



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 27, 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 - 41<sup>st</sup> 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 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The wheelchair entrance is also the office entrance on 42<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:info@firstlutheranvancouver.com)  
[www.firstlutheranvancouver.com](http://www.firstlutheranvancouver.com)

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 27, 2014**

***Those Serving the Servants Today***

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Sylvia Schmidt
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Linda Collins
<i>Lector</i>	Philip Schulze
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutists</i>	Amy MacLeod Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Percussionist</i>	Derek MacNeill
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Betty Anderson John Morley
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Betty Anderson John Morley Daniel Luong Eve Luong
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Janet Filippelli
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mikhail Lennikov Caroline Weger Nicole Weger
<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.**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**JULY 27, 2014**  
*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**

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

**PRELUDE**

*Chorale  
Andante Religioso*

Henry Purcell  
Alec Rowley

**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.**

In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our strength,

**we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us.**

**We put ourselves first and others last.**

**What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more.**

**Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite.**

**Rescue us from death's grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day,**

**that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

Sisters and brothers,

by God's grace, forgiveness comes to us as a gift.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in + Christ Jesus,

in whom we have forgiveness of sin, and in whom we have life and salvation. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

# 516 *“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”*

**GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 29:15–28**

*The young shepherd Jacob met his match in the old shepherd, Laban, his father-in-law. Laban gave Jacob his older daughter, Leah, when he had promised to give him Rachel. Jacob worked fourteen years to earn his favorite wife, Rachel, but the years seemed like a few days because of his love for her.*

<sup>15</sup>Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" <sup>16</sup>Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup>Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. <sup>18</sup>Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." <sup>19</sup>Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." <sup>20</sup>So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup>Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." <sup>22</sup>So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. <sup>23</sup>But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup>(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) <sup>25</sup>When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" <sup>26</sup>Laban said, "This is not done in our country — giving the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup>Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." <sup>28</sup>Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

*Response after the reading:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 105:1–11, 45b** *(read responsively; congregation reads the bold)*

*Make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples. Hallelujah! (Ps. 105:1, 45)*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, sing praises,  
and speak of all God's marvelous works.**

<sup>3</sup>Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.  
<sup>4</sup>**Search for the strength of the LORD;  
continually seek God's face.**  
<sup>5</sup>Remember the marvels God has done,  
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,  
<sup>6</sup>**O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,  
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD is our God,  
whose judgments prevail in all the world,  
<sup>8</sup>**who has always been mindful of the covenant,  
the promise made for a thousand generations:**  
<sup>9</sup>the covenant made with Abraham,  
the oath sworn to Isaac,  
<sup>10</sup>**which God established as a statute for Jacob,  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**  
<sup>11</sup>saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan  
to be your allotted inheritance." Hallelujah!

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:26–39**

*These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.*

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

## **WON BY ONE TESTIMONY BY JUNE SCHRAMM**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p. 179

#### **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52**

*Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.*

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

<sup>31</sup>He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

<sup>44</sup>The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>Have you understood all this? They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

**HOMILY** (*Silence for reflection follows*)

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**# 518 "We Eat the Bread of Teaching"**

## 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**     *Scenes from Childhood*     Robert Schumann

### OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)*

Let us pray. **God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**     p. 180

**"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"**     p. 181

**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 holy gifts of God for you, the holy people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**"LAMB OF GOD"**     p. 182

*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. Please note that full communion is received when only one of the elements is consumed.*

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION** # 771 *“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”*  
*Be Thou My Vision* Irish traditional

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(All rise)*

Let us pray: **We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have fed us in a way our hearts can understand. Enliven us by your presence in this meal, that we may be your presence in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

**BENEDICTION**

May God the sower make you good and fertile soil. May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions. May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives. God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** # 400 *“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind”* v. 3, unaccompanied

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Toccata* Gordon Young

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# Announcements

**Mark your calendar September 21!**

Congratulations to Jennifer Penner and Brad Langerud who are getting married on Sunday, September 21 at First Lutheran Church! The couple has decided to share this memorable and exciting moment with the congregation at FLC. The ceremony will take place during our morning service. So mark your calendar and come celebrate the wonderful occasion!



## **This Week**

### **Wednesday**

Communion service at St. Thomas, 10 am

### **Next Sunday**

Pentecost 8, 10:30 am

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Thank you to Pr. Sylvia Schmidt for leading the worship this morning while Pr. Lori-Anne is away on holidays.

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Pr. Lori-Anne is on a four-week holiday. She will be out of the province and won't be able to respond to any communication via email or cell phone until she returns to the office on August 20. The Rev. Michael Batten will fill in for any urgent need of pastoral care. He can be reached at 604-434-6111 or via email at priestst@telus.net.

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### **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 call **Karen Kerfoot** at **604.324.7424** or **Christine Neumann** at **604-596-1778** (evenings).

## **DIRECTORY**

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