



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



CHRISTMAS EVE 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.

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CHRISTMAS EVE 2013

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Celly Manirakoze
<i>Lectors</i>	Phil Schulze (4:30 pm) June Schramm (4:30 pm) Sylvia Harris (7:30 pm) Janet Filippelli (7:30 pm)
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Guest Pianist</i>	Kathryn Roller
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson Amy MacLeod
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Deanna Wilson (4:30 pm) Alex Wilson (4:30 pm) Ingrid Anderson (7:30 pm) June Schramm (7:30)
<i>Ushers</i>	Les Speidel (7:30 pm)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mikhail Lennikov (4:30 set up) Benie Niyungeko (4:30 pm) James Boutin-Crawford (4:30 pm) June Schramm (7:30 set up) Dennis Reid (7:30 pm) Doreen Reid (7:30 pm)
<i>Offering Counters</i>	

CHRISTMAS EVE 2013

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.



PRELUDE

Candlelighting during Gathering Hymn

GATHERING HYMN # 283 “O Come All Ye Faithful”

1. O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O, come, ye, o, come, ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him, born the king of angels: *Refrain*

Refrain:

- O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest: *Refrain*
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

DIALOGUE

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation is invited to blow out their candles.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

Carol # 281 “Silent Night”

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ, the Saviour is born! Christ, the Saviour is born!
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Second Reading Micah 5:2-5a

Carol # 279 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

- O Holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Third Reading **Luke 2:1-20**

Carol **# 289 “Angels We Have Heard on High”**

- Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.
- Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.
- Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Fourth Reading **Matthew 1: 18-25; 2:1-12**

Carol **# 296 “What Child is This”**

- What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
- Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.
- So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him,
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Meditation

Carol **# 292 “Love Has Come”**



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

“O Holy Night”

Adolphe Adam

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(Please rise as you are able)*

Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

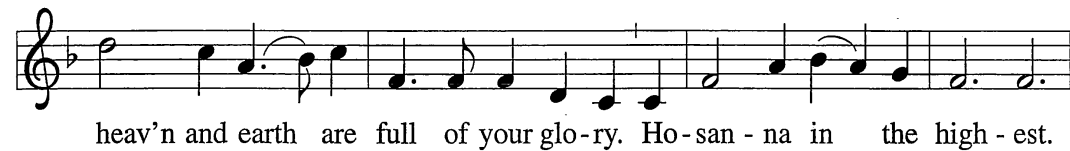
And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name

your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION

Come, taste and see that our Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**

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.

COMMUNION

Carol # 300 "The First Noel"

1. The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain.*
3. And by the light of that same star three wisemen came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain.*
4. This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain.*
5. Then entered in those wisemen three, full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frank incense. *Refrain.*

Carol # 284 "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"



- 1 'Twas in the moon of win-ter-time when all the birds had fled, that
- 2 With-in a lodge of bro-ken bark the ten-der babe was found; a
- 3 The ear-liest moon of win-ter-time is not so round and fair the
- 4 O chil-dren of the for-est free, the an-gel-song is true; the



*God the Lord of all the earth sent an-gel choirs in-stead; be-
rag-ged robe of rab-bit skin en-wrapped his beau-ty round; but
was the ring of glo-ry on the help-less in-fant there. The
ho-ly child of earth and heav'n is born to-day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan-d'ring hunt-ers heard the hymn:
as the hunt-er braves drew nigh, the an-gel song rang loud and high:
chiefs from far be-fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea-ver pelt.
kneel be-fore the ra-diant boy, who brings you beau-ty, peace, and joy.



Refrain
Je-sus your king is born! Je-sus is born, in ex-cel-sis glo-ri-a!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, O God,
that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life,
you give us food for our journey.
As you led the magi by a star,
as you brought the holy family home again,
guide us on the way unfolding before us.
Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim
good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May the Word that Mary brought to birth
carry you into new and abundant life. **Amen.**
May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms
enfold you with love and strength. **Amen.**
May the Word that angels proclaimed in song
bring harmony to our world. **Amen.**
And the blessing of almighty God,
the Creator, the + Redeemer, and the Sustainer,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

267 "Joy to the World"

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing. *(repeat)*
2. Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy. *(repeat)*

3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found. *(repeat)*

4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love. *(repeat)*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is with us. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus (Messiah)

George Frederic Handel



First Lutheran Church is a member of the *British Columbia Synod* (one of five regions) which make up the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)* which in turn belongs to the *Lutheran World Federation* which represents the 80 million Lutherans around the world. For more information on the ministries of the ELCIC (office in Winnipeg, Manitoba), visit its website at www.elcic.ca. For similar information on the BC synod, visit its office in New Westminster or its website at www.bcsynod.org.

Financial support of our congregation's life and mission is provided by the donations of our members given in thankful response to the generosity shown by God in the gifts given to us. Offerings of any amount are gratefully accepted and joyfully spent in our service to Christ and to others.

Have you remembered First Lutheran in your will? Consider how a bequest or gift might continue supporting our mission and ministry.

Our service is web cast live every Sunday starting at 10:20 am through www.firstlutheranvancouver.com/webcast.htm

or

www.livestream.com/flcv

Welcome to join us online if you are unavailable to worship at church. The recording of the service is available for the whole week.

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