



“Pay what you owe!”

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Pilgrim Lutheran Church

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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.

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2026 SEPTEMBER 13

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

+ + + IN THE NAME OF JESUS + + +

Catechesis	Section 3: Table of Duties (Of Citizens)	328
Confession and Absolution (right column)		151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn:	"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"	606
Kyrie		152-153
Hymn of Praise:	"Gloria in Excelsis"	154
Salutation and Collect of the Day		156
Old Testament (& Response): Genesis 50:15-21		156
Psalm: Psalm 103:1-12 (antiphon: v.13)		103
(Chant the Psalm responsively: the congregation sings the indented and bold portions. The indicated antiphon is sung both before the Psalm and after the <i>Gloria Patri</i> . See LSB xxvi for how the text and the tone correspond.)		
Epistle (& Response): Romans 14:1-12		156
Alleluia and Verse (Common)		156
Holy Gospel (& Responses): Matthew 18:21-35		157
Hymn of the Day:	"Come Down, O Love Divine"	501
Sermon:	"Forget Not All His Benefits" Psalm 103:1-12	
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	
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"The Will of God Is Always Best"	758
"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"	843
Post-Communion Canticle	"Thank the Lord" 164
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction	166
Closing Hymn:	"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" 685

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 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 students but 1 teacher prepared for Sunday School; 16 people were present in-person for Adult Bible Class, and 1 device was connected via Jitsi; and 27 people were present in-person for the Sunday Divine Service (21 communed), and there were technical difficulties with the live stream via YouTube. (Catechesis and Midweek Bible Study were not held due to Pastor Galler's vacation.).

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; to Ellen Menconi for her Church Office work; and to Nic Worsham for playing the trumpet last Sunday.

SERVING TODAY: The Rev. David A. Adler, Guest Pastor; Carl Gardner, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: Joseph was a man wronged repeatedly. However, as we find him in Genesis 50, those wrongs against him did not lead him to live with bitterness or a desire for revenge. Instead, we find that God provided him with patience and compassion even against those who had so terribly sinned against him. We are often quick to anger and slow to forgive. May He work patience and wisdom in our hearts when we hear about the numerous ways God's gifts are twisted. Thanks be to God that He is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8).

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: "For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself." (Romans 14:7) We do not belong just to ourselves, but we belong first of all to God, and, through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocations: as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family; as a Christian, you serve others in the church; and as a neighbor you serve others in society.

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

Announcements continue on the inside of this insert.

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.

PASTOR'S VACATION: Pastor Galler's third week of his five weeks of 2026 vacation continues through the middle of this Tuesday. An Elder will monitor the Church Phone and contact the on-call pastor if needed.

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!

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: Tuesday, September 15, the in-person youth class will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. Thursday, September 17, 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 16, at 7:00 p.m., to continue discussing 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>.

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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 Pilgrim's Mary/Martha Society.

Readings: Is 55:6-9; Ps 27:1-9; Phil 1:12-14, 19-30; and Mt 20:1-16.

Hymns: LSB 807, 555, 827, 742, 565, and 854.

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>.

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!

PILGRIM'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS AS ITS BUDGET COMMITTEE on Sunday, September 27, after the Divine Service, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend and discuss Pilgrim's plan to disburse the offerings the congregation expects to receive in 2027.

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.

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