

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

(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. 117

(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 #215 – O Lord, We Praise You, vs. 1

GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET

(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, October 5 – The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Tuesday and Thursday

9am-2 pm First Friends

Sunday, October 12 – The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

12:30 pm Church Council Meeting

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

Matthew Scott

Assisting Minister

David Stoner

Server, Crucifer

Thaddeus Brogan

Acolyte

Clint Pustejovsky, Eric Olson, Mark Baird

Usher

Elise Daulley, Adalyn McClanahan

Altar Guild

Amanda McClanahan

Audio/Video

Mario Aschauer

Organist/Choir Director

Pastor Evan McClanahan

Liturgist/Preacher



FIRST LUTHERAN  
HOUSTON

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ OCTOBER 5, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

+ WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP +

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

If you arrive during the Confession, please wait to enter until the Processional Hymn.

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.)

Processional Hymn ~ LBW #356 O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

WALTON

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

Greeting and Kyrie ~ LBW p. 99

Hymn of Praise ~ LBW #166 All Glory Be to God on High

Verses 1 and 4.

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+

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

**First Lesson ~ Lamentations 1:1-6**

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm ~ Psalm 137:1-6**



<sup>1</sup> By the waters of Babylon we sat | down and wept,\*  
when we remembered | you, O Zion.

<sup>2</sup> **As for our harps, we | hung them up\***  
**on the trees in the midst | of that land.**

<sup>3</sup> For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,  
and our oppressors | called for mirth:\*  
"Sing us one of the | songs of Zion."

<sup>4</sup> **How shall we sing | the Lord's song\*    upon an | alien soil?**

<sup>5</sup> If I forget you, | O Jerusalem,\*  
let my right hand for- | get its skill.

<sup>6</sup> **Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not re- |**  
**member you,\*    if I do not set Jerusalem above my | highest joy.**

**The Second Lesson ~ 2 Timothy 1:1-14**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.

For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in

suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Assisting Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual ~ Hymn #239** *choir only, God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage*

**The Gospel ~ Luke 17:5-10**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day ~ LBW Hymn #353** *May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill*

MERIBAH

**The Apostles’ Creed**~ LBW p. 106

**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 #410** *We Give Thee but Thine Own*, vs. 1 and 4

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. 109**

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

**Sanctus ~ LBW p. 110** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

**Eucharistic Prayer #33 and 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 (Lamb of God) ~ LBW p. 114** *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.)*