

In Response to God

Activities for the Week of September 7, 2025

Today’s Lectionary: Jer. 18:1-11 and Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; Philem. 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33

Sunday	September 7	9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Worship Service
		11:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Monday	September 8	3-7 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
Tuesday	September 9	3-7 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm	Strength Training
Wednesday	September 10	3-7 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
Thursday	September 11	3-7 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm	Strength Training
Friday	September 12	3-7 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	September 13	9 am-5 pm	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	September 13	9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Worship Service
		11:00 am	Refreshments & Fellowship
			Chancel Choir Rehearsal

ST. LUKE’S STAFF

PastorThe Rev. W. Scott Harbison

Parish Associate..... The Rev. Laureen Suba

Parish Associate..... The Rev. Dr. Bill Wade

Director of Music-Organist/ChoirmasterMarvin Gaspard

Business Manager Patti Ernst

Assistant to the Pastor.....Alana Glover

Artists in Residence.....

..... Sarah Bunk, Ann Guercio, Don Mims & Laura Smith



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St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church
September 7, 2025

The Order of Worship

September 7, 2025

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TOLLING

WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN 371
CRUCIFER

Lift High the Cross

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Congregation: Thanks Be to God.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 78)

Liturgist, Annemieke Luckey

Luke 14:25-33

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 215)

Philemon 1:1-21

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. Margaret Desmond

“The Cost & Freedom of Humility”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

APOSTLE’S CREED

Hymnal p. 14 (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERTORY

Praise God in His Holiness
Van Denman Thompson (1890-1969)

DOXOLOGY 592

HYMN OF PREPARATION 338

African Melody

Kum ba Yah

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Minister: The Lord be with you
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
The prayer continues...
The congregation sings...

Marvin Gaspard (c) 2008

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

DOWN AMPNEY

Come Down, O Love Divine
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
arr. P. R. Dietterich

PEOPLE’S RESPONSE 536

Verse 3

Lord, Make Us More Holy

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

DEXTER

Earth and All Stars
David N. Johnson (1922-1987)
arr. Marvin Gaspard

Welcome to St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church! If you are looking for a church home in Houston, we invite you to unite with St. Luke’s. New members are welcomed by the Session following worship each Sunday. Speak to Rev. Harbison after worship if you have any questions.

Children’s Sunday School meets at 9 a.m. in Rm 115 with Don Mims. Youth Group meets every other Sunday at 9 a.m. with Rev. Harbison leading the group.

Adult Sunday School Class will focus, beginning on Sept. 7, on Gifts of the Holy Spirit that are abilities given by God to believers to help build up the church and serve others. Class members will lead studies and discussion of the gifts which are identified in I Corinthians 12: wisdom, knowledge, discernment, faith, miracles, healing, tongues, interpretation of tongues, and prophecy. We invite you to join us each Sunday at 9:00 a. m. in the Library for our study and discussion.

Joys and Concerns are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving or intercession with the congregation. You will have an opportunity to mention these verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for their 42nd wedding anniversary by Loretta and David Elledge.

Men's Lunch will be on September 18th at 11:00am. Be sure to save the date and plan on joining the men of the church for lunch. The Men's Lunch will be held at Tapesters 4520 Beechnut St, 77096 . If you have any questions please contact Steve Hurysz

The Montrose Street Reach: The upcoming service date is September 18th. Let Jeanne Leach (713.409.0997) know if you would like to bring a dessert or help serve.

Grace Bags: St. Luke’s is asking for supplies for grace bags. Please consider donating: 8 oz. bottles of water, peanut butter crackers, juice packs, granola bars, fruit cups, and/or Vienna sausages. Please contact the assistant to the pastor for more information.

The Flower Calendar: If you would like to provide flowers for our Sanctuary, please choose a Sunday and add your name to the calendar in the Cookie Room. Use the envelopes provided to enclose your check (\$100 for two arrangements) and let us know how to acknowledge your gift.

Serving as the Sunday Liturgist is an easy way to participate in the church community. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Worship services on YouTube: Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, recorded, and stored on our YouTube channel (St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Houston). Subscribe to be notified of new uploads.

Please stand as you are able.