

A cordial welcome to all who are visiting with us today! Please sign a Visitor Card from the pew rack or the Guest Book near the entrance. Join us after worship for coffee and refreshments on the front lawn or in the narthex.

A Nursery for children under six is available each Sunday morning from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

Lutheran worship calls for more standing than in many non-Lutheran churches. Persons unable to stand during the service may remain seated. Also, persons who have difficulty walking may sit in the very front pew and receive communion there.

Holy Communion in our congregation is open to all baptized Christians. Lutherans believe and teach that in this sacrament Jesus Christ is truly present to heal our brokenness and empower our lives. After the worship leaders have communed, congregants come forward in two lines in the center aisle. They obtain an empty glass or, if preferred, a glass of white grape juice from an usher at the front of the aisle, and then stand around the carpet. Communicants consume the bread and wine right after receiving them, and wait for the blessing. After the blessing, the communicants in front lead the lines to the side aisles, where communion glasses are placed in the baskets provided, and all return to their seats.

Sunday Church School for all ages is available from 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. In the adult class Pastor Peterman is currently teaching a course on The Lord's Prayer. The class meets in the Parish hall.

Communicants are asked to complete a communion card and place it in the offertory.

Calendar

Today	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:30 p.m.	"Get To Know You" Reception and Luncheon
Next Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:30 p.m.	Property Committee meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Service and Care Committee meeting
	6:15 p.m.	<i>Selah</i> Bible Study

The Order of Service

The Prelude

Chorale Partita: "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"
Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

The Ringing of the Tower Bell

Stand

The Introit (Choir)

Where True Charity and Love Abide
Text: Latin, 9th c.
Melody: *Ubi caritas*; plainsong, mode VI

The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

The Entrance Hymn ELW 867

In Thee Is Gladness

The Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The Kyrie **LBW, pages 78-79**

The Hymn of Praise **LBW, pages 81-82**

The Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

O God our rock, you offer us a covenant of mercy, and you provide the foundation of our lives. Ground us in your word, and strengthen our resolve to be your disciples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Sit

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28

¹⁸You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. ¹⁹Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ²⁰Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, ²¹so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth. ²⁶See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: ²⁷the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today; ²⁸and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn from the way that I am commanding you today, to follow other gods that you have not known.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Psalmody (read responsively)

Psalm 31:1–5, 19–24

¹In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me;**
make haste to deliver me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,**
for you are my tower of strength.

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

¹⁹**How great is your goodness, which you have laid up for those who fear you;**
which you have done in the sight of all for those who put their trust in you.

²⁰You hide them in the protection of your presence from those who slander them;
you keep them in your shelter from the strife of tongues.

²¹**Blessed are you, O Lord!**

for you have shown me the wonders of your love when I was under siege. ²²I said
in my alarm, "I have been cut off from the sight of your eyes."

Nevertheless, you heard the sound of my plea when I cried out to you.

²³**Love the Lord, all you saints;**

the Lord protects the faithful, but repays in full those who act haughtily.

²⁴Be strong and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the Lord.

The Second Lesson

Romans 1:16-17: 3:22b-28 (29-31)

Chapter 1

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone
who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God
is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by
faith."

Chapter 3

^{22b}For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;
²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ
Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective
through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he
had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that
he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what
becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law
of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by
the law. ²⁹Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of
Gentiles also, ³⁰since God is one; and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of
faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. ³¹Do we then overthrow the law by
this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Stand

The Verse (Choir Scholar)

In My Distress I Cried unto the Lord

Text: Traditional Gradual for the Day

Setting: Paul Bunjes (1914-98)

The Gospel

Matthew 7:21-29

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord

"[Jesus said]"²¹Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of
heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²²On that day many

will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your name?' ²³Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.' ²⁴Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. ²⁵The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell — and great was its fall!" ²⁸Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, ²⁹for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

The Sermon

Built on a Rock

Stand

The Hymn of the Day ELW 769

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

The Apostolic Creed

**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 Church

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet others near you in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

R: Peace be with you.

Sit

The Offering

The Anthem

Laudate Dominum [Praise the Lord, All Ye Lands]

(from Solemn Vespers)

Text: Psalm 117

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-91)

Stand

The Offertory ELW hymn 884

The Offertory Prayer

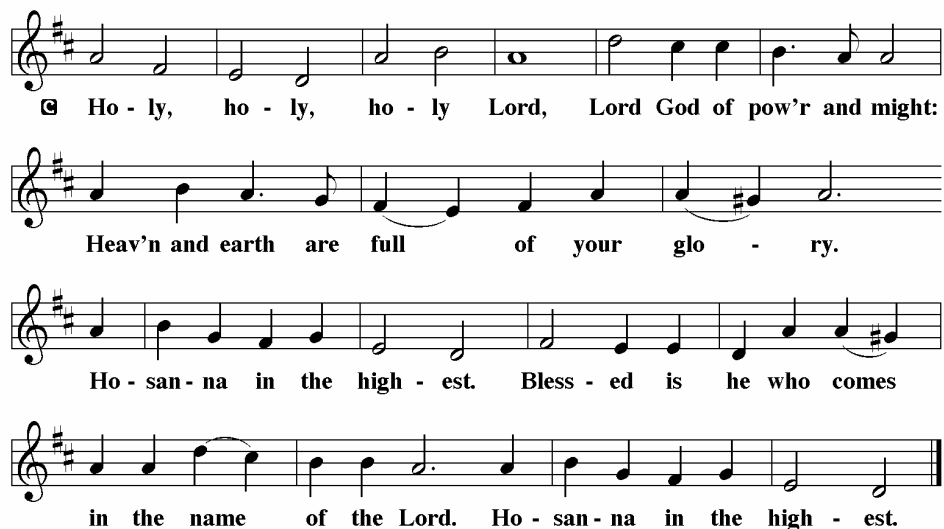
A: Let us pray:

Merciful Father,

C: 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

The versicles, LBW, p. 88, rubric 28

The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer

P. Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus

The Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

The Agnus Dei LBW hymn 103

Sit

The Communion

Communicants consume the elements right after receiving them remain in place for the blessing, and then return to their seats.

The Anthem

Jesus, Lead Thou On

Text: Nicholas L. von Zinzendorf (1700-60)

Melody: Adam Druse (1620-1701)

Setting: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Communion Blessing (After each table of communicants)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Stand

The Canticle **LBW, pages 92-93**

The Prayer

A: Let us pray: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

The Benediction **The Benediction, LBW, p.94**

The Recessional Hymn ELW 596

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

The Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Johann Sebastian Bach

WORSHIP ENABLERS

- Meredith Nelson.....Bell Ringer
- Paul Orton.....Usher
- Victor Houston.....Usher
- Clete Bayer.....Usher
- Cynthia Conrad Bayer.....Usher
- Nick Bayer.....Crucifer
- Caroline Lucke.....Acolyte
- Andrea Ranft.....Server
- Marty Ambrose.....Assisting Minister
- Fran Allen.....Verger
- Tracy Walton, Carolyn Hokanson.....Altar Guild
- Jackson Felder.....Cantor
- Carroll Shaddock.....Director of Worship and Music
- Dorry Shaddock.....Organist
- The Rev. Edwin D. Peterman.....Presiding Minister

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Edwin D. Peterman.....Pastor
Millie Thibodeaux.....Parish Administrator
Marty Ambrose.....Director of Public Relations
Charline R. Thompson.....Office Manager/Secretary
Allison Silk.....Nursery Attendant
Carroll Shaddock.....Director of Worship and Music
Dorry Shaddock.....Organist

Service music reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship*, copyright © 1978
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 6133-L

First Evangelical Lutheran Church was founded in 1851, and played a vital role in the formation of Lutheranism in Texas. The church building is located at Holman and Caroline, across the street from Houston Community College, convenient to the Ensemble/HCC Metro-rail stop in the 3400 block of Main Street.



Houston's Historic
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
1311 Holman Avenue
Houston, Texas 77004
713.529-3589 Office
713.529-0816 Fax
office@felchouston.org
www.felchouston.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

June 1, 2008