



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2015

**WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2015**

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 people 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

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Sylvia Schmidt
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Sylvia Harris
<i>Lector</i>	Heather Robbie
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Dennis Reid Doreen Reid Janet Ray Alex Wilson
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ashlee Van Spronsen Stephanie Van Spronsen
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Lanny Harris Sylvia Harris
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Shannon Ingersoll Alysha Ingersoll Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Betty Wong Ernie Neumann

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 Deanna Wilson at 604-430-5893 or Betty Wong at 604-877-1578.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2015
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

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE

Andante in E minor
A Quiet Voluntary for Evensong

Georg Philip Telemann
Basil Harwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN # 520 *"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word"*

GREETING

From God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and neither to add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children--

Response after the reading: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 15 (*read responsively; congregation reads the bold*)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected,
but they honor those who fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health
and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: James 1:17–27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here, Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid

yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act — they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Response after the reading: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 179

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

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

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines."

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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

HOMILY *(Silence for reflection follows)*

HYMN OF THE DAY # 815 *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

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

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Serenade

Franz Schubert

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. **Grape juice is available pre-poured in the trays.** Please note that full communion is received when only one of the elements is consumed.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 772 **“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”**
Mothering God David Cherwien

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*

Let us pray. **Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbour and call others to your feast of love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favour and +give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN # 557 **“Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Caprice

Louis Nicolas Clerambault

This Week

Monday
Centering Prayer, 7 pm

Wednesday
Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am

Next Sunday
Pentecost 15, 10:30 am

**LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:
GRIEF AND GRIEVING PROCESS**

Facilitator: Sandi Strate

To help members and friends who are still in grief and appreciate some extra help, another session is scheduled on

Saturday, September 12
Time: 10:30 - noon

Refreshments provided.
Please register with church office or indicate your attendance on the sign up sheet posted in the narthex.

**CHURCH WORKDAY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

Calling volunteers for another workday!

9 am - noon approximately

Roof gutters, sanctuary cleaning, painting.
All welcome.

Any questions call John Morley
604-435-5674 or jamor@telus.net



Hawaiian Theme BBQ!

First Lutheran Church will be hosting a Hawaiian theme BBQ, **on Sunday, September 20 from after service to 1:30 pm on the lower level. Come dress Hawaiian** and be prepared to dance hula hula and sing! There will be music, burgers and drinks, and a chance to reconnect with our friends and neighbours after the summer! Everyone is invited to bring your own family and friends to join in the fun! **Please contact Deanna Wilson, or Betty and Wayne Wong to indicate your food preference before September 13.** A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex. Volunteers to clean up after BBQ is needed.

Our thanks to Pr. Sylvia Schmidt for leading the worship this morning. Pr. Lori-Anne is on a four-week holiday and will return to the office on September 10. In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Pr. Nathan Fong at 604-433-1515 or office@graceburnaby.com till the end of August. In September, Pr. Jennifer Marlor will fill in for Pr. Lori-Anne in case of pastoral emergency. She can be reached at her cell 204-299-6947 (Manitoba number), 604-988-5838 (office) or mailrevj@gmail.com. All other inquiries except pastoral emergencies are to be directed to the office or chair of council.

**Wisdom Christianity
2-Day Retreat on
Tuesday November 24 9 am - 9 pm
& Wednesday November 25 9 am - 5 pm**

St. Hilda's Anglican Church • 5838 Barnacle St. Sechelt

Wisdom describes a lineage of spiritual knowledge and practice which is not about knowing more, but about knowing more deeply. This retreat will center around three significant voices in the emergence of a renewed Wisdom Christianity today:

- Raimon Panikkar's concept of moving beyond our beliefs about Jesus to the mystical experience of Jesus
- Teilhard de Chardin's notion of the deepening disclosure of Christ in evolution
- The Gospel of Thomas.

Join us for a two-day, non-residential retreat consisting of teaching, chanting, and silent meditation. (Two lunches and one dinner included)

Cost is \$135 before Sept. 1 / \$150 after.

Registration: 604.885.5019 or admin@sthilda.ca

Matthew Wright is an Episcopal priest, writer, retreat leader. He has presented at the 2014 and 2015 SAND conference (Science And Non-Duality). At age 30, he is quickly becoming a leading voice within the emerging field of inter-spirituality. He is working to renew the Christian Wisdom tradition within a wider inter-spiritual framework. He serves as priest-in-charge at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Woodstock, NY. Matthew and his wife, Yanick, live alongside the brothers of Holy Cross Monastery on a biodynamic farm.



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
John Morley - Vice Chairperson
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Mikhail Lennikov - Secretary
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
Alex Wilson - Property
John Morley - Property
Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship & Hospitality
Deanna Wilson - Fellowship and Hospitality
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)
Mikhail Lennikov - Outreach Technology
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults
June Heywood - Education & Human Resources
Marly Zell - Human Resources
Jen Langerud - Human Resources
Brad Langerud - Music and Worship
Ray Hartley - Member at large

Mutual Ministry Committee:

Sandi Strate - Chairperson
Russell Collins
Anne Johnson
Arvid Vimb
Shannon Ingersoll

**Free Wifi is now available at
First Lutheran. To log in:**

**User name: flcwifi
Password: flc1890**

You can find First Lutheran on:
FB: First Lutheran Church Vancouver
TWITTER: FirstLutheranVan

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

With confidence in God's compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

O God, we pray for the church throughout the world. Give its members the inspiration to be doers of the word. Proclaim your grace to their children and their children's children.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the harvest comes to its peak, remind us that we live in a bountiful universe and inspire us to work for continued nourishment for Earth and all its creatures.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Give them the courage to seek peace with justice and to set free every person who is oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all congregations. Inspire and strengthen them to live by your commandments and to be your hands in the community. Make them shining lights to the world.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those waiting for their freedom. Break the chains that bind our human hearts. Console those constrained by any sort of oppression, grief, loneliness, or illness *especially...*
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, we give thanks for those who have held fast to your commandments, *especially...* and we look forward to the day of reunion when we shall all live upon your holy hill.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**