

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1730 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, California 90403



**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.**

“Pilgrim’s Progress”

November 2023

Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
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November Worship Schedule at Pilgrim

Sunday Worship Service Schedule in November

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class, meets in the Discovery Conference Room.
9:30 a.m. Arrangements can be made to have a short Sunday School Lesson at 9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Worship Service Indoors and on Facebook and Pilgrim's website.

Sunday Morning Bible Class at 9:00 a.m.

Please be sure to attend our Sunday morning Bible Class at 9 a.m. in our Conference Room.
Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D teaches the Bible Class.

Daylight Saving Time Ends November 5th

Just a reminder to set your clocks back an hour Saturday night, November 4th. Otherwise you will be an hour early for church, which will be good because you will be just in time to attend Bible Class! Also, this is a good time to change your smoke alarm batteries.



“O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, and His mercy endures forever.”

Pilgrim's *Annual Thanksgiving Day Worship Service* will be held on **On-line only**, on Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd at 10 a.m.

You may also watch this service later in the day, or even days later. Our worship services are not deleted. This special Worship Service and message will help us remember our wonderful Lord and what He has done for us. We “Pilgrims” are also thankful for our wonderful Rev. John Arthur Nunes, PhD and his amazing, talented wife, Monique Nunes, M.A. It is most appropriate to remember the Lord's goodness at this time.



Thank You, LORD!

Memorial Service for Pilgrim member Dave Kendle:

Our much loved, long time Pilgrim member Dave Kendle, recently passed away. We will hold a Memorial Service for him during our worship service on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at 10 a.m. Dave was a very special man, humble yet brilliant, quiet but with a wonderful, dry sense of humor. Dave had a special way of helping us here at Pilgrim. He was known as the Candle Man, because he carefully changed our candles and took the brass tips home and heated them on the stove to remove the wax! He served on our Council and during his term, he served as the “Treasurer” —but was a “Treasure” to us at Pilgrim. His health had deteriorated these past several years, and his loving wife Regan, brought him to our worship services. Regan, we love you and we thank you for all you have done to bring Dave to his beloved Pilgrim Church Family! You are also like family to us!

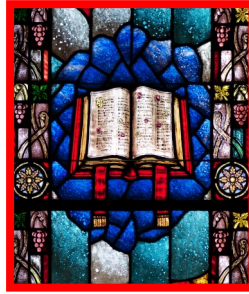
Sunday Gospel Readings for November

November 5 Matthew 5:1–12

November 12 Matthew 25:1–13

November 19 Matthew 25:14–30

November 26 Matthew 25:31–46



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES For Pilgrim

1. Connected Meaningfully in Worship
2. Connected in Spiritual Formation through Intergenerational Christian Education
3. Connected Sustainably to our Future through our Gifts and Resources
4. Connected in Witness and Service to our Neighborhood (including digital connection)
5. Connected in Partnership with Pacifica Christian High School
6. Connected in Care with One Another

October 29, 2023 Reformation Sunday Event

We held a wonderful Reformation Sunday Worship Service with Pacific Southwest District President Michael Gibson, and his wife Kathy joining us. President Gibson gave an uplifting sermon and afterwards we held a special meeting in the gym to update President Gibson on our progress with the Strategic Priorities / Steps Work we have completed this past year. Council members gave reports on the Strategic Priorities Work they have accomplished, some with photos shown on Power Point. The Pacifica A Capella Choir performed during the worship service and Mr. Dan Weinstein played the trumpet. The service was well attended as was the food and fellowship event afterwards. We want to thank Dietmar for the excellent banquet he cooked and for our members who stayed late and helped cleanup afterwards.



November Calendar at a Glance

(Worship Services are in person and on FB and our website.)

November 1 All Saints Day

November 5 †All Saints Sunday Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

November 5 Pastor Nunes on the Lutheran Hour

November 5 Daylight Saving time begins

November 11 Veterans Day, USA Holiday

November 12 †Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

November 12 Encouragement Sunday, 1 Thessalonians 4:18 "Therefore encourage one another"

November 19 †Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

November 23 †Thanksgiving Worship Service on-line 10 a.m.

November 26 †Christ the King Commitment Sunday Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

November 26 We may place our Commitment to the Lord in the wooden church box near Chancel.

We have resumed hosting our after worship service fellowship hour!

November fellowship schedule is:

November 5th Sue and Jane, November 12th Barbara,

November 19th Lana and November 26th Beverly

Thank you to those of you who have been using Pilgrim's on-line giving app via a company called PushPay. The company does a lot of work with Christian Churches.

LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO

The Lutheran Hour was first broadcast Oct. 2, 1930 and continues on the air today, making it the world's oldest continually broadcast Christ-centered radio program. To listen: go to LHM podcasts: <https://www.lhm.org/podcasts/> For 24/7, go to: <https://www.lhm.org/>.

Pilgrim's Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D, can be heard on the Lutheran Hour.

His remaining 2023 schedule to preach is:

Nov 5, 2023 and Dec 31, 2023.

His 2024 schedule is: February 25, 2024, May 5, 2024 and July 21, 2024.

We now have a small "recording studio" where Pastor Nunes can broadcast his Lutheran Hour Sermons.

(He can also record Podcasts and other media.) Recording in Santa Monica will save Pastor time and he will not need to travel to the St. Louis studio as often.



Praise the Lord for Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays in November

Sophia H. November 3
Rebecca S. November 5
Pearl R. November 6
Monique N November 6
Kevin E. November 6
Martin Luther November 10 (Born in 1483)
Kimshelley L November 21
Sue P. November 22

Anniversaries in November

Gaye and Dietmar ~ Nahed & Anthony

Let the church office know when your Birthday or Anniversary is!



“News from Pastor Nunes”

The False God of the U.S.A. ?

Once, when I served as the President and CEO of Lutheran World Relief (2007-2013), I was visiting some of our projects in West Africa. The person who headed up our operations then was a brilliant gentleman named Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou. A distinguished and respected leader, he went on to become the Prime Minister of Niger from 2021 until a coup overthrew his government recently.

However, back in 2010, I was struck by something he shared with me, that in one of the African regions where LWR was working, the population was about 50% Christian and 50% Muslim but 100% Animist. That’s a traditional African religion based, in a nutshell, on the supernatural power of nature and one’s ancestors. He claimed it both undergirded and undermined Christianity and Islam in that part of the world.

Mahamadou’s analysis led me to ask myself, if the USA is 60% Christian and 40% other religions or no religion, what’s the underlying idolatry in the United States of America. Politics, perhaps. Hedonism, maybe. Materialism gets my vote. The relentless rat-race of pursuing more and newer possessions.

We spend money we don’t have, to buy things we don’t need, to please people we don’t really like. Evidence of this false religion of materialism is that Americans hold over ONE TRILLION dollars of credit card debt. Despite the veneer of religious faith, too many of us are more motivated by the false gods of money and materialism than we are by our faith in one, true God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Please prioritize coming to church on Sundays at 10 a.m. during the month of November to learn more about why this is a problem and how Jesus offers a better way of living.



In Our Prayers. . . .

Prayers of Intercession

Brad, Enteritis
Mark F. seriously ill
Regan K, passing of Dave K.
Goldie, for peace
Ralph W. for peace
For those with Dystonia
For James, Speech Apraxia
For Randy—breathing issues
Mark C.—Lungs
Roger H. —Hepatitis C
Medical personnel, first responders
Hilda's mother Berjik, Health
Tiffany's mother and family
Social Justice, End of Racism
Kathy, heart and shoulder
Grace, Dystonia
Edith A. shoulder
Pearl R. Stroke recovery
Jim K, myasthenia gravis & cancer
Neven, heart procedure
Corine, health
Julia A. fibromyalgia, arthritis
Cyndy for heart issues
Mary's mother
Pastor G. health and eyesight
Frank, ALS
Annie, Cystic Fibrosis
Greater Evangelism
Marriage difficulties
Unemployment
Lamar, needs housing
Natalie-Restoration
Alex B. for recovery
Mary Ann's health
Sharon C. -Healing
Kathy H's sister Alice—MS
For Missionaries
Laurie's mother
Abused children
Steve G. tumors
Linda with Alzheimer's
Peace on Earth toward all people!

Prayers for Those Fighting Cancer

Valerie—cancer
Jackson, lymphoma, friend of
Kimshelley & Joe
Valerie in Chicago
Bob's cousin Doug, pancreatic cancer.
Ramona's niece Harriett
and Harriett's' husband
Dan, both fighting cancer
JoAnna, breast cancer
Arthur N.-cancer
Russel-pancreatic cancer
Myrna, Bob's stepmom
Susan M.
Rudolph A.
George D. Bladder cancer
Cezanne, intestinal cancer
Carole, stomach
Cindy C.
Monique Y.
Steve H.
Susan S.
Ken B.
Hilda's husband Jim
Ivan P.
Dana A.
Kay T.
Kim
Zack
Bob's Aunt
Charles (prostate)
Rich Z.
Greg W.
Paul
Jill
Paul
Arminda, kidney cancer
Continued Prayers
Protection for Police Of-
ficers & Firefighters
Protection for our troops
Jews for Jesus Ministry
The ill and lonely
Persecuted Christians
Andrew S. in military

Prayers of Praise & Thanks

For the Birth of Jesus!
For our Wonderful Country!
For Pilgrim's Wonderful Volunteers!

Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask that you hear and honor our prayers, as we pray for healing for those who are sick, for comfort for those who are dying and for happiness for those who have been healed and are living successful lives. We know you hear our prayers, and you are in control, not us. We thank you for your beautiful planet, your beautiful trees, flowers, oceans, rivers, mountains and animals. We thank you for your wonderful diverse planet of many countries, many cultures, and many variations in their climate. We thank you for our wonderful USA and we ask that you bless and protect us, guide us and lead us. For those who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus, we ask that through your work here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, via our Pastor Nunes and our volunteers, we may bring unbelievers to Jesus Christ. For those who are already believers, we ask that they continue to support Pilgrim and Pastor Nunes and increase in-person participation here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, CA.

In Jesus Name, Amen



Our Advent Theme this Year is “Peace.”

Our Wednesday night Advent Worship Services will be held **on-line only**, December 6th, 18th and 20th. At 6 p.m. All our worships services remain on-line, we do not delete them, so you may watch them later in the day or on another date. We plan to hold our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services in-person and on-line. Additional information will be forthcoming. We want to thank Mat M. for his excellent filming and for Mary H. and our music department for their help with our on-line only worship services.

The Pacifica-Pilgrim Philosophy/Theology October 20th Event was a huge success!

Many thanks to Mr. Jim Knight, Mr. Trey Dimsdale, Father Alex Earl, Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Phd, Dr. Rachel Nyabadza and Mr. Jeff Ennis for their participation. Approximately 85 persons attended. We want to thank the Pacifica staff for setting up the patio for the food and the gym for the meeting. And thank you Pacifica for ordering the delicious food. Below are photos take at the event.



Thanksgiving and Christmas Collection and Distribution 2023

St. Paul Lutheran Church www.stpaullutheranla.org

November 17-19 and December 15-17 We need your full participation.....Prayer. Donations of food (perishable and non-perishable), clothing, toys, Volunteers to coordinate and organize Volunteers on distribution days Spread the word Faith in Action



Photos from the Pacifica-Pilgrim Philosophy/Theology October 20th Event and also from Pilgrim's wonderful Reformation Sunday event. **Thank you, Dietmar for the feast you prepared for our Reformation Sunday event!**

