

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE | SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Houston United Methodist Church

October 5, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

Today is World Communion Sunday, when churches across denominations and around the world celebrate communion together, remembering that we are one in the Lord. In honor of World Communion Sunday, we are worshipping today in the languages native to our church members, including English, Swahili, German, Yoruba, French, and Spanish.

PRELUDE

Walk Together, Children
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arr. Andre J Thomas

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We Are Marching (Siyahamba)

TFWS 2235-B

VERSE IN ENGLISH

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.

VERSE IN ZULU

Siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos.
Siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos.
Siyahamb, oo siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos.
Siyahamb, oo siyahamb ekukhanyen kwenkhos.

VERSE IN SPANISH

Caminando en la luz de Dios, caminando en la luz de Dios.
Caminando en la luz de Dios, caminando en la luz de Dios.
Caminando, oo caminando en la luz de, la luz de Dios.
Caminando, oo caminando en la luz de, la luz de Dios.

VERSE IN ENGLISH

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.

WELCOME

Anthony Rogers (English)
Junny Kiboko (French), & Jimmy Muture (Swahili)

*HYMN OF WELCOME

For the Healing of the Nations Vs. 1 & 4

UMH 428

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
(pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find,
(may find) earth its destiny may find.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Rev. Amanda Davis

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Amanda Davis

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always loved you with our whole hearts. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Amanda Davis

Hear the good news... ...in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

RESPONSE OF ASSURANCE

Because He Lives (Refrain)

UMH 364

Refrain: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone,
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

OFFERING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

MINISTRY IN MUSIC

Walk Humbly With Your God
Copyright 2017, Hope Publishing Company
Sanctuary Choir

Joel Raney

What can I bring when I come before the Lord?
What gift, what offering, what perfect song to sing?
When I bow down before my God and King,
What can I offer, what can I bring?
Will the Lord be pleased if I offer all my silver and gold,
If I bring ten thousand rivers, all the wealth that I hold?
If I offer up burnt offerings, all the precious things I own,
If I place all my treasure at the foot of God’s throne?
The Lord has shown you what is good.
No gift, no sacrifice as great as God’s command to strive for justice,
To act with mercy, and to offer God the best that you can.
And to walk humbly with your God.
All that the Lord requires of you is to walk humbly with your God.
To speak with kindness, to seek the truth,
to live and serve with mercy and compassion,
and to walk humbly with your God.
All that the Lord expects of you, all that the Lord
Requires for you to do is to walk humbly with your God.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Courtney Hutchins,
Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick, & Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

Leader: Today we celebrate the tradition of presenting our 3rd graders with their own Bibles...We praise God for this ancient treasure!
Congregation: We praise and thank God for our Bible!
Leader: ...tear off the comic strip. We praise God for the stories of our faith!
Congregation: We praise and thank God for our Bible!
Leader: ...tear off this last sheet to find your Bible. We praise God for this valuable treasure!
Congregation: We praise and thank God for our Bible!
Leader: We praise God for this book of salvation!
Congregation: We praise and thank God for our Bible!

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Forever YHWH

arr. Loehrs & Wall

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Anthony Rogers

Verse 1: Adonai, Elohim, Great I Am, Lives in me.
El Shaddai, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Here with me.

Chorus: Your Name is great, and greatly to be praised.
Your Name is great, And greatly to be praised (Repeat Verse 1)
(Repeat Chorus Twice)

Bridge: Worthy You were. Worthy You are.
And worthy You will be forever, Yahweh.
Worthy You were. Worthy You are.
Worthy You will be forever, Yahweh. (Repeat Bridge) (Repeat Chorus twice)
(Repeat Bridge twice)

*SCRIPTURE

Psalm 103

Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Giving God Our Best Worship

Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Amanda Davis

*HYMN OF INVITATION

One Bread, One Body Refrain, V. 2, Refrain

UMH 620

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.
Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. (Repeat Refrain)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Rev. Amanda Davis

And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord!
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!
It is right to give our thanks and praise!
It is right, and a good and joyful thing...
...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Dolly Ajumobi (Yoruba)

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us...

Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

... Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts

Rev. Dr. Eric Pugh

In Jesus Christ...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Renew our communion with your Church

Mark Buehler (German)

throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the

Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Song of the Wanderer

Dan Forrest

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Sanctuary Choir

This anthem is dedicated to the Glory of God and in honor of Jan and Wilson Cook for their many years of service in the choir.
The barren land around me lies, my flame is burning low;
Cold and pale the winter skies, and I am far from home.
With my light that burns so dim, am I visible to Him?

