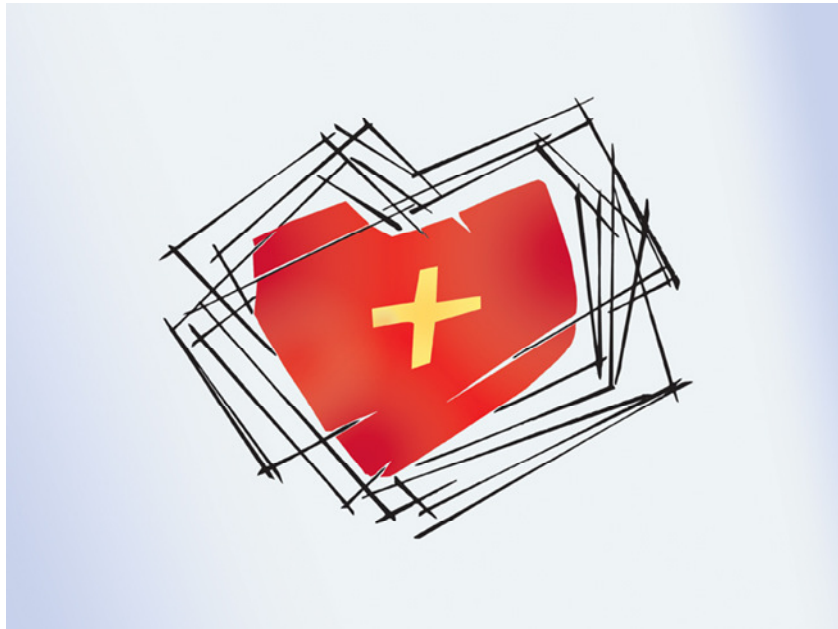




FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

First Lutheran is a community, a gathering of people of diverse ages, cultures and traditions.

Just as Jesus opened himself to all and, by implication, opened the reign of God to all, so we, the members of First Lutheran seek to do the same.

Therefore, all are welcome here regardless of their race, gender or sexual orientation; regardless of their social, economic, educational, linguistic or relationship status; regardless of their citizenship, religious or cultural background or makeup of their family; and regardless of their physical, mental, emotional or spiritual condition. There is a place for you in our community worship, service and life.

To our Visitors: Welcome! You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex (lobby) and join us for coffee and conversation downstairs after worship, where our friendly congregants will meet and greet you.

A special welcome to worshippers who are unable to be physically present and are joining us online for today's service.

First Lutheran is easily accessible via major city routes - 41st Avenue and Kingsway – and Bus #41 runs west from the Joyce Street Skytrain station. Ample parking is available in a lot just west of the church and on the church side of the two streets--Wales Street and 42nd Avenue. The wheelchair entrance is also the office entrance on 42nd Avenue.

For your convenience, there is an elevator in the southwest corner of the building, fully accessible washrooms on the main floor in the northwest corner and two washrooms down the stairs at the east end of the lower level. A childcare play area is on the lower level.

The present building, erected in 1957, is the third in our history. Founded by Scandinavian fishermen, *First Lutheran* is tied closely to the history of Vancouver. Our logo reflects our ethnic and Christian roots, our West Coast location as well as the varied races and cultures which enrich our life and ministry together.

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www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Celly Manirakoze
<i>Lector</i>	Carol Laslett
<i>Acolyte</i>	Jordan Manu
<i>Tray holder</i>	June Schramm
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organist/Pianist</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson Amy MacLeod Derek MacNeill
<i>Percussionist</i>	
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Mikhail Lennikov Felicia Quayson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Felicia Quayson Betty Anderson Mikhail Lennikov
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Janet Filippelli Eve Luong Dan Luong
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mikhail Lennikov Dan Luong Eve Luong Betty Anderson
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Lanny Harris Betty Wong

If you'd like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Iris Kong, our office administrator, at 604.435.6020. If you'd like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Karen Kerfoot at 604.324.7424.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

Worshippers may wish to light a votive candle in memory of a loved one or for meditation. This may be done at any time before or during the liturgy except during community prayers, readings or homily. Since the number of candles is limited and to avoid mishaps, parents and caregivers are asked to be attentive when allowing children to light one.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE

*Andante (Sonata No. 2)
Source of Calm Repose*

George Frederic Handel
G. Winston Cassler

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins the confession.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose name is majestic in all the earth, who rescues and heals in every time of trouble, who does all things well. **Amen.**

Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and saving God,
have mercy on us. In so many ways we cause or suffer brokenness: envy, ambition, conflict, boasting, hard hearts, lashing tongues, and dishonour for the poor. In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts. Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness, the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking, the sheaves of wisdom and justice; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

In the name of + Jesus, the Son of God, receive mercy and find grace in your time of need. Your transgressions are forgiven; God's love is healing balm for your wounds. Continue to pray for one another; care for those who are wandering; and seek the good, that you may live. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

836 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

GREETING

God of hosts most gracious, God the Son who saves us, God the Spirit placed upon us, be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our strength, without you we are weak. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BLESSINGS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

For the marvels of your bountiful creation,

we praise you, O God.

For the opportunity to explore and study and to learn about your ways,

we praise you, O God.

For those who guide us, teachers and mentors, who faithfully and joyfully serve you,

we praise you, O God.

Almighty God, you teach us your ways and guide us in your life-giving path.

Teach us how you are a God who delights in us, who is always with us inspiring life, and who loves us with an embracing love. Bless the Sunday School students and teachers as they journey throughout this upcoming year. Support all who teach and all who learn, that together we may know and follow your ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Though using language and images of a love story, the Song of Solomon has long been interpreted allegorically. Jewish lore sees it as a description of the love between the Lord and Israel. Christians have often interpreted the Song as a description of the love between Christ and his church.

⁸The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

⁹My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Look, there he stands behind our wall,

gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

¹⁰My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;

¹¹for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

¹²The flowers appear on the earth;

the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

¹³The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;

they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Response: Holy Wisdom, holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 45:1–2, 6–9 (sing in unison)

God has anointed you with the oil of gladness. (Ps. 45:7)

Refrain



Tone



¹My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned ¹for the king;
my tongue shall be the pen of a ¹skillful writer.
²You are the noblest a- ¹mong the people;
grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed ¹you forever. R
⁶Your throne, O God, endures forev- ¹er and ever,
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter ¹of your kingdom.
⁷You love righteousness and ¹hate iniquity;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above ¹your companions.
⁸All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, al- ¹oes, and cassia,
and the music of strings from ivory palaces ¹makes you glad.
⁹Kings' daughters stand among the ladies ¹of the court;
on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the ¹gold of Ophir. R

SECOND READING: James 1:17–27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here, Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act — they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

Response to announcement of the Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."
⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."
¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."
²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.
²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY (Silence for reflection follows)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 512 "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" (sung twice)

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Down to the River to Pray

arr. Pepper Choplin

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)*

Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Giving thanks over the gifts)*

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(see back cover)*

The Aramaic Prayer of Jesus

FRACTION *(as the bread is broken)*

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

SHARING OF THE BLESSED SUPPER



It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God’s family — and all our guests — to come to his table where he gives his body and blood, along with the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation under the forms of bread and wine. After receiving the bread into the open, upraised palm, all may drink from the first (common) cup or if desired, have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup. A gluten free option is available upon request.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 628 **“Jerusalem, My Happy Home”**

Adoro Te Devote

Plainsong mode V

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessed, holy Trinity keep you in grace, lead you in light, and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

664 **“Heaven Is Singing for Joy”**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Postludium

John Stainer

Announcements

This Week

Monday

Office Closed

Wednesday

New Sunday Evening Worship Service

Committee Meeting, 7 pm

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Friday

Youth Group, 7 pm at FLC

Next Sunday

Sunday School, 9:45 am

Pentecost 15, 10:30 am

New Sunday Evening Worship Service

Are you interested in sharing your gifts, ideas, and talents in a new way?

Please join us this Wednesday, September 5 at 7 pm to creatively envision and develop a new evening service here at First Lutheran.

Pr. Hergy is on vacation and will be back in the office this Friday.

Confirmation Class

Please notify Pr. Lori-Anne if your child will be enrolled in confirmation class this fall. Usually youth who are 12 years old begin this 2-year course. However, if your child is older and has not yet received instruction, or if you are an adult and would like to engage in study, please speak to Pr. Lori-Anne for a possible modified course.

Youth Group

Youth group will resume next Friday at 7 pm here at First Lutheran. All youth in confirmation class and older are welcome! Please feel free to invite other friends to join in our activities.

Sunday School

Sunday School starts next Sunday at 9:45 am with an exciting new program called "Holy Moly." All children aged 3 years and older are welcome to join. Please notify the office if you child will be attending Sunday School this year.

Our service is webcast live every Sunday at 10 :30 am through www.firstlutheranvancouver.com. Welcome to join us online if you are unavailable to worship at church.

DIRECTORY

Ministers God's Baptized People

Co-Pastors Lori-Anne Boutin
604.720.7255
Richard Hergesheimer
604.430.2536

Minister of Music Jeanette Price
604.251.2656

Office Administrator Iris Kong
604.456.0476

Caretaker Peter dela Torre

Altar Guild Coordinator
Janet Schreiber

Liturgical Artist June Schramm

Church Council

Russell Collins - Chairperson and Seniors
Alex Wilson - Vice Chairperson and Property
Karen Kerfoot - Secretary and
Fellowship and Hospitality
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
John Morley - Stewardship & Finance
Lanny Harris - Fellowship and Hospitality
Christine Neumann - Human Resource
Ingrid Bielenberg - Fellowship & Hospitality
Kim Hoath - Property
Mikhail Lennikov - Outreach & Technology
June Heywood - Education

The Lord's Prayer: The Aramaic Prayer of Jesus (As translated from Aramaic in 'Prayers of the Cosmos' by Saadi Neil Douglas-Klotz)

O, Birther of the Cosmos, focus your light within us –
make it useful
Create your reign of unity now
Your one desire then acts with ours,
As in all light,
So in all forms,
Grant us what we need each day in bread and insight:
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
As we release the strands we hold of other's guilt.
Don't let surface things delude us,
But free us from what holds us back.
From you is born all ruling will,
The power and the life to do,
The song that beautifies all,
From age to age it renews.
I affirm this with my whole being.
Amen.