



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 22, 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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Janet Schreiber
<i>Lector</i>	Mikhail Lennikov
<i>Acolytes</i>	Omari Hakamineza Vedaste Niyonsaba
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Doreen Reid
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Betty Wong Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Janet Filippelli Sarah Speidel
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jackie Cleroux Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Offering Counters</i>	John Morley 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.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 22, 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

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recall that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

PRELUDE

*Siciliana
Aria in F*

J.S. Bach
G.F. Handel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

Creator, look at our brokenness.

**We know that in all creation only the human family has strayed from the sacred way.
We know that we are the ones who are divided and we are the ones who must come back
together to walk the sacred way. Creator, Sacred One, teach us love, compassion and
honour so that we may heal the earth and each other. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us
by the Holy Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 859 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name.
You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love, and empowered us by your Spirit
to speak the truth in love and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant
that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one
another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 8:18—9:1

Jeremiah's primary task as God's prophet was to announce the terrible destruction that awaited the people of Judah and Jerusalem because of their sin. In this passage, a griefstricken Jeremiah anguishes over the sadness of that message and weeps for his people.

¹⁸My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick.

¹⁹Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land:

"Is the LORD not in Zion?

Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?")

²⁰"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

²¹For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,

I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

²²Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

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

PSALM 79 translated by Nan C Merrill (*read responsively; congregation reads the bold*)

O Merciful Presence, the ignorant seem unrestrained in the world;
they defile the Sacred Altar, your dwelling place within;
they leave those weaker than themselves in ruins.

**Chaos and destruction follow them, as they oppress the poor through deception and greed,
and kill the faith-filled who resist.**

Yes, they have poured out their blood like water throughout the world;
many have disappeared without a trace.

**How long will the unjust bring anguish to the loving,
to those who seek justice and peace?**

How long, O Indwelling Presence?

Will your patience last forever?

When will You awaken our long dormant spirits?

Pour out your Love on every nation, open the hearts of all people;
We await a new birth of Consciousness, we call upon your Name!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1–7

The Pastoral Epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all — this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*all sing alleluia verse before and after the reading*) p. 124

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1–13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest man who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

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

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 651 *"Oh, Praise the Gracious Power"*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God,
the Source of all life and love,
from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God,
the eternal Word of redemption,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with steadfast love.
We believe in God,
the Spirit of wisdom and truth,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God:
Source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Creator God, have mercy."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Just a Closer with Thee* Jack Schraeder

OFFERTORY PRAYER

 (*All rise*)

Let us pray. **Creator, you bless us with many good gifts returned to you from your creation.
Feed us with the Bread of Life, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.129

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

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 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 # 717 “*Let Justice Flow like Streams*”

My Lord of Light David Cherwien

“NOW, LORD, YOU LET YOUR SERVANT” (*All rise*)

p. 135

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Great Creator, you have fed us with bread from heaven.**

Continue to renew us in your truth, to give light to our minds, strength to our bodies and seal us with your Holy Spirit.

We ask this in Christ’s name. Amen.

SENDING

GODSPEED AND FAREWELL

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN # 538 “*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*”

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

Jonathan Reuss

This Week

Wednesday

Council, 6:15 pm

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Saturday

Joint Convention, 9 - 4 pm

(See announcement below)

Next Sunday

Pentecost 19, 10:30 am

Sunday School, 10:45 am

Lower Fraser Valley and Greater Vancouver Conferences Joint Convention

September 28, 2013, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Registration @ 9:00 am

at Grace Lutheran Church

7283 Nelson Avenue, Burnaby

Rev. Nathan Fong

ofrice@graceburnaby.com

Pr. Lori-Anne and 2 delegates from our congregation will attend the convention.

All those desiring to attend as non-voting delegates are welcome.

Please contact Pr. Lori-Anne if you are interested.

Volunteers urgently needed for altar set-up and clean-up duties. No experience needed! You will be teamed up. Please consider to be part of our worship leading team! Training will be provided. Contact June Schramm if you are willing to help.

Beginning **Saturday, October 5**, Pr. Lori-Anne will be leading a year-long **Bible Study on the Psalms** in the Narthex (please note the change of location). More details are available on the next page.

Psalms Study Schedule

Oct 5	Psalms Study Introduction
Oct 12	Psalms 1-5
Oct 19	NO CLASS (PR L-A ON STUDY LEAVE)
Oct 26	Psalms 6-10
Nov 2	Psalms 11-15
Nov 9	Psalms 16-20
Nov 16	Psalms 21-25
Nov 23	Psalms 26-30
Nov 30	Psalms 31-35
Dec 7	Psalms 36-40
Dec 14	Psalms 41-45
Dec 21/Dec 28	NO CLASSES CHRISTMAS BREAK

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

SEPTEMBER 29

OCTOBER 6—YOUTH SUNDAY
OCTOBER 20

NOVEMBER 5
NOVEMBER 17

DECEMBER 1
DECEMBER 15
DECEMBER 22—SUNDAY SCHOOL
PRESENTS IN SERVICE

Psalms Bible Study, First Lutheran Church **Saturdays, 11am-12:30pm**

Looking for a chance to learn more about God and the Bible?

Looking for a Bible Study that you can join whenever you have the time?

Looking for a chance to connect with others in a community of faith?

Join us for our year of Bible Study on the Psalms!

“Life is always a kaleidoscope of conflicting experiences and emotions—and we find this variety reflected in the contents of the Old Testament psalms.”

*J. W. Drane, *Introducing the Old Testament.**

Within our scriptures is ancient yet relevant poetry that describes the complexity of human life, and the rich relationship that humans have with God. Martin Luther described the Psalms as the ‘little Bible’ or ‘the Bible within the Bible,’ and believed that the Psalms articulate the whole gospel of God’s grace and steadfast love.

The purpose of this course is to provide a safe space to explore the full gamut of human emotion and experience with God not only in the Psalms, but also in our lives. After a brief class introducing the Psalms, five different psalms will be studied and discussed each class. All members of this study will be given the opportunity to bring in personal insights and share unique perspectives and experiences.

You do not have to be a biblical expert to join this study! All that is required is that we all come just as we are, and also with a Bible, writing pad and pencil in hand, to explore the riches that are before us in our faith tradition. No previous knowledge necessary!

Do not worry if you are too busy to commit to the entire year-long course! You do not need to come to consecutive classes in order to join in the study—come whenever you can! All of the psalms will be posted for each specific class so you have the opportunity to read and pray through the poems if you have a chance prior to the study.

If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet posted in the Narthex.

Please stay in the sanctuary for the **Communion Servers meeting** after worship this morning if you have been helping with communion serving or are interested in joining this team.

Fellowship Hosts Urgently Required!

Volunteers to help serve tea and coffee during fellowship on Sundays are urgently needed for the months of May and June. It doesn’t matter if you haven’t done this before – 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).

Suleiman Munyaneza, our youth leader and our council member overseeing the youth and young adult outreach portfolio, will be departing next week to Fort McMurray, AB. Suleiman will be studying trades at Keyano College and also working part-time for the next year and a half. God’s blessings be upon Suleiman on his journey.

Please make note of Pr. Lori-Anne’s new address in Vancouver:
5725 St. Margarets St.
Vancouver, V5R 3H6
Phone remains the same.

We will celebrate with all those who have birthdays in September today after worship. All are welcome to the party.

DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's Baptized 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 Suleiman Munyaneza - Outreach Youth & Young Adult June Heywood - Education