

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 July and August the adult class is featuring an open forum each Sunday. The class meets in the Parish hall.

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

Pastor Peterman will return from vacation on July 16.

Calendar

Today	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:30 p.m.	Property Committee meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Service and Care Committee meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Church Picnic
	6:15 p.m.	<i>Selah</i> Bible Study
Monday	7:30 p.m.	Executive Committee meeting
Saturday	6:30 p.m.	<i>Selah</i> Sailing Party
Next Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:30 p.m.	Congregation Council meeting
	6:15 p.m.	<i>Selah</i> Bible Study

The Order of Service

The Ringing of the Tower Bell

Stand

The Introit (Cantor)

Oh, clap your hands, all ye people
Text: Traditional Introit for the Day
Setting: Paul Bunjes (1914 - 98)

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 834

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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:

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Sit

The First Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Psalmody (read responsively)

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**Lord, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all
ages.**

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

The Second Lesson**Romans 7:15-25a**

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God*Stand***The Verse (Cantor)***Come, ye children, hearken unto me*

Text: Traditional Introit for the Day

Setting: Paul Bunjes (1914-98)

The Gospel**Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁶But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." ²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.*Sit***The Sermon****Riddles***Stand*

The Hymn of the Day ELW 332

I Heard the Voice of Jesus

Say

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 (Claire & Elaine Lucke)

Father in Heaven
Bach/Gounod

Stand

The Offertory

ELW hymn 884

The Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray:

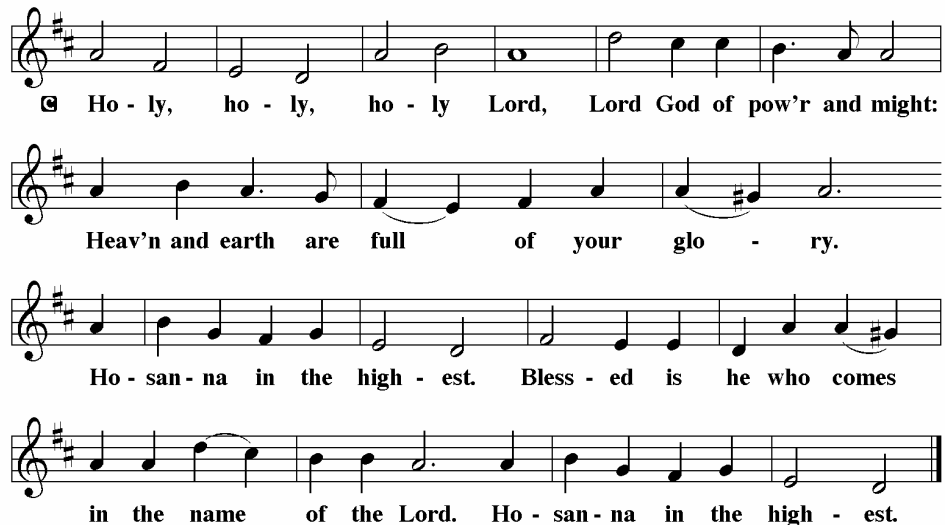
Merciful Father,

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

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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 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 802

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

The Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP ENABLERS

- David Hokanson.....Bell Ringer
- Paul Orton.....Usher
- Victor Houston.....Usher
- Maridith Allen.....Usher
- Meredith Nelson.....Usher

Claire Lucke.....Crucifer
 Curtis Allen.....Acolyte
 Andrea Ranft.....Server
 Marty Ambrose.....Assisting Minister
 Pastor Ken Ribe.....Presiding Minister
 Jeffrey Hokanson.....Verger
 Tracy Walton, Carolyn Hokanson.....Altar Guild
 Jackson Felder.....Cantor
 Cathy Hildreth.....Organist

CHURCH STAFF

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

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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.



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Sunday July 6, 2008