

Thou mayst bring Him ev’ry grievance.
If thou suffer wretchedness,
Thou mayst boldly ask deliv’rance.
Thou hast such a wondrous Helper,
Who has loved thee evermore,
Who can feel with thee distresses,
Who Himself great suff’ring bore.
Alleluia! God be praised,
Who to us such grace discloses,
And on us, His little flock,
Such benevolence disposes.
That He gave His Son to save us,
Who will never leave His own.
Amen, amen, alleluia!
Sing His praises, everyone.

Offertory Hymn - LBW Hymn #565 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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. 109

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) - LBW p. 110

Words of Institution - LBW p.111

(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. 113

Agnus Dei - Hymn #103 *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God*

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.)

+ 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. 117
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.

Post-Communion Hymn - LBW #215 *O Lord, We Praise You* vs. 1
(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.)

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

Organ Postlude

CALENDAR	
Sunday, October 11 – The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Tuesday and Thursday	
9am-2pm	First Friends
Sunday, October 18 – The Twentieth 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	
Matthew Scott	Assisting Minister
David Stoner	Crucifer/Server
Eric Olson, Mark Baird, Tommy Wade	Ushers
Charlene Kelley, Elise Daulley	Altar Guild
Amanda McClanahan	Audio/Video
Dr. John-Eric Gundersen	Organist
Elizabeth Tait	Choir Director
Evan McClanahan	Liturgist, Preacher



FIRST LUTHERAN
HOUSTON

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - OCTOBER 11, 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. 98 *(stand)*
Welcome and Announcements

The Ringing of the Bell
Introit *(Choir)*
(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.)
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel. V. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice!

Processional Hymn - LBW #210 – *At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing*
(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. 99

Hymn of Praise - Hymn #166 *All Glory Be to God on High*
Verses 1 and 3

Prayer of the Day - LBW p. 28
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 - Exodus 32:1-14
When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has

become of him.” Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.” They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’< The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.” But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody - Psalm 23 *(chanted responsively)*



¹ The Lord | is my shepherd;* I shall not | be in want.

² **He makes me lie down | in green pastures***
and leads me be- | side still waters.

³ He re- | vives my soul*
and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I**
shall | fear no evil;* for you are with me; your rod and your
staff, they | comfort me.

⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble
me;* you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days |**
of my life,* and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.

The Second Lesson - Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy

and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Hymn #239 *(choir only)*

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

The Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you O Christ.

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day - LBW #456 – *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

The Apostles’ Creed - LBW p. 106

**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

Think, Dear Heart, on Jesus Now

by G. C. Schemelli/J.S. Bach

Think, dear heart, on Jesus now,
Acts of kindness He has done thee;
Let thy joyful heart avow
All the blessings He has won thee.
Jesus, King of all creation,
Deigns to call Himself thy Friend;
He has promised thee salvation
When thy life on earth shall end.
He will always hear thy plea;