Offering Prayer
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. 68

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

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 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. 71

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) - LBW p. 72 - *Lamb of God*

Communion Anthem

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.)

Motet

Auf, auf! Die rechte Zeit ist hier
Johann Sebastian Bach, BWV 440

1. Rise up! The hour will not await,
The Saviour stands before the gate;
Ye brethren, hasten to awake ye,
Forget this world, its ways forsake ye.
2. Prevail o'er sleep and come apace,
Our Day-Star and our Lord of Grace,
The saints' sure Hope, the Long-awaited
Is nearer than anticipated.
3. Put on Christ's robe of righteousness,
His life and His obedience trace,
Let not vain care the heart encumber,
Let naught but sin remain in slumber.

Post-Communion Canticle - 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 +

Post-Communion Prayer and Benediction - LBW p. 74
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 #535** *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 15 – The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:30 pm Church Council
Tuesday and Thursday
9am-2pm First Friends
Sunday, November 22 – Christ the King Sunday
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
Pr. Edwin Peterman, Pastor Emeritus

WORSHIP ENABLERS TODAY

Alejandro Acosta	Assisting Minister
Matthew Scott	Crucifer/Server
David Hokanson, Steve Bing, Clint Pustejovsky	Ushers
Dorah Mushi, Lydia Okumu, Charlene Kelley	Altar Guild
Edward Scott	Audio/Video
Mario Aschauer	Organist/Choir Director
Evan McClanahan	Liturgist, Preacher

FIRST LUTHERAN HOUSTON

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 15, 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, *p. 56 (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.)
The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you. *V.* And I will lead back your captives from every place.

Processional Hymn - **LBW #341** *Jesus, Still Lead On*

(We all sing the hymn and turn to follow the cross as it moves to the altar.)

Greeting and Kyrie - LBW p. 57

Hymn of Praise - LBW p. 60 *This is the Feast*

Prayer of the Day - LBW p. 29
Pastor: Let us pray ...
Congregation: Amen.
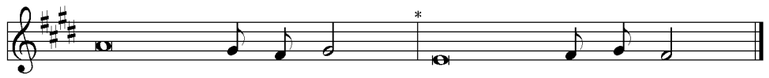
+ WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD +

First Lesson - Judges 4:1-7
The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of

Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"
Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody ~ **Psalm 123** *(chanted responsively)*
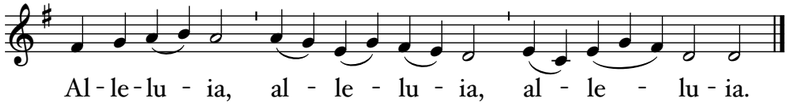


1 To you I lift | up my eyes,*
to you enthroned | in the heavens.
2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand | of their masters,*
and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress,
3 so our eyes look to the | Lord our God,*
until he show | us his mercy.
4 Have mercy upon us, O | Lord, have mercy,*
for we have had more than enough | of contempt,
5 too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich,*
and of the derision | of the proud.

The Second Lesson ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *The congregation is invited to join the "Alleluias"*



V. Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. / Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

The Gospel ~ Matthew 25:14-30
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord
"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
P: The Gospel of the Lord!
C: Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia!

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day ~ **LBW #405** *Lord of Light* (vs. 3 a capella)

The Apostles' Creed ~ LBW p. 65

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

Motet

Mache dich, mein Geist, bereit
by C. Graupner / arr. M. Aschauer

But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
God alone can make you free,
Strength and faith increasing,
So that still mind and will
Heartfelt praises tender
And true service render.

Offertory ~ LBW p. 66 *Let the Vineyards*