



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



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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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 16, 2013

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Hergy
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Lector</i>	Christine Neumann
<i>Acolytes</i>	Nelly Gateka Benie Niyungeko
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutists</i>	Amy MacLeod Anne Johnson Mikhail Lennikov
<i>Guest Pianist</i>	
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Karen Kerfoot John Morley
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Christine Neumann John Morley Ernie Neumann Karen Kerfoot
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Lorna Hau Tony Wong Deanna Wilson
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Ingrid Anderson Wayne Wong Betty Wong
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Amy MacLeod Mikhail Lennikov

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.

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Holy Communion, Setting Seven

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 enormity of our sin is surpassed only by the mercy of God. We come, repentant, to the table of the Lord. In the body and blood of Jesus, in the announcement of our absolution, all our sins are forgiven. "Happy are they ... whose sin is put away." Happy are we.

PRELUDE

*Adagio in A Minor
Air and Variations*

J. S. Bach
Dominico Zipoli

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN # 532 *"Gather Us In"* v. 2 - women; v. 3 - men

GREETING AND KYRIE p. 175

HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast"* p. 177

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 21:1–21a

Ahab and Jezebel ruled Israel in the days of Elijah. Misusing their royal power, they have Naboth the Jezreelite killed in order to seize the land that is his family inheritance. God sends the prophet Elijah to confront them with their sin.

Later the following events took place: Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria. ²And Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard, so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money." ³But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give you my ancestral inheritance." ⁴Ahab went home resentful and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him; for he had said,

"I will not give you my ancestral inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned away his face, and would not eat.

⁵His wife Jezebel came to him and said, "Why are you so depressed that you will not eat?" ⁶He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard for it'; but he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'" ⁷His wife Jezebel said to him, "Do you now govern Israel? Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

⁸So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who lived with Naboth in his city. ⁹She wrote in the letters, "Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the assembly; ¹⁰eat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them bring a charge against him, saying, 'You have cursed God and the king.' Then take him out, and stone him to death." ¹¹The men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them. Just as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them, ¹²they proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the assembly. ¹³The two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him; and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." So they took him outside the city, and stoned him to death. ¹⁴Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned; he is dead."

¹⁵As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, "Go, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead." ¹⁶As soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

¹⁷Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying: ¹⁸Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession. ¹⁹You shall say to him, "Thus says the LORD: Have you killed, and also taken possession?" You shall say to him, "Thus says the LORD: In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood."

²⁰Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, ²¹I will bring disaster on you.

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

LESSON HYMN # 723 *"Canticle of the Turning"* v. 3 - unaccompanied

SECOND READING: Galatians 2:15–21

Paul preaches on the power of God's grace to make us faithful. We are made right with God through Jesus Christ alone, through no work of our own. As a result, Christ's life has become our whole identity.

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come

to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; ²⁰and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

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

ACCLAMATION HYMN # 660 “Lift High the Cross” vv. 1 - 2

GOSPEL: Luke 7:36—8:3

Through a dramatic encounter of rich and poor, righteous and sinner, Jesus teaches the relationship between receiving mercy and responding with a lavish outpouring of love. Jesus also provokes his host by claiming authority to forgive sins.

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

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. ³⁷And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him — that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." ⁴¹A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." ⁴⁸Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing

the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

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

ACCLAMATION HYMN # 660 “Lift High the Cross” vv. 3 - 4

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 641 “All Are Welcome”
v. 2 - women; v. 3 - men; v. 4 - unaccompanied

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Sinfonia from Partita II* J. S. Bach

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 180

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*Prayer over the gifts*)

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.**

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

“LAMB OF GOD”

This Week

Thursday
Choir, 7:30 pm

Saturday
Pr. Hergy's Send-off Roast, 7 pm
(see the page to the left)

Next Sunday
Pentecost V, 10:30 am
Pr. Hergy's Retirement Luncheon, 12:30 pm

Our coffee supply needs to be replenished. If you are able to donate a pound or two, it will be greatly appreciated and helpful.

Congratulations to Jay Schreiber who received the degree of Bachelor of Music from the University of Victoria on June 13, 2013. Jay will continue to study towards a Master's Degree at Mills College in Oakland, CA in the fall.

Congratulations to the young adults in our congregation who graduated from high school this year:
Felix Opoku, Nicole Weger, Rashid Mugisha
We wish them well in the years ahead working or studying.

This morning, at the end of the liturgy, we will celebrate the marriage of Bahman Zabeti and Mina Kahaei. Actually, it will be the "Blessing a Civil Marriage" but, for reasons that will be made clear in the service, this celebration will be much closer to a wedding than a blessing.

Bahman and Mina are both from Iran. Bahman came to Canada (and to First Lutheran) in 2005. On one of his recent trips back to Iran two years ago, he met and decided to marry Mina. They had a civil marriage in Iran in March of 2012 after which Bahman returned to Canada in order to sponsor his new wife to come here. Her arrival, expected to take a couple of years, turned out to be less than nine months and she landed in Canada seven weeks ago. Both Mina and Bahman wanted to have a "church wedding" at First Lutheran and, if possible, have Pr. Hergy perform the wedding. That is why we are celebrating this joyful occasion today in this place surrounded by their new "family".

Thanks to the following people who made this day a very special one: June Schramm for creating the new overlay on the altar hanging; and Arvid Vimb, June Heywood and Shannon Ingersoll for helping arrange the marriage celebration and the reception following (to which everyone is welcome); and, of course, to Mina and Bahman for "inviting" us to their wedding. May God bless and keep the happy couple always. Please join us downstairs after the service for two parties: the wedding reception and the recognition of those whose birthdays are in June.

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

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- Liturgical Artist** June Schramm
- Church Council**
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 - 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
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 - Suleiman Munyaneza - Outreach Youth & Young Adult
 - June Heywood - Education