermore shall be
 One in the Father's majesty.

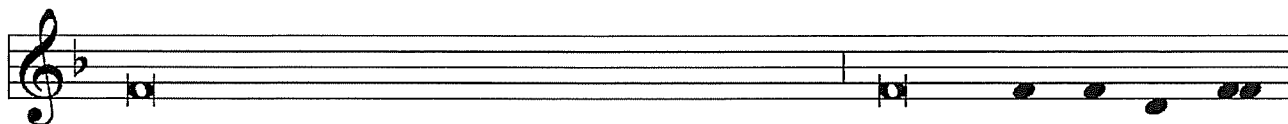
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



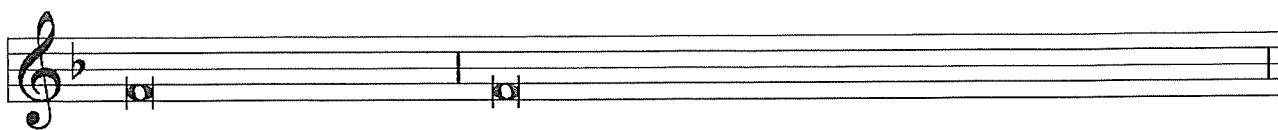
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



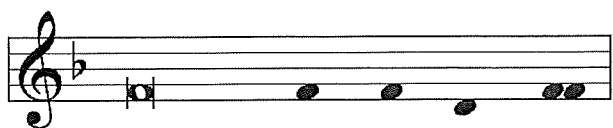
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



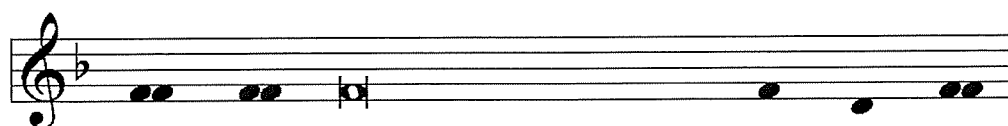
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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

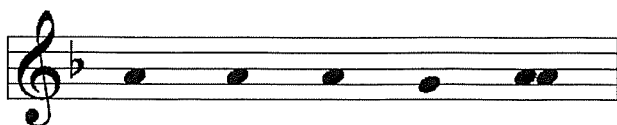


C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis



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

Old Testament

Ezekiel 33:7-9

7“‘So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. 9But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 32:1-7; antiphon: v.1

(Sing the Psalm responsively using the tone provided.

The congregation sings the indented and bold portions of the text.

See *LSB* xxvi for how the text and the tone correspond.)



¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in-
iquity,*

and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away*
through my groaning | all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;*
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- |
iquity;*

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time
when you | may be found;*

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

Epistle

Romans 13:1 - 10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is

owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse: Common

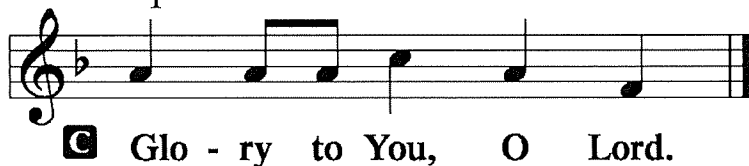


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter

the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in

heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on His
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
 righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All
 yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our
 in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His



meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
 mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite
 pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and
 spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as
 flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -



care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who
 heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So
 through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our



leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.
far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.
with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.
life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!

Public domain

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. 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



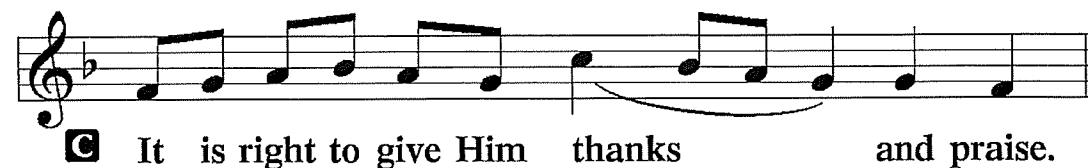
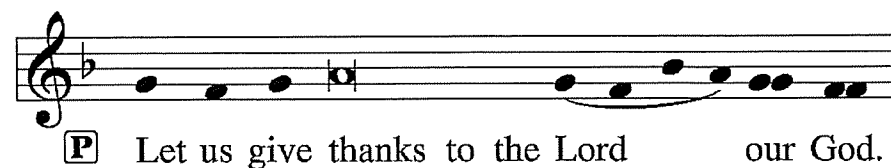
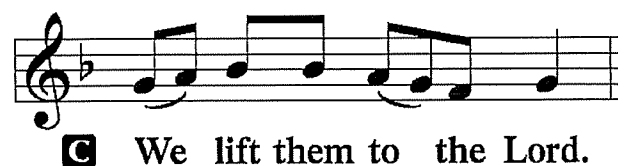
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



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

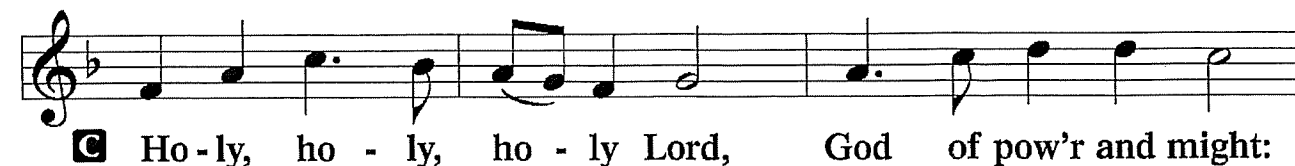
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

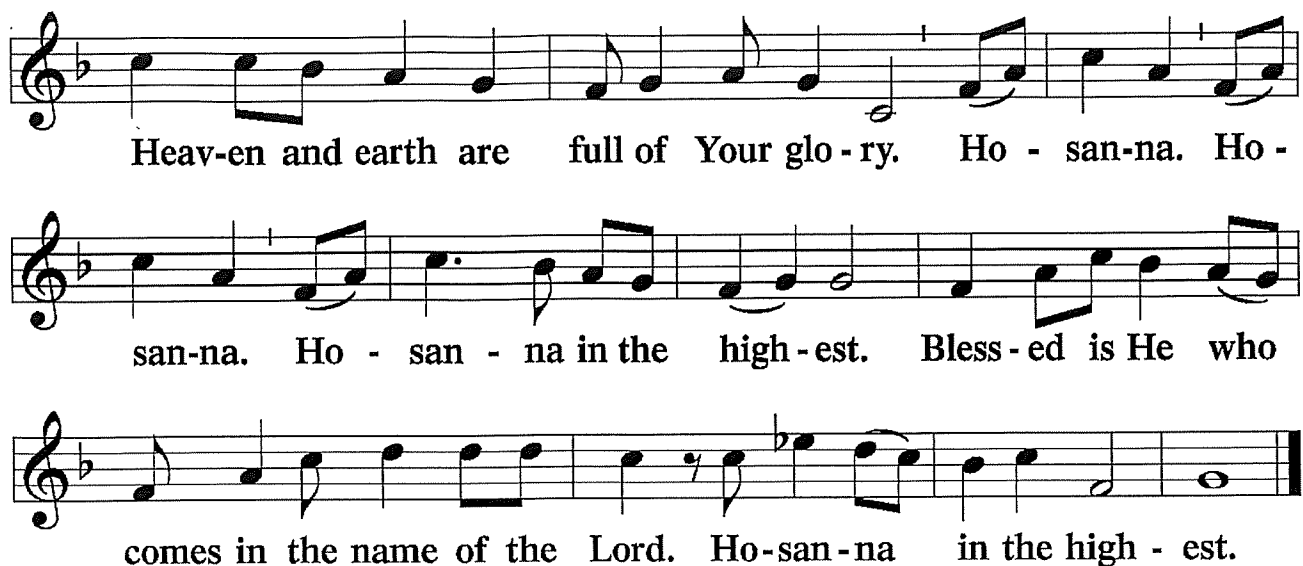
Preface



P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus





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.

Lord's Prayer

[P] Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

[C] 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.

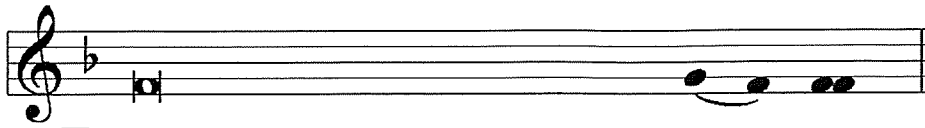
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

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."

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

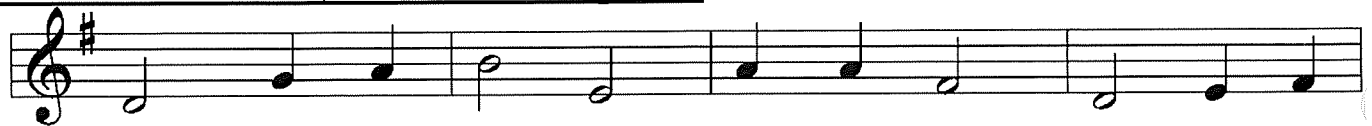
[P] The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart **T** in peace.

[C] Amen.

Distribution Hymns

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

#25



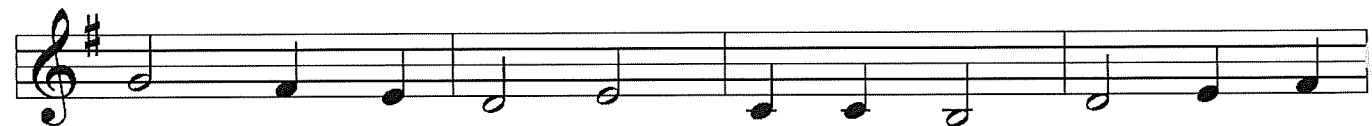
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence
hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are

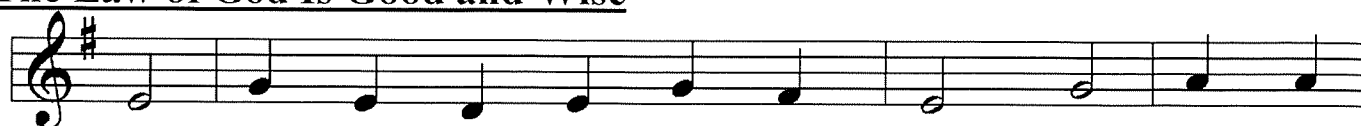


You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

- 5 Though reason cannot understand,
Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now
At once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be;
Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.

- 6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.
- 7 Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for Your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.
- 8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
A blessèd comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise



1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His
 2 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge
 3 To those who help in Christ have found And would in
 4 But those who scorn - ful - ly dis - dain God's Law shall



will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of righ - teous -
 of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -
 works of love a - bound It shows what deeds are His de -
 then in sin re - main; Its ter - ror in their ear re -

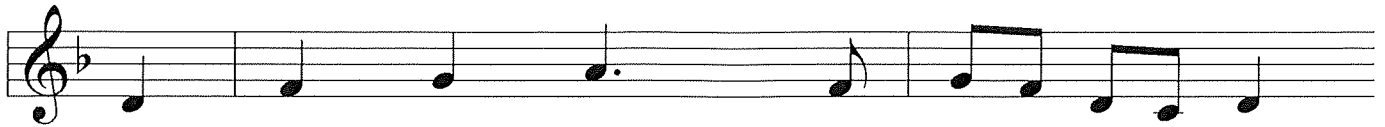


ness, And dooms to death when we trans - gress.
 late And turn from sin be - fore too late.
 light And should be done as good and right.
 sounds And keeps their wick - ed - ness in bounds.

5 The Law is good; but since the fall
 Its holiness condemns us all;
 It dooms us for our sin to die
 And has no pow'r to justify.

6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
 Who from the curse has set us free,
 And humbly worship at His throne,
 Saved by His grace through faith alone.

843 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
 2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
 3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



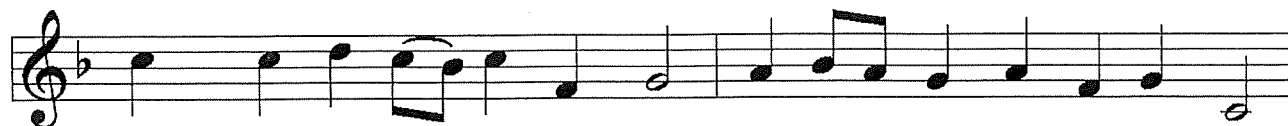
grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

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Stand

Post-Communion Canticle



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

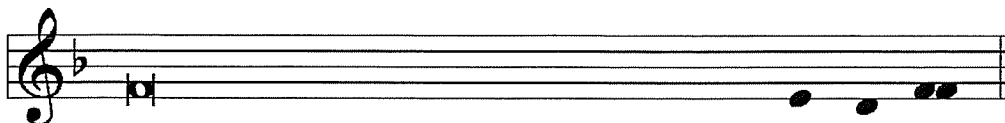
Post-Communion Collect

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

762 There Is a Time for Everything



1 There is a time for ev - 'ry - thing, A
 2 A time to hold, then be a - lone, A
 3 E - ter - nal Lord, Your wis - dom sees And
 △ 4 Be - fore all time had yet be - gun, You,



time for all that life may bring: A time to plant, a
 time to gath - er scat - tered stone, A time to break, a
 fath - oms all life's trag - e - dies; You know our grief, You
 Fa - ther, planned to give Your Son; Lord Je - sus Christ, with



time to reap, A time to laugh, a time to weep,
 time to mend, A time to search and then to end,
 hear our sighs— In mer - cy, dry our tear - stained eyes.
 time-less grace, You have re - deemed our time - bound race;



A time to heal, a time to slay, A
 A time to keep, then throw a - way, A
 From e - vil times, You bring great good; Be -
 O Ho - ly Spir - it, Par - a - clete, Your



time to build where rub - ble lay, A time to die, a
 time to speak, then noth - ing say, A time for war till
 neath the cross, we've safe - ly stood. Though dim - ly now life's
 time - ly work in us com - plete; Blest Trin - i - ty, Your



time to mourn, A time for joy and to be born,
 ha - treds cease, A time for love, a time for peace.
 path we trace, One day we shall see face to face.
 praise we sing— There is a time for ev - 'ry - thing!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 06, 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: There were 0 students but 1 teacher prepared for Sunday School; 12 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and 2 devices were connected via Jitsi; 32 people were present in-person for the Sunday Divine Service (25 communed), and 9 devices streamed the Service live via YouTube; 1 catechumen was present in-person for the Tuesday afternoon youth class; 3 people were present in-person for Midweek Bible Study, and 1 device was connected via Jitsi; 2 catechumens (and 1 observer) connected via Jitsi for Thursday-afternoon catechesis; and 3 people were present in-person for Thursday-evening catechesis.

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; Carl Gardner, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: A child, maybe even one just recently born, served Jesus as an object lesson of who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:1-20). They should not be caused to sin or to fall from faith, nor should they be despised. Yet, even sins against them can be forgiven those who are sorry for them and trust God to forgive them for Jesus's sake, forgiveness that comes through His Church.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: "Pay to all what is owed them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed" (Romans 13:1-10). Part of the Divinely-inspired St. Paul's rationale is that the governing authorities are God's ministers. If the governing authorities are God's ministers, how much more are the churchly authorities God's ministers? How much more should we freely give of that with which God has blessed us in order to support the work of those ministers of God among us?

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 09/05 column titled, "A good education needs Biblical accounts taught objectively"); *Portals of Prayer* for October-November 2026; the September 2026 edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter, *The Pilgrimage*; the latest Church Directory (dated 2026/08/27 and printed on ivory paper); the larger-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for August and September; Pilgrim's Constitution, Bylaws, and updated Standing Rules; 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.

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather today, 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 them.

2027 BUDGET PIECES are "due" to Pilgrim's Treasurer Debbie Shockley today, so that she can put the draft budget together and it can be distributed by next Sunday and then discussed when the Church Council meets as the Budget Committee Sunday, September 27, after the Divine Service.

PASTOR'S VACATION: Pastor Galler's third week of his five weeks of 2026 vacation begins after the Divine Service today and continues through midday Tuesday, September 15. An Elder will monitor the Church Phone and contact the on-call pastor if needed. Catechesis and Midweek Bible Study will not be held while Pastor Galler is away, but Divine Service will be offered on September 13.

RIGHT TO LIFE EAST TEXAS is having a booth at the annual Gregg County Fair in Longview through this Saturday. 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.

HELP NEEDED: 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!

Announcements continue on the back of this insert.

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NEXT SUNDAY: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class ("Scriptural Proof of the Divinity of Jesus"); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service.

Readings: Gen 50:15-21; Ps 103:1-12; Ro 14:1-12; and Mt 18:21-35.

Hymns: LSB 606, 501, 641, 758, 843, and 685.

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

"SCRIPTURAL PROOF OF THE DIVINITY OF JESUS": If someone challenged you with the opinion that Jesus was just a good man who never claimed to be God, how would you respond? In Adult Bible Class next Sunday, Pastor Adler will teach about the "Scriptural Proof of the Divinity of Jesus", giving us an abundance of Biblical texts to disprove the notion that Jesus was just a man. We will discover how Jesus fulfills the Old Testament Scriptures' promise of the God coming to His people. Then we will see how the New Testament portrays Jesus's Divine identity using words that the Old Testament had used only for God. Finally, we will learn how the roles of God in the Old Testament are attributed to Jesus in the New Testament. Join us, won't you?

PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will gather next on Sunday, September 20, after the Divine Service, in order to share lunch and to continue its study of the Women of the Bible, focusing on Dinah, who was defiled (Genesis 34:1-31). All women are invited and welcome to attend!

HOW ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE PILGRIM IN 2027? Pilgrim's nomination process for next year is underway. Please pray about your serving the congregation in an official capacity during 2027, and then please speak to Acting-President Remo Gualtieri, Elders' Chair Carl Gardner, or Pastor Galler about how you would like to serve. How should God keep Pilgrim's doors open if no one is willing to fill necessary positions?

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS: Although Pilgrim does not pay to receive online offerings, some Pilgrim members make use of services such as a "bill pay" through their financial institutions, EFT/ACH (Electronic Funds Transfer/Automatic Clearing House transactions) from their employers, and Zelle (www.zellepay.com). If you need help setting up such an electronic offering, contact Pilgrim Treasurer Debbie Shockley, either by emailing treasurer@pilgrimlc.org or calling or texting 903-922-8209.

HELPING HANDS: Use the bin below the Guest Register in the Narthex in order to contribute to Kilgore's food pantry that we help support.

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.

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