



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2013**

**WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890**

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.

5745 Wales Street, Vancouver V5R 3N3
Phone: 604-435-6020 Fax: 604-430-6930
Email: info@firstlutheranvancouver.com
www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2013**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider</i>	Bishop Greg Mohr
<i>Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Russell Collins
<i>Lector</i>	Janet Ray
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Janet Filippelli
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson
	Amy MacLeod
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Diana Kuyer Jack Kuyer
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Ernie Neumann Janet Ray Adolf Manz Betty Wong
<i>Anointers</i>	Karen Duddy Julie Bauming Sylvia Schmidt Shannon Ingersoll
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Diana Kuyer Jack Kuyer
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Janet Schreiber Betty Anderson June Schramm
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Ernie Neumann 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 or Christine Neumann at 604.596.1778.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2013
*Holy Communion, Setting Two***

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

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRELUDE

*Saviour of the Nations, Come
Wachet Auf*

Johann Buttsted
Robert Hobby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP

“Light An Advent Candle” Becki Slagle Mayo (*Choir*)
The first candle on the Advent Wreath will be lit during the song

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our life, our mercy, our might. **Amen.**

As we await the day of the Lord, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Great and Holy One,
**in this time of waning daylight,
we confess the shadows of sin in our lives.
We build ourselves up at the expense of others.
We rely on our own efforts to make our lives secure.
Yet you, O Lord, are the potter, and we are the clay.**

**Come to restore us in your image,
remake us into your people,
and rebuild what sin has broken,
that we and the whole creation may rejoice. Amen.**

Fear not, people of God:
the Almighty has done great things for us.
God casts away our sin from us
and makes of us a new creation.
In + Jesus Christ, God comes to set you free.
Take heart in the tender compassion of our God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 263 *“Saviour of the Nations, Come”*
v.3 - women; v.4 - men; v.5 - unaccompanied

GREETING AND KYRIE *(The festive “This Is the Feast” is omitted during Advent)* p. 120

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1–5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: “Let us walk in that light of that Lord now!”

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122 Translated by Nan C Merrill *(read responsively; congregation reads the bold)*

My spirit soared when a Voice spoke to me:
“Come, come to the Heart of Love!”
How long I had stood within the house of fear
yearning to enter the gates of Love!

**The New Jerusalem, the Holy City,
is bound firmly together;
All who seek the Heart of Love,
those who have faced their fears,
Enter the gates in peace and with great joy,
singing songs of thanksgiving.
There, in harmony with the cosmos,
the community gathers united in love.**

Pray for the peace of the world!
May all nations prosper as one!
May peace reign among all peoples,
and integrity dwell within every heart!
**Then will friends and neighbours,
and former enemies as well, cry out,
“Peace be within you!”
For the good of the universe and in gratitude to the Beloved,
Let us serve the Holy One, of all nations with glad hearts.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11–14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Bethlehem Wind

Joseph Martin

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(all sing alleluia verse before and after the reading)*

p. 124

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36–44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, unexpected event that will bring salvation or judgment upon people caught up in the usual affairs of daily life. He urges people to be alert and expectant.

Response after announcement: **Glory to you, O God.**

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Response to conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY *(Silence for reflection follows)*

HYMN OF THE DAY # 242 *“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Lord, in your mercy”, and all will respond by singing “Hear Our Prayer”. (words and music below)



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Anne Krentz Organ

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)*

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 129

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” p. 130

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Prayer over the gifts)*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

FRACTION *(as the bread is broken)*

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

“LAMB OF GOD” p. 135

It is Christ who invites all 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. All are welcome to the table of grace! Bread or a gluten free option are available. All are invited to drink from the first (common) cup or if desired, intinct in the second cup. A gluten free option is available upon request. Please note that full communion is received when only one of the elements is consumed.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 438 “My Lord, What a Morning”
He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah) George Frederic Handel

“NOW, LORD, YOU LET YOUR SERVANT GO” (*All rise*) p. 135

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of wonder, we give thanks that you have fed us once again with this foretaste of the feast to come. Strengthen us through this gift to serve our neighbour with joy, that all may come to see your glory reflected in the lives of your people; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of hope, through Christ our peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN # 260 “The King Shall Come”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace as ambassadors of God’s reconciling love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway Paul Manz

Name Tag Day Today!

There will be blank tags available at the door and downstairs. All are invited to wear a name tag upon arrival at church.

Please keep in mind that many people react to scents such as those in perfumes, colognes and strong soaps. Your help in reducing the use of scented personal products at church will ensure that services are comfortable for everyone. With thanks from Church Council.

Pastoral Care Team Working Group from Parish Care Centre Society will be meeting in Pr. Lori-Anne’s office after worship on December 15.

This Week

Today

Bishop Greg’s Presentation on
Congregational Renewal, 12:15 pm
Advent Evening Service, 6:30 pm

Tuesday

MVA Listening Check-In Meeting, 7-9 pm
(VCC, Broadway Campus,
North Building 1120 East 7th Ave)

Wednesday

Council, 6:15 pm

Thursday

Choir and Christmas Party, 7:30 pm

Saturday

Psalms Study, 11 am
Youth Bowling, 3:15 pm meeting at FLC
(See announcement below)

Next Sunday

Advent II, 10:30 am
Advent Evening Service, 6:30 pm

Youth Bowling

Venue: Town and Country Bowling
745 SE Marine Drive
604-325-2695

Date: this Saturday, December 7

Time: Meeting at FLC at 3:15 pm
Game from 4 - 5 pm

Transportation will be provided. Cost of one game will be covered. Please contact Felix Opoku if you are interested in joining. King_felix_@hotmail.com or 778-709-4483.

Psalms Study Schedule

Dec 7 Psalms 36-40
Dec 14 Psalms 41-45
Dec 21/Dec 28 CHRISTMAS BREAK

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2013
10:45 AM-11:10AM

DECEMBER 15
DECEMBER 22 - SUNDAY SCHOOL
PRESENTS IN SERVICE

Our thanks to **Bishop Greg Mohr** for presiding the worship this morning. After the service Bishop Greg will give a presentation about the **BC Synod Congregational Renewal Initiative** in the lower level.

Fellowship Hosts Urgently Required to help serve tea and coffee during fellowship on Sundays. Experience not necessary – we can pair you up with someone with previous experience. This is a great way to meet members and make new friends. If you would like to help, please contact **Christine Neumann at 604-596-1778** (evenings) or **Karen Kerfoot at 604.324.7424**. Their email address is cl-neumann@shaw.ca (Christine) and karen100@telus.net (Karen).

Volunteers urgently needed for altar set-up and clean-up. The duties include set up the bread and wine for communion between 9:30-10 am and clean up immediately after the service. No experience needed! You will be teamed up. Training will be provided. Contact June Schramm if you are willing to join the team.

Advent / Christmas Schedule 2013

December 1 – Name Tag Day!

10:30 a. m. Advent I Worship – Bishop Greg Mohr presiding at worship
 10:45 a. m. Sunday School
 6:30 p. m. Holden Evening Prayer

December 5

7:30 p. m. Choir and Christmas Party (last practice of the year)

December 7

11 a. m. Psalm Study
 3:15 p. m. Youth Bowling
 (Meeting at FLC and then to Town and Country Bowling, 745 SE Marine Drive)

December 8

10:30 a. m. Advent II Worship – Fikre Tsehai's Presentation on CLWR services
 6:30 p. m. Holden Evening Prayer

December 11

4:30 p. m. Confirmation

December 14

11 a. m. Psalm Study (last session of the year)
 1:30 p. m. Study Session on Mining and Water facilitated by Pr. Lori-Anne
 6 pm Youth Adult Cookie Bake in the lower level at FLC

December 15 – Birthday Sunday

10:30 a. m. Advent III Worship
 10:45 a. m. Sunday School
 6:30 p. m. Holden Evening Prayer

December 18

7:30 p. m. Tree Trimming

December 19

11 a. m. Greater Vancouver Conference Ministerial

December 20

7 p. m. Benefit Concert for Mikhail Lennikov

December 22

10:30 a. m. Advent IV: A Service of Lessons and Carols – Sunday School in service
 5 - 6 p. m. Potluck with Chinese Methodist Church at FLC
 6:30 p. m. Holden Evening Prayer

December 24

Christmas Eve

4:30 p. m. Traditional Candle Light Service (with Communion)
 7:30 p. m. Traditional Candle Light Service (with Communion)

December 25

10:30 a. m. Christmas Day Service

December 29

10:30 a. m. First Sunday after Christmas

January 5

Feast of Epiphany

10:00 a. m. Shared worship with St. Thomas Anglican AT St. Thomas Anglican

Dear Pastor Lori-Anne,

I would like to invite you and members of your congregation to attend the **Metro Vancouver Alliance 'Listening Check-In Meeting'** as observers. **It is being held this Tuesday at the VCC Broadway Campus.**

Over the past few months MVA member organizations have been talking to each other in one-to-one meetings and small groups to surface the issues they care most about. All of our member groups will gather to talk about their experience so far. As observers, you will get greater insight into MVA and what this broad based organizing is all about in our area. The ideas that arise from the listening campaign will form the MVA's public agenda when we launch in March 2014. We would value your participation as we begin to identify our shared concerns.

The meeting will be held from 7:00 – 9:00 pm Vancouver Community College, Broadway Campus, North Building 1120 East 7th Avenue Vancouver.

Warm regards,

The Rev. Margaret Marquardt
 Parish Priest, St. Thomas Anglican Church
 (member organization of MVA)

If you are interested in attending this MVA meeting, please contact Pr. Lori-Anne today.

DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford 604.720.7255
Minister of Music	Jeanette Price 604.251.2656
Office Administrator	Iris Kong
Caretaker	Peter dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Janet Schreiber
Liturgical Artist	June Schramm
Church Council	
	Lanny Harris - Chairperson
	Cheryl Conant - Vice Chairperson & Adult Outreach
	Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
	Karen Kerfoot - Secretary and Fellowship and Hospitality
	Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
	Russell Collins - Human Resources
	Alex Wilson - Property
	Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship and Hospitality
	Kim Hoath - Property
	Christine Neumann - Fellowship and Hospitality
	John Morley - Adult Outreach
	Mikhail Lennikov - Outreach Technology
	Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adult
	June Heywood - Education