



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 12, 2014**

**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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www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 12, 2014**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Lector</i>	Mikhail Lennikov
<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>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Lanny Harris Betty Wong Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	John Morley Shannon Ingersoll Alysha Ingersoll
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Janet Schreiber Doreen Reid Denise Reid
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Alex Wilson Lanny Harris

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.

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
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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

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

PRELUDE

*Jesus, Lead Thou On
Andante (Concerto No. 2)*

Paul Manz
George Frederic Handel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us come into the light of Christ,
confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy and faithful God,
**we so often choose our own way instead of yours.
We have spoken in ways that have harmed others,
strayed with our hearts, betrayed friends, and hated enemies.
We have broken our promises to love one another.
Search us deeply and create us anew.
Lift the heavy burden of our sin
and by your grace and compassionate love,
free us to follow your way of life. Amen.**

"Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer."
Our God has come among us to loose every bond
and set us free from all that weighs us down.
Receive the forgiveness of all your sins
in the name of + Jesus Christ,
the One to whom we belong. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 305 "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit to love like you love, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant Israel is endowed with the Spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever keep it from fulfilling its task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the new assignment of the servant is to bring light to the nations.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

PSALM 29 (*Cantor sings refrain first; then all sing refrain*)
The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

Refrain



Tone



¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glo-ry and strength.
²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**
⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.
⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**
⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. **R**

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34–43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all.

³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Response after the reading: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13–17

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

Response after announcement: Glory to you, O God.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Response to conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

457 "Waterlife"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Remind us Loving God: We belong to you."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Cornet Voluntary

John Travers

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 180

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

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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.**

INVITATION

"LAMB OF GOD"

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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, to have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 613 *“Thy Holy Wings”*
It Is Well With My Soul Alice Jordan

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN # 551 *“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Postludium* Gordon Young

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.

A huge Thank You to Arvid Vimb, Karen Duddy, June Heywood, Alysha Ingersoll and Elina Singh for helping to build such a beautiful labyrinth for Epiphany!

We will celebrate with all those who have birthdays in January next Sunday after worship.

Our prayers are with Pastor Brian Heinrich and Pastor Matthew Senf and all of the friends and volunteers who were involved with LUMS. Please read the enclosed letter regarding the closure of LUMS ministry.

If you have not yet received your offering envelopes of 2014, please contact Sylvia Harris at 604-736-7073.

Question of the month

What are the pressures on your family and your community?

Please take the time this month to share your thoughts with others in our community both verbally and in written form. The answers will be presented at the upcoming Metro Vancouver Alliance meeting on January 27.

This Week

Today
 Sunday School, 10:45 am
Living in the Light of Christ
 Evening Service, 6:30 pm

Wednesday
 Worship & Music Committee, 9:30 am
 Council, 6:15 pm

Thursday
 Choir, 7:30 pm

Saturday
 Psalms Study, 11 am

Next Sunday
 Epiphany 2, 10:30 am
Living in the Light of Christ
 Evening Service, 6:30 pm

Psalms Study Schedule

Jan 18 Psalms 51-55
Jan 25 Psalms 56-60

Feb 1 Psalms 61-65
Feb 8 Psalms 66-70
Feb 15 Psalms 71-75
Feb 22 Psalms 76-80

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2014
10:45 AM-11:10AM

January 12 & 26
February 2 & 16
March 2, 16 & 30
April 13 & 27
May 11 & 25
June 8 & 22

DIRECTORY

Ministers God's People
Pastor Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
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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
 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
 June Heywood - Education
 Felix Opoku - Youth and Young Adult Outreach

RESULTS OF OUR LISTENING RETREAT

On **November 30, 2013**, all members and friends of First Lutheran were invited to attend our ***'Listening Retreat'*** directed by ***Deborah Littman***, who is the lead organizer of ***Metro Vancouver Alliance (MVA)***, a broad-based alliance of community, labour, faith, and educational institutions. ***The purpose of MVA is to help strengthen our organizations, to help develop stronger leadership, and to help groups of various backgrounds collaborate, identify common desires, and work together with others towards a common good.***

This was a time specifically aimed at helping us to listen mindfully to one another, to strengthen the relationships within our congregation, and to hear the dreams of our hearts both individually and collectively. The listening retreat provided the space to connect one-to-one, in table groups, and in a large group format. We were able to identify some of the issues we care about most: **building a networking structure to better serve members within our congregation, providing various entry-points and connecting points (small group activities, outreach activities) within our congregational life, and the concern of finances within our congregation.**

At the last council meeting on **December 4, 2013**, our council voted in favour to become **members of MVA**. As members, we will have the opportunity to develop leadership, learning new strategies to connect, to network, and to listen to the voices within our congregation, and to develop new goals that we can enact within the near future. As members of MVA, we will learn new ways to strengthen our own internal structure, as well as being provided with a structure to relate and work with people from other institutions.

We are currently asking members within our congregation who are interested to join in the upcoming MVA events, and to serve as a delegate from First Lutheran. On **Monday, January 27, 2014**, from **7-9pm**, MVA will launch its 'kick-off' meeting, and delegates from each institution will represent issues of primary importance in order to develop strategies to work towards the common good. **Please contact Pr Lori-Anne if you are interested and willing to partake in this exciting event geared towards connecting with others from various backgrounds within our city.**

The answer from our question this month, ***"What are the pressure on your family and your community?"***, will be brought forth in this MVA dialogue. If you are able, please take the time to answer and submit this question in our answer box, to dialogue with others at coffee time and to hear the answers of others to this question as well.

Dear Friends of The Lutheran Urban Mission Society

It is with great sadness and deep regret that the LUMS Board of Directors announces the closing of the Lutheran Urban Mission at 360 N. Jackson Street in the Downtown East Side of Vancouver effective December 31, 2013.

Pastor Brian started his ministry in the shelters and soup kitchens of New York at a time when many people were appearing in epidemic proportions with a new and troubling ailment - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. They had Human Immuno-suppressant Virus, and they became the new lepers of this age. Scorned and shunned, these people instantly became the untouchables of North America, abandoned to the scrap heap. But Brian devoted himself to the care of these, and other, discarded people during his time in New York. When he returned to Vancouver, Brian was instrumental in the development of the Lutheran Urban Mission Society.

LUMS was born twenty-one years ago and has operated on the financial edge ever since, serving the DTES faithfully, through thick and thin. That journey has never been easy, but ultimately it was richly rewarding for the people involved, and a vital lifeline for those who were served.

But most recently, despite our appeal to the Lutheran congregations earlier this year to join us in discerning a vision for the future of LUMS, we of LUMS present Board have found no one to forge a new path with. Donations have diminished and the Society has exhausted all its cash reserves. Seeing no responsible financial alternatives, we must close the Mission and release Pastor Brian.

Pastor Brian has been the mainstay of LUMS and the strength of many in this area; he is always there for whoever cries out for help. Many others would have seen nothing but a hopeless task in trying to help the poor, the drug addicts, the alcoholics, the prostitutes, the mentally ill, the sick and injured, the down and out, the homeless, and those who have lost all hope, but Brian has given help and hope to all those whom others had turned their backs on. Brian's loving kindness has shone forth selflessly every day for twenty-one years. Brian Heinrich has lived his life solely for the betterment of those whom society has abandoned, and he now enters a new phase of his life. He will be sorely missed by everyone at LUMS. Thank you, Pastor Brian!

Without the faithful giving, volunteering, and sacrifice of countless individuals, of the Lutheran congregations, and of the Anglican Parishes over the last many, many years it would have been impossible for this unique ministry to have taken place. The current Board of LUMS thanks you on behalf of all those who have served at LUMS, and of all those who have been served by LUMS. Not one shred of this amazing ministry would have been possible without your love and faithful support.

Thank you.

Darcy Olson. Chair.
Lutheran Urban Mission Society