Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) ~ LBW Hymn #103 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God (We stay standing as we sing about Jesus, the Lamb of God sacrificed for us to free us from the bondage of sin and death.)

Holy Communion

(Be seated while you wait to be invited forward to receive Christ's body and blood. As you come forward, form a semi-circle. There, we partake of the sacrament together with each other and the saints who have come before us. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.)

Music During Communion

<u>Post-Communion Canticle</u> ~ LBW p. 72 Thank the Lord and sing his praise (We stand and sing once everyone has received the sacrament. In this song or chant, we offer our thanks and express our faith in what God has done for us and promised to do for us in the future.)

+WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD+

(In the final part of our liturgy, we are sent out as evangelists into the world, bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.)

Post-Communion Prayer and Benediction ~ LBW p. 74

(We stay standing as the assistant minister offers a prayer of thanksgiving and petition that God will grant us faith to love our neighbor. The pastor then extends God's blessing across us and our lives.)

Assisting Minister: Let us pray ... Jesus Christ our Lord. **Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor (chanting): Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Congregation (chanting): Amen.

<u>Recessional Hymn</u> ~ **LBW Hymn** #131 Christ is Risen! Alleluia! MORGENLEID (We stay standing and sing. As the cross is carried out, we turn to follow it as we sing. Now nurtured through God's word and sacrament, we are ready to go forth into the world again.)

Dismissal

Assisting Minister: Let us go in peace. The Word has been fulfilled. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

Improvisation on Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 14 – The Third Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Sunday School for adults and children 11:00 am Worship Service with Eucharist 12:30 pm Church Council Meeting Tuesday and Thursday 9am-2pm First Friends Sunday, April 21 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Sunday School for adults and children 11:00 am Worship Service with Eucharist

CHURCH STAFF

Evan McClanahan, Pastor Mario Aschauer, Organist Jimmy Paz, Choir Director Amanda McClanahan, Director of First Friends Cheri Santibanez, Office Administrator Peter Okumu, Sexton Pr. Edwin Peterman, Pastor Emeritus

WORSHIP ENABLERS TODAY

Matthew Scott	Assisting Minister
Donna Bing	Server/Crucifer
Alister McClanahan	Acolyte
Rob and Karen Douglass	Usher
Charlene Kelley, Sally Russell	Altar Guild
Jimmy Paz	Choir Director
Mario Aschauer	Organist
Pastor Evan McClanahan	Liturgist, Preacher

Thanks to David and Carolyn Hokanson for donating flowers for this week.



Organ Prelude

Children's Sermon

The Ringing of the Bell

Introit (Choir)

Greeting and Kyrie ~ LBW p. 57

<u>Hymn of Praise</u> ~ LBW p. 60 This is the Feast

Pastor: Let us pray ... **Congregation: Amen.**

(Be seated.)

FIRST LUTHERAN HOUSTON

The Third Sunday of Easter \sim April 14, 2024 ORDER OF SERVICE

+WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP+

Improvisation on The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness, p. 56 (stand)

Welcome and Announcements

(Children are invited forward for a message just for them. After the message, they can go next door to the nursery with Mrs. Bella.)

(We stand and turn to face the cross at the back of the church as the choir sings. "Introit" means "to enter." Here we begin our church service with the theme of the day announced.)

Processional Hymn ~ LBW Hymn #135 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done VICTORY (We all sing the hymn and turn to follow the cross as it moves to the altar.)

Prayer of the Day ~ LBW p. 21

+WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD+

(In the second part of our liturgy, we hear and respond to God's word.)

First Lesson ~ Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

<u>The Psalm</u> ~ Psalm 4



¹ Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;* you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.

² "You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;* how long will you worship dumb idols and run af- | ter false gods?" ³ Know that the Lord does wonders | for the faithful;*

when I call upon the Lord, | he will hear me.

⁴ Tremble, then, and | do not sin;*

speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.

⁵ Offer the appointed | sacrifices,*

and put your trust | in the Lord.

- ⁶ Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see | better times!"* Lift up the light of your countenance upon | us, O Lord.
- ⁷ You have put gladness | in my heart,* more than when grain and wine and | oil increase.

⁸ I lie down in peace; at once I | fall asleep;*

for only you, Lord, make me | dwell in safety.

Second Lesson ~ 1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

<u>Gradual</u> (choir only) The congregation is invited to join the "Alleluias"

<u>The Gospel</u> ~ Luke 24:36b-48 (KJV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter. C: Glory to you, O Lord

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence.

Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia!

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day ~ LBW Hymn ##333 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me SO NIMM DENN MEINE HANDE

The Nicene Creed ~ LBW p. 64

Prayers of the People

(The assistant minister leads us in prayer for our church, the sick and suffering, our community, and the world. We place trust in our loving God, especially for places and situations beyond our control).

Assisting Minister: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Each petition will end with the response:)

Assisting Minister: Lord, in Your mercy.

Congregation: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Congregation: Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

Offertory

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Merciful Father, Congregation: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Here, Christ comes to us in the sacrament or "sacred act" of the altar. We believe that God brings himself and his forgiveness to us "in, with, and under" the bread and the wine.)

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) ~ LBW p. 69

use in this special meal).

Lord's Prayer ~ LBW p. 71

(Staying standing, we pray the prayer given by Christ himself.)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always. Congregation: And also with you. (We repeat this greeting to those around us as you are comfortable.)

(Be seated as ushers collect the offering and the choir sings. Having heard God's word, we thus respond in faith and thanksgiving through this act.)

<u>Offertory Hymn</u> ~ LBW Hymn #128 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! vs. 3

+WE RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR+

Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface ~ LBW p. 68

(We stay standing, as the pastor leads us in preparation for celebrating communion.)

Eucharistic Prayer #33 and Words of Institution ~ LBW p. 70

(The pastor leads us in prayer, followed by the words which Jesus spoke when he instituted communion. With these words, the bread and the wine are consecrated or "set apart" for God's

Pastor: Blessed are you ... in his holy supper.

Congregation: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed ... remembrance of me