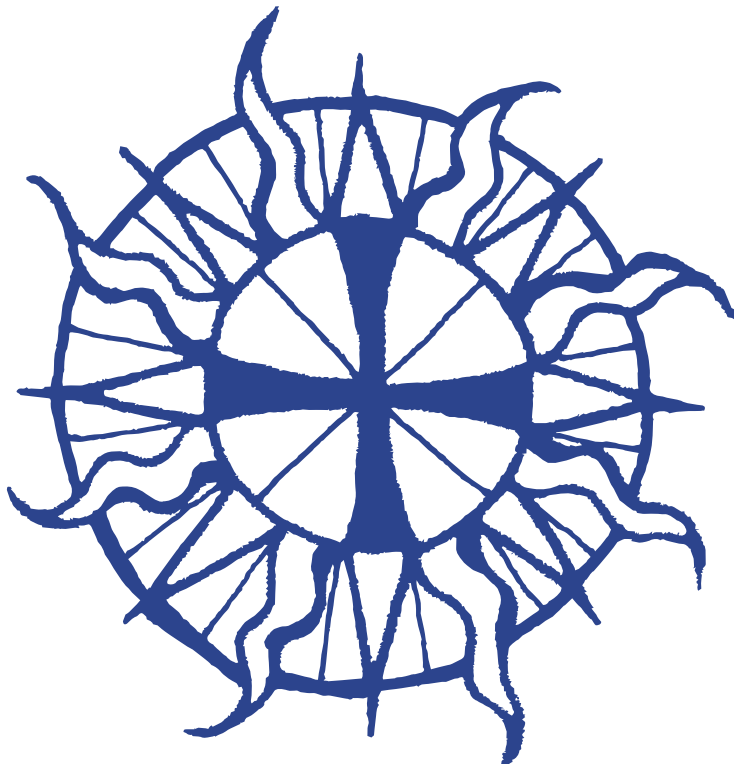




Pilgrim
LUTHERAN
Church

Divine Service



September 6, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



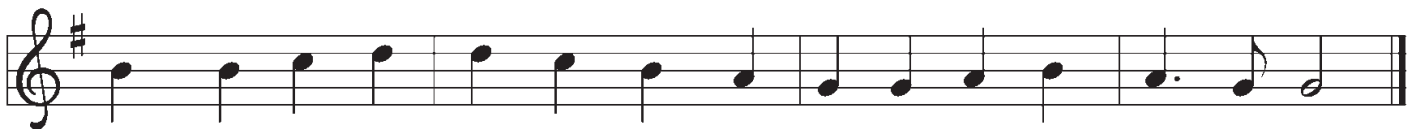
- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

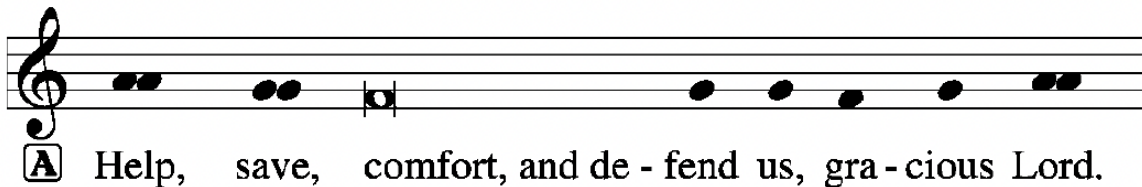
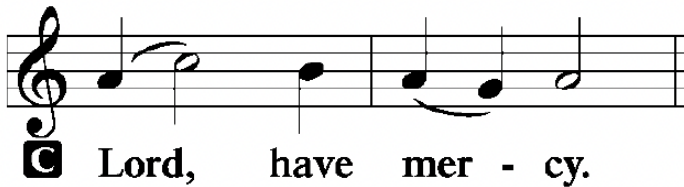
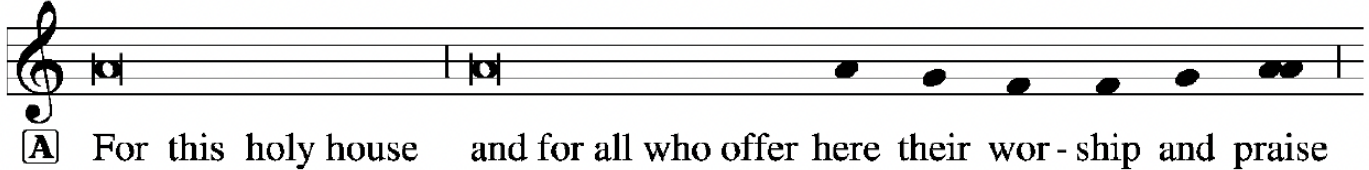
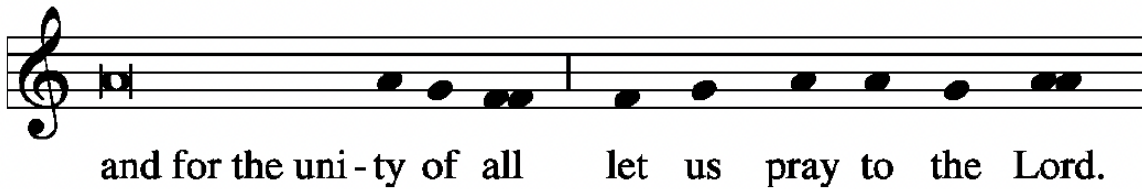
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

Amen.

The first staff of music is in treble clef and contains the following notes: a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The notes are connected by a slur.

3



The Sign of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Songs of Praise

Humble Thyself

Humble thyself
In the sight of the Lord
Humble thyself
In the sight of the Lord

And He shall lift you up
Higher and higher
And He shall lift you up

(Repeat)

Humble thyself
In the sight of the Lord
Humble thyself
In the sight of the Lord
Humble thyself
In the sight of the Lord

Thy Word

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Ezekiel 33

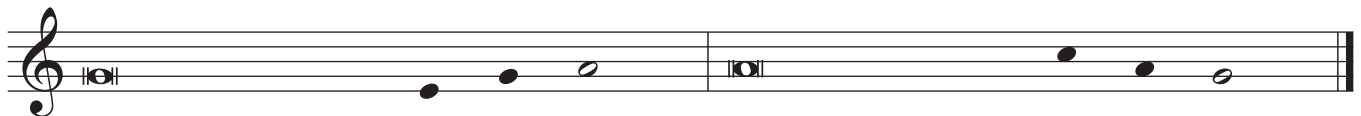
7 "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8 If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die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

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 119

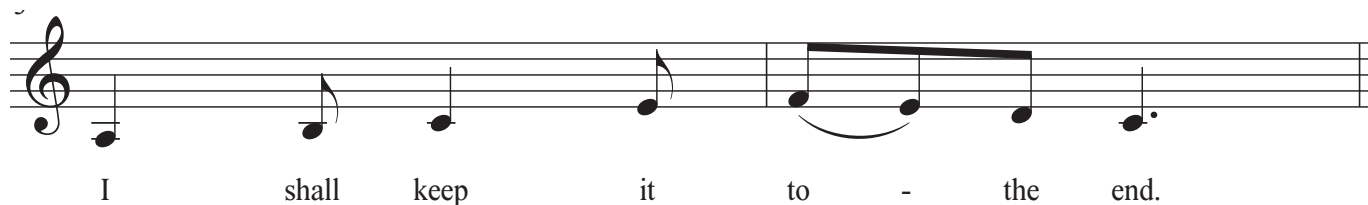
Tone



Refrain



Teach me, O Lord, the way of your sta - tutes and



Refrain: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes and I shall keep it to the end.

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way • of your statutes,
and I shall keep it • to the end.

**34 Give me understanding, and I shall • keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with • all my heart.**

35 Lead me in the path of • your commandments,
for that is • my desire.

**36 Incline my heart to • your decrees
and not to • unjust gain.**

Refrain: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes and I shall keep it to the end.

37 Turn my eyes from be- • holding falsehood;
give me life • in your way.

**38 Fulfil your promise • to your servant,
which is for • those who fear you.**

39 Turn away the reproach • that I dread,
because your judg- • ments are good.

**40 Behold, I long for • your commandments;
by your righteousness en- • liven me.**

**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: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes and I shall keep it to the end.

Second Reading

Romans 13

Let 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. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. 3 For 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, 4 for 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. 5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. 7 Pay 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. 8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the 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." 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes and I shall keep it to the end.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them 3 and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, 6 but 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! 8 And 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. 9 And 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. 12 What 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? 13 And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. 14 So 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. 16 But 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. 17 If 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. 18 Truly, 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. 19 Again 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. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Lew Upchurch

Confession of Faith

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**

Prayers of the Church

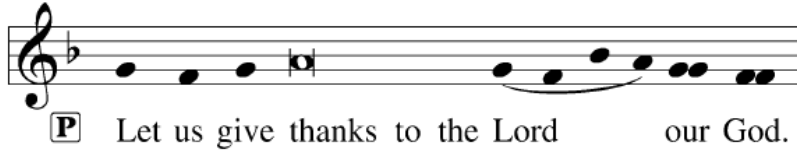
Following each prayer petition:

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Offering

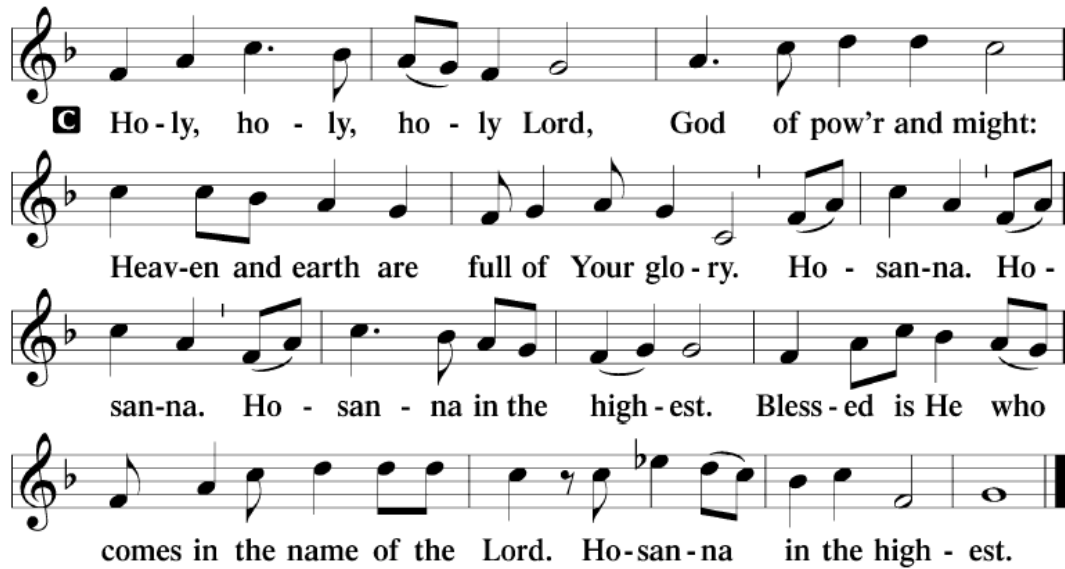
The Sacrament of the Altar

Preface



It is indeed our duty and our joy.... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



We proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

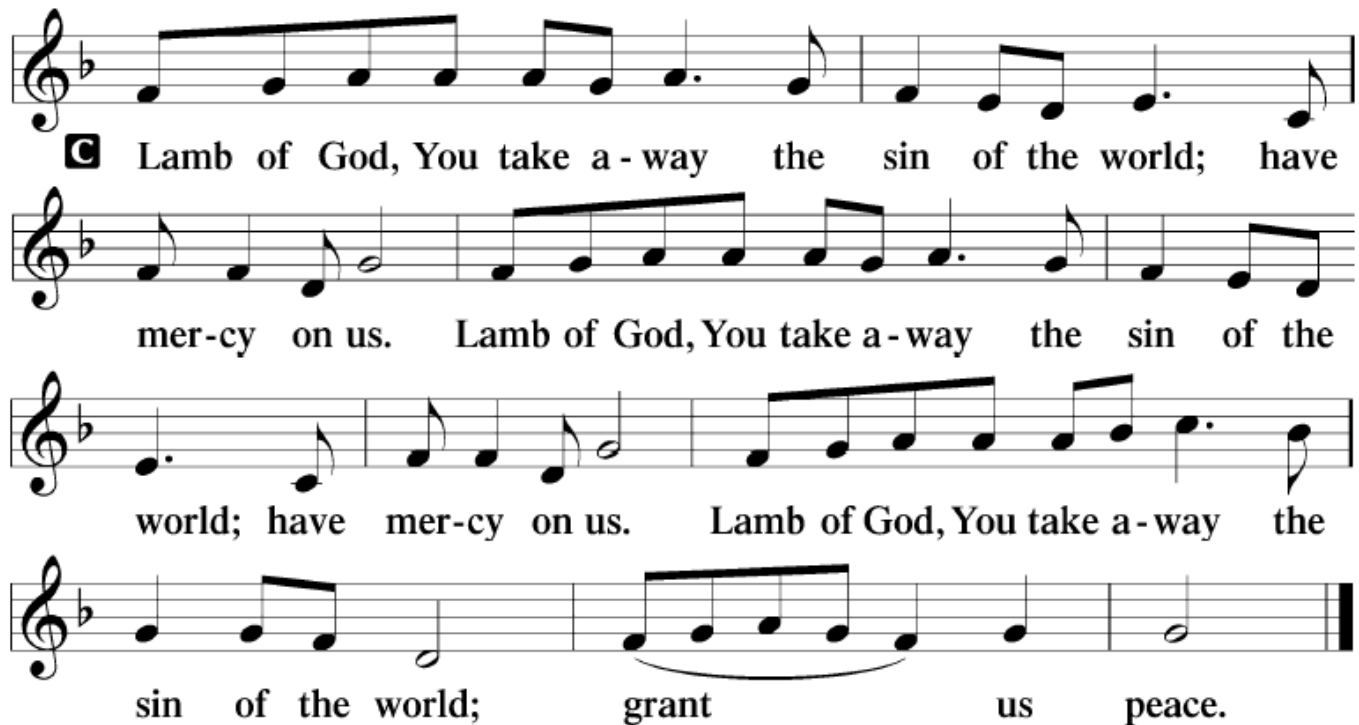
Christ will come again.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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.

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.

Ways to Commune

Intinction – Pastor places bread in hands. Communicant dips bread in chalice held by Communion Assistant.

Sealed Cups – Gluten-Free in Blue and Alcohol-Free in Pink are available (take to seat, and we will commune together).

Prayer – Approach the communion table with arms crossing your chest.

Communion Song

Create in Me

Create in me a clean heart oh God
That I might serve You
Create in me a clean heart oh God
That I might be renewed

So fill me and heal me
And bring me back to You
Create in me a clean heart oh God
That I might serve You

(Repeat)

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Go My Children With My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Announcements

*Please use the basket in the Narthex to dispose of your used
Holy Communion Cups as you leave the Sanctuary*

Postlude

Testify to Love

All the colors of the rainbow
All the voices of the wind
Ev'ry dream that reaches out
That reaches out to find
Where love begins
Ev'ry word of ev'ry story
Ev'ry star in ev'ry sky
Ev'ry corner of creation
Lives to testify

For as long as I shall live
I will testify to love
I'll be a witness in the silences
When words are not enough
With ev'ry breath I take
I will give thanks to God above
For as long as I shall live
I will testify to love

From the mountains
To the valleys
From the rivers to the sea
Ev'ry hand that reaches out
Ev'ry hand that reaches out
To offer peace
Ev'ry simple act of mercy
Ev'ry step to kingdom come
All the hope in ev'ry heart
Will speak what love has done

For as long as I shall live
I will testify to love
I'll be a witness in the silences
When words are not enough
With ev'ry breath I take
I will give thanks to God above
For as long as I shall live
I will testify to love

Serving at Worship Today

Preaching & Presiding

Pastor Lew Upchurch

Director of Music

Mary Harper

Upcoming Events



Learn more about all upcoming events at pilgrimsm.org/calendar

Sunday Morning Bible Studies (9–9:45am)

Wednesday Evening Bible Studies (6–7pm)

– No Wednesday Bible Study on 9/23

Pilgrim Giving



Your faithful financial stewardship is as important as ever. We will be creating cards with QR code to access online giving.

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Pilgrim
L U T H E R A N
Church

Called by the Holy Spirit,
**we are an intergenerational community of
worship and service**
that invites the people of
Santa Monica and beyond
**to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ
through Word and Sacraments.**

Lew Upchurch

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