

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.

Recessional Hymn ~ **LBW Hymn #397** – *O, Zion Haste* ANGELIC SONGS
(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

CALENDAR	
Sunday, June 29 – <i>Saint Peter and Saint Paul</i>	
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
Monday – Friday	
<i>7 am – 5 pm Elite University Day Camps at First Lutheran</i>	
Sunday, July 6 – <i>The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service

CHURCH STAFF	
Evan McClanahan, Pastor	
Mario Aschauer, Organist/Choir Director	
Amanda McClanahan, Director of First Friends	
Cheri Santibanez, Office Administrator	
Bright Igwenagu, Sexton	
Pr. Edwin Peterman, Pastor Emeritus	

WORSHIP ENABLERS TODAY	
Edward Scott	Assisting Minister
Rob Douglass	Server/Crucifer
Carldiaz Okumu	Acolyte
David Hokanson, Clint Pustejovsky	Usher
Charlene Kelley, Eric Olson	Altar Guild
Amanda McClanahan	Audio/Video
Mario Aschauer	Organist/Choir Director
Pastor Ralph Hobratschk	Liturgist/Preacher

- Today is the Lesser Festival commemorating Saints Peter and Paul. When a lesser festival falls on a Sunday during “ordinary” (Green) time, we observe that festival instead of the assigned readings. Many thanks to Pastor Hobratschk for filling in this Sunday! Pastor McClanahan will be back in the office early this week.
- In Sunday School, we are looking at the book of Revelation. I promise, we’ll keep it simple! Stop in any Sunday to join us at 10:00 am in the parish Hall. There is always coffee on hand.
- We pray for Dorothy Hicks, Mike and Sallie Knerr, and Barbara Scott.
- Many thanks to Caroline McDonald for sponsoring flowers during the month of June! We also have sponsors for the month of July. Let us know via email (office@flhouston.org) if you can sponsor flowers for a week. Our next opening on the schedule will be in June.
- If you are visiting with us today, we’d love to keep in touch. Feel free to email our pastor at pastor@flhouston.org to learn more about the church. Or just fill out a communication card and place it in the offering plate. We would love to keep in touch with you.
- To give, we have offering envelopes on the table by the front door. If you give electronically and want to acknowledge that, we have cards for the offering plate. Or Zelle works at office@flhouston.org.

Contact Us
713.529.3589 * pastor@flhouston.org * www.flhouston.org



FIRST LUTHERAN
HOUSTON

THE LESSER FESTIVAL FOR SAINT PETER AND PAUL ~ JUNE 29, 2025

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. 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.)

Processional Hymn ~ **LBW #533** – *Now Thank We All Our God*
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
(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. 34
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 +
(In the second part of our liturgy, we hear and respond to God’s word.)

First Lesson ~ **Acts 12:1-11**
About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.
Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”
Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm ~ Psalm 34:1-8



¹ I will bless the Lord | at all times;*
his praise shall ever be | in my mouth.
² **I will glory | in the Lord;*
let the humble hear | and rejoice.**
³ Proclaim with me the greatness | of the Lord;*
let us exalt his | name together.
⁴ **I sought the Lord, and he | answered me*
and delivered me out of | all my terror.**
⁵ Look upon him | and be radiant,*
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
⁶ **I called in my affliction, and | the Lord heard me*
and saved me from | all my troubles.**
⁷ The angel of the Lord encompasses | those who fear him,*
and he will de- | liver them.
⁸ **Taste and see that the | Lord is good;*
happy are they who | trust in him!**

The Second Lesson ~ 2 Timothy 4:6-8; 17-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gradual *(choir only)* The congregation is invited to join the “Alleluias”

The Gospel ~ Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia!

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day ~ LBW Hymn #177 – By All Your Saints in Warfare
vs. 1, 10, 11, 3 KING’S LYNN

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

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.)

Choral Anthem

The Offering

(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.)

Offertory ~ LBW #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+

(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.)

Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface ~ LBW p. 68

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

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 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

Please be seated until an usher invites you forward. 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 prefilled with grape juice. Those who prefer the common cup may drink directly from the chalice, or dip the bread into it. Return to your 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. You may place the empty cup in the tray by the side aisle on your way back to your seat.

Music During Communion

Post-Communion Canticle ~ LBW #508 Come Down, O Love Divine, vs. 4

(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.)