

**Draft Agenda**  
**Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod**  
**Synod Assembly, May 15-17, 2025**

Thursday, May 15, 2025

- 10:00 Staff Script Review
- 2:30 Dinner & Synod Council Meeting (Hilton Riverside)
- 4:00 Opening Worship Walk Thru at Episcopal Cathedral
- 6:00 Opening Worship at Episcopal Cathedral (29119 St. Charles Ave, New Orleans)
- 7:30 Dinner on your own

Friday, May 16, 2025

- 8:00 Assembly Check-In
  - *Voting members not checked in by 9:00 am will not be able to participate in the first ballot for Bishop at 10 am*

9:00 **SESSION 1** (90 minutes)

- Opening of the Assembly
- **Intro to Bishop Election**
- **10:00 – Order of the Day: Bishop Ballot 1 (paper)**
- Nominating Committee Report
- 10:25 - Announcements

10:30 **Break**

11:00 **SESSION 2** (90 minutes)

- Song
- Video & Discussion: Disaster Response
  - Pastor Laura Stephenson, Christ the King-Kenner, LA
- Retirements
- Bishop's Associate for Mission Report
- Bishop's Associate for Leadership Report
- General Elections
- **12:10 – Report on Bishop Ballot 1**
- Rostered Minister Anniversaries
- 12:25 - Pre-Lunch Announcements

12:30 Lunch & Learn

**2:00 – Deadline for nominees to withdraw from Bishop Election**

- *Voting members not checked in by 2:00 pm will not be able to participate in the second ballot for Bishop at 3:10 pm*

2:00 **SESSION 3** – Friday 3:30-5:00 (90 minutes)

- Song
- Video & Discussion: Hosanna Hot Meals
  - Pastor Candy O'Meara, Hosanna-Covington, LA
- Live On/LFSW
- General Elections
- Bishop Rinehart's Report
- **3:10 – Order of the Day: Bishop Ballot 2**

3:30 **Break**

4:00 **SESSION 4** (90 minutes)

- Song
- Video & Discussion: Youth Ministry
  - Pastor Katie Jacob, Grace-NOLA
- **4:10 - Report on Bishop ballot 2**
- General Elections Runoff
- VP's Report
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Companion Synod Reports: Peru and CAR
- Churchwide Report
- Portico
- 5:20 – Closing Announcements

- *Those in process must submit bio by 7 pm – to be posted by 10 pm*

5:30 Recess: *Dinner on your own*

Saturday, May 17, 2025

- *Voting members not checked in by 9:00 am will not be able to participate in the third ballot for Bishop at 10:05 am*

9:00 **SESSION 5** (90 minutes)

- Song, Scripture, & Prayer (10 minutes)
- Welcome, Review of Schedule
- Song
- Video & Discussion: (15 minutes): Campus Ministry
  - Pastor Anders Nilsen
- **9:20 - Seven 5-minute speeches (60 minutes)**
- **10:05 – Order of the Day: Bishop Ballot 3 (15 minutes, V-Poll)**
- 10:20 - Announcements

10:30 **Break**

- *Voting members not checked in by 11:00 am will not be able to participate in the fourth ballot for Bishop at 12:05 pm*

11:00 **SESSION 6** (90 minutes)

- Song
- Video & Discussion: ELCA Youth Gathering
  - Deacon Jessica Liles
- **11:15 - Bishop Ballot 3 results**
- Other reports
- Lutherhill Board Meeting (30 minutes)
- Churchwide Report (30 minutes)
- Budget Approval
- Disaster

- **11:35 - Questions with the three candidates (30 minutes)**
- **12:05 – Order of the Day: Bishop Ballot 4**
- 12:25 – Announcements

12:30 Lunch & Learn

2:00 **SESSION 7** (120 minutes)

- *Voting members not checked in by 2:00 pm will not be able to participate in the fifth ballot for Bishop at 10 am*

- Song
- Video & Discussion: Synodical Administration | San Jose Obrero, Houston, TX
  - Bishop Mike Rinehart
- **2:10 - Report of Bishop Ballot 4**
- Vote on Audits/2025-2026 Budget
- **Questions with the two candidates (20 minutes)**
- **2:25 – Order of the Day: Bishop Ballot 5**
- Installations
- Assembly 2026 Reveal
- **2:55 - Bishop Ballot 5 Results**
- Closing of the Assembly

3:30 Assembly adjourns: Go in peace. Sing a new song!

4:30 Synod Council and Staff meet with bishop-elect (45 minutes)??