



What Makes Christians *Different*

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)

W156 N5436 Bette Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI | 262-781-3520 | office@pilgrimcares.org

Christians Answer Doubt with Faith

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” We know that keeping little children occupied for an entire church service can be a challenge. Don’t worry; most of those worshipping around you have been in your shoes at one time. If you feel that you need to take your child out of church at any time, we have a Children’s Room to the right as you exit the worship area. The first parking space in front of church is designated for **expectant mothers and families with small children**.

Restrooms are located to your left as you exit the worship area. There are **changing tables in both restrooms**.

LARGE PRINT copies of worship materials are available from the ushers. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to ask an usher.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Presiding & Preaching
Organist**

Pastor Aaron Winkelman
Katie Ausen

Service of the Word

Hymn Requests

Stand

Invocation

The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Confession of Sins

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

8:00am, the service continues on page 6 .

Holy Baptism

Confession

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**Baptism means that the sinful nature in us
should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance,
and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.
It also means that a new person should daily arise
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.

Sacrament of Baptism

9:30am, Collins Conway Rusch-Bowsher, Daughter of Brian Bowsher and Ashley Rusch-Bowsher

The Gospel according to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Collins, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart ✠ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Exhortations are spoken by the Pastor.

Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father, through your stern judgment, the unbelieving world was destroyed by the flood, but according to your great mercy, you saved Noah and his family. You engulfed stubborn Pharaoh and his army in the waters of the Red Sea but led your people through those same waters to safety on dry land. In the waters of the Jordan, your own Son was baptized and anointed with the Spirit. By these signs you foreshadowed the washing that you give us in Holy Baptism.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on Collins. Through this water of Baptism, drown in her all sin inherited from Adam and any other evil she may do. Set her apart from the unbelieving world, and hold her safe and secure in the holy ark of the Church. Keep her always fervent in spirit and joyful in hope so that she may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reception of New Members

9:30am, Brian Bowsher and Ashley Rusch-Bowsher

Prayer and Praise

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are

they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -

ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -

ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -

ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what you want done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward.”

²But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

God Is the Strength of My Heart

Psalm 73A

Refrain



Tone



You guide me with your / counsel,
and afterward you will take me into / glory.
Whom have I in / heav'n but you?
And earth has nothing I desire be- / sides you.
My flesh and my / heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for- / ever.

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. Refrain

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Second Reading

Romans 8:28–39

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 11:1

Alleluia. Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

Matthew 6:24-34

²⁴“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated

Hymn Requests

Sermon

Stand

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

Be seated

Offering

Offering boxes are available in the back of church. If you wish to give an electronic offering, you may use the QR code located at the end of the bulletin or you may go to pilgrimcares.org/giving. We present the offerings before the altar as a reminder that our giving overflows out of the Gospel and is itself an act of worship.

Offering Hymn

CW 753 sts. Ref, 3



3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,
youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -
ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4

Refrain

I re-joice in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,
well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my
soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

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Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Hymn Requests

Stand

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do.
Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be
strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through
Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.



The Benediction

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



Be seated

Hymn Requests

Acknowledgments

Service of the Word

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News & Notes

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Jennifer Piper in memory of her grandparents heavenly anniversary and her Grandma's heavenly birthday.

Gift card collection for new teachers at Pilgrim! We at Pilgrim would like to welcome three teachers to our staff this year: our new teacher Josh Higgins and his family (new to the neighborhood!), Maddie Maksim into her called position of full-time 3K lead teacher, and Alyssa Schwartz onto the teaching staff as co-teacher in 3rd grade. All three will be installed on Sunday, August 23rd. We would like to put together a collection of gift cards to local places (restaurants, grocery stores, local shops, etc). If you would like to contribute to these three welcome gifts, please get all gift cards to the office or directly to Rachel Braun by Sunday, August 16th. Contact Rachel Braun at (414) 736-9119 with any questions. Thank you!

Office hours over summer will vary. If you are stopping in at school for anything, please call first to make sure someone is there. Email and voice mail are both being checked regularly. If you leave a message we will get back to you as soon as possible!

office@pilgrimcares.org 262-781-3520

Now is the time to sign up for Forward in Christ and/or Meditations. Please put your payment in the envelope attached to the sign-up sheet on the shelf in the narthex and make a note if you are paying with cash.

Forward in Christ comes out each month, filled with timely topics. Ideas of what other churches are doing to reach out to their communities can be gleaned from this magazine's articles. Deeper answers to controversial questions, good news about the results of the support we send to Synod, and other WELS news appears in the pages of Forward in Christ. The cost of an annual subscription is only \$17.00

Meditations provides a daily devotion based on one of the Scripture Lessons in the Sunday service. Extra Scriptures to read are included at the end of each devotion. In the back of the quarterly booklets are special prayers for the season. It's a good way to get more out of the weekly Scripture lessons. The cost of annual subscription is \$14.00.

Save the Date for the Golden Agers Dinner! Saturday, September 12 at 5:30pm. Everyone 62 and older, along with their spouses, is invited to come to this special dinner, held in our Gathering Space. A sign up sheet will be available soon!

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat If you are an adult WELS/ELS member, single, and would like to join others of the same description for fellowship and activities amidst the natural beauty of central Wisconsin, come to the WELS/ELS Singles Retreat, August 28-30 at Camp Phillip in Wautoma. Visit <https://sites.google.com/view/lutheransinglesretreat/>. Please register before August 13.

Music At First Come join the fun at 5:30pm on the first Friday of June through October at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 728 Village Street in Racine. Check out the schedule at www.firstracine.org Pilgrim's own David Porth will perform on Friday, September 4!

WELS BARGAIN CENTER located at 8401 W. Lisbon Ave. in Milwaukee continues to be blessed! In July we had over \$12,000 in sales. We are also blessed with dedicated volunteers and donations. Both are critical and always needed. The construction is underway, but it is still relatively easy to get to our location. So please donate and come to shop. Thank you.

	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>9:30am</u>
Ushers		
8-9	Glen Kuphall Adam Chernohorsky	Jim Prekop Alec Delvaux
8-16	Matt Lawonn Scott Tyriver	Bryan Giesenschlag Mark Murphy
Wednesday Ushers are Pat Renner and Jason Marten		

Worship Hosts

8-9	Irene Lape & Pat Knack	Marge Ekstowicz & Elke Warren
8-16	Bill & LaVonne Kirchner	Joel & Jenny Raasch

Attendance

7-29	34
8-2	58 + 162 = 220



Pilgrim Lutheran Church can receive offerings electronically through a secure website. Scan the QR code with your smart phone (you might need to download a free QR scanning app) to be directed to Pilgrim's giving page or visit pilgrimcares.org/giving. Save the check – give online!

My Worship Notes

Name _____

What is the name of the church season or special day today?

What is the color of the church today? Circle one: Blue White Purple Red Green

The sermon text was:

This is in the: ☐ Old Testament ☐ New Testament



What is the sermon about?

Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

☐ Yes

☐ No



Communion?

☐ Yes

☐ No

My favorite song today was:

What did you learn about God today?

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What are you thankful for today?

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR
August 9 - August 16

TODAY (9)	8:00 & 9:30am Worship Services
MONDAY (10)	6:00pm Building Committee Meeting
WEDNESDAY (12)	6:30pm Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
SUNDAY (16)	8:00 & 9:30pm Worship Services w/ Holy Communion

Pilgrimcares.org

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