

Holy Communion
(Be seated while you wait to be invited forward to receive the Lord's Supper. Those who prefer to drink from an individual cup may take one from the tray as they proceed into the half-circle; a few cups are pre-filled with grape juice. Those who prefer the common cup may drink directly from the chalice, or dip the bread into it. Return to the seat by the side aisle, placing any empty cups in the tray provided there. 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.)

Post-Communion Canticle - LBW p. 92 *Thank the Lord*
(We stand and sing once everyone has received the sacrament. Here, 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. 94
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.

Recessional Hymn - LBW #328 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*
vs. 5-7 CORONATION

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

Organ Postlude

CALENDAR
Sunday, August 16 – The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:30 pm Council Meeting
Sunday, August 23 – The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

CHURCH STAFF
The Rev. Evan McClanahan, Pastor
Dr. Mario Aschauer, Organist and Choir Director
Amanda McClanahan, Director of First Friends
Cheri Santibanez, Office Administrator
The Rev. Edwin Peterman, Pastor Emeritus

WORSHIP ENABLERS TODAY
Bobby and Sousan Hitt
Assisting Minister & Crucifer/Server
Mark Baird, Tommy Wade, Eric Olson
Ushers
Carolyn Hokanson, Elise Daulley
Altar Guild
Edward Scott
Audio/Video
Mario Aschauer
Organist
Evan McClanahan
Liturgist, Preacher



FIRST LUTHERAN
HOUSTON

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - AUGUST 16, 2026
ORDER OF SERVICE

+ WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP +

Upon entering the nave, please prepare for worship by attentively listening to the prelude.

Organ Prelude
Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness - LBW p. 77 *(stand)*
Welcome and Announcements
The Ringing of the Bell
Processional Hymn - LBW #328 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*
vs. 1-4 CORONATION

(We stand as the hymn is introduced and turn to face the cross at the back of the church. As we sing, we turn to follow the cross as it moves toward the altar.)

Greeting and Kyrie - LBW p. 78

Hymn of Praise - LBW p. 79 *Glory to God*

Prayer of the Day - LBW p. 26
Pastor: Let us pray ...
Congregation: Amen.

Children's Sermon
(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 LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD** +

First Lesson ~ Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody ~ Psalm 133 *(read responsively)*

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

The Second Lesson ~ Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the

mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia ~ LBW p. 83 *Alleluia. Lord, to whom*

The Gospel ~ Matthew 15:21-28 (KJV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you O Christ.

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day ~ LBW #359 *In Christ There Is No East or West*
MCKEE

The Apostles’ Creed ~ LBW p. 85

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

The Prayer of the People

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

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.)

The Offering

Offertory Hymn ~ LBW Hymn #411 *Lord of All Good, vs 3*

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.

+ **WE RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR** +

Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface ~ LBW p. 88

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) ~ LBW p. 89

Eucharistic Prayer #33 and Words of Institution ~ LBW p.90

(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 use in this special meal).

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

Lord’s Prayer ~ LBW p. 91

Agnus Dei ~ LBW p. 92 *Lamb of God*