



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 6, 2015

**WELCOME TO  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOUNDED 1890**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 6, 2015**

***Those Serving the Servants Today***

*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 people and cultures which enrich our life and ministry together.

5745 Wales Street, Vancouver V5R 3N3  
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Email: [info@firstlutheranvancouver.com](mailto:info@firstlutheranvancouver.com)  
[www.firstlutheranvancouver.com](http://www.firstlutheranvancouver.com)

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Sylvia Harris
<i>Lector</i>	Christine Neumann
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Guest Pianist</i>	Kathryn Roller
<i>Cantor</i>	Brad Langerud
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Percussion</i>	Derek McNeill
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Ernie Neumann Alex Wilson
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Joy Anderson Ingrid Anderson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Christine Neumann Ernie Neumann Ingrid Bielenberg Betty Wong
<i>Anointers</i>	Janet Filippelli Karen Kerfoot John Morley Sandi Strate
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Donna Dufresne Michael Ray
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Ingrid Anderson Christine Neumann Patricia Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Ernie Neumann Betty Wong

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 6, 2015**  
*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**

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the Baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophesy could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

**PRELUDE**

*Prelude on "Divinum Mysterium"  
Noel Huron*

John Wilkinson  
Denis Bedard

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP**

*"Creator of the Stars of Night"*

Plainsong Mode 1V (Men's choir)

*The second candle on the Advent Wreath will be lit during the song*

**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,  
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Saviour who comes to show mercy,  
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

To you, O God,

**we lift up our souls.**

**You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.**

**Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love.**

**Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth,**

**for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation.  
Remember the gift of baptism:  
your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ;  
you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** # 257 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” v.v.5-8

**GREETING AND KYRIE**

p. 120

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Open our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of the light of the world. By Jesus' coming,  
the dawn from on high shines upon us. Give to all the people of the world knowledge of your  
salvation. Help us to see the work of your faithful hands, now and forever. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9**

*A poem of hope from the school of the prophet Jeremiah speaks of the return of scattered Israel from Babylon, but also looks beyond that to the end times when God's kingdom will be established.*

<sup>1</sup>Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

<sup>2</sup>Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

<sup>3</sup>for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

<sup>4</sup>For God will give you evermore the name, “Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.”

<sup>5</sup>Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east,  
and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

<sup>6</sup>For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies;  
but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

<sup>7</sup>For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

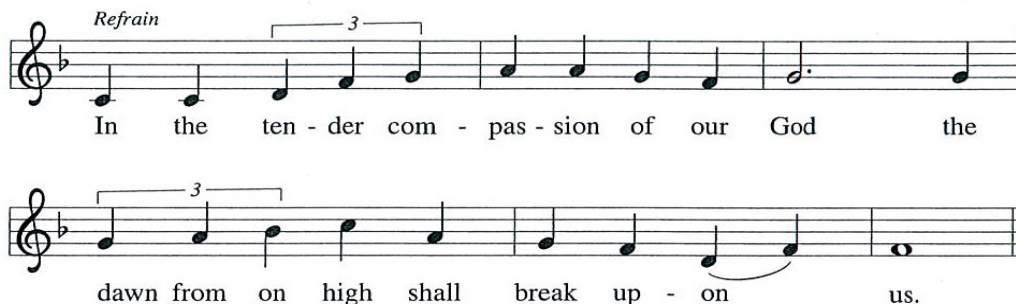
<sup>8</sup>The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.

<sup>9</sup>For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

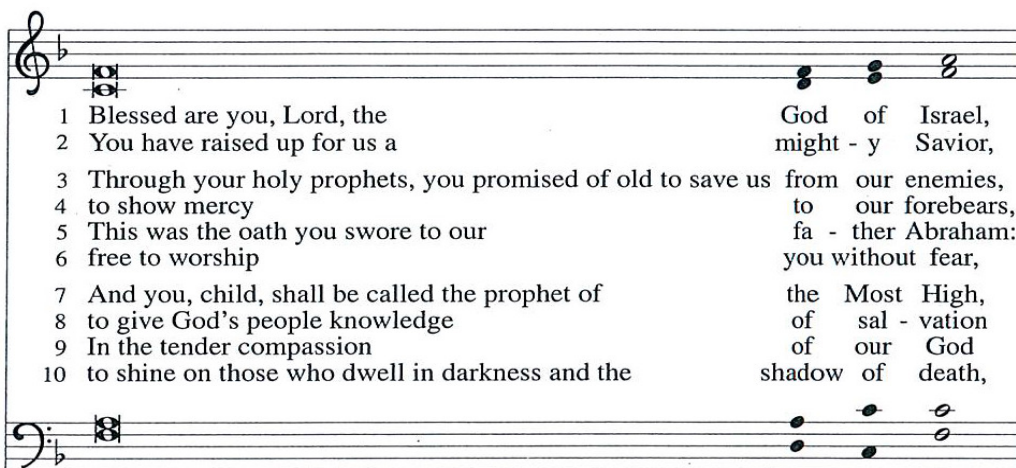
*Response:* Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL CANTICLE: Luke 1:68-79**

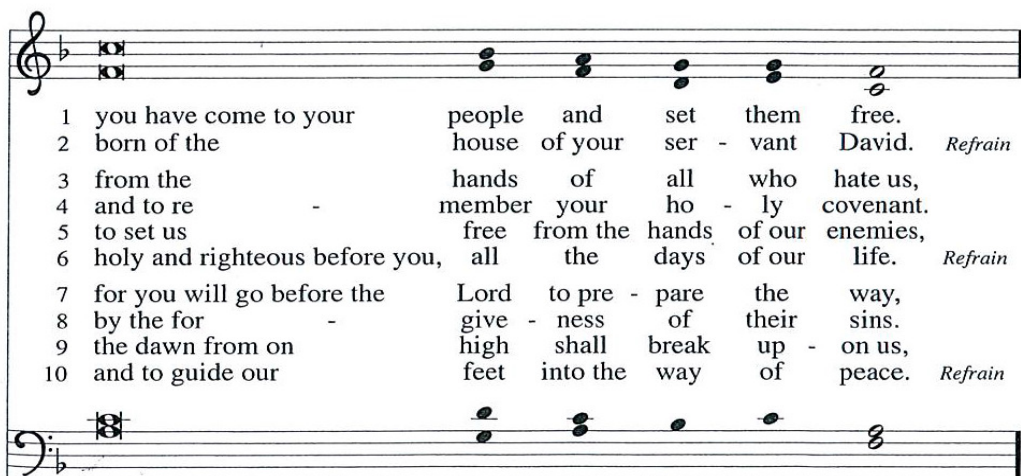
*Refrain*



In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God the  
dawn from on high shall break up - on us.



1 Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
2 You have raised up for us a might - y Savior,  
3 Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
4 to show mercy to our forebears,  
5 This was the oath you swore to our fa - ther Abraham:  
6 free to worship you without fear,  
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
8 to give God's people knowledge of sal - vation  
9 In the tender compassion of our God  
10 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,



1 you have come to your people and set them free.  
2 born of the house of your ser - vant David. *Refrain*  
3 from the hands of all who hate us,  
4 and to re - member your ho - ly covenant.  
5 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
6 holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. *Refrain*  
7 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare the way,  
8 by the for - give - ness of their sins.  
9 the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,  
10 and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Refrain*

**SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11**

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**“Advent Alleluia”**

Keith Christopher

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

p. 124

**GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6**

*John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

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

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

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

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** # 255 *“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Lord, in your mercy”, and all will respond by singing “The Spirit Intercedes”. (words and music on facing page)

The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with  
sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh.

*End*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the words "The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with". The second staff continues the melody for "sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh." and ends with a double bar line and the word "End".

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY**

*Wachet Auf*

Paul Manz

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (*All rise*)

Let us pray: **God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

**MEAL**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

p. 129

**“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”**

p. 130

**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 (as the bread is broken)**

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

**“LAMB OF GOD”**

p. 135

*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 # 266 “All Earth is Hopeful”**

*He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah)* George Frederic Handel

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

p. 135

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, Creator, † Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN # 248 “People, Look East”**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love one another. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Variations on a Swiss Carol*

Louis-Claude Daquin

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On **December 25**, our **Christmas Day Service** will begin at **10:30am**. This year there will be a **community Christmas lunch following the service**, organized by Joseph Nurani. If you are able to attend, volunteer to help set up and/or cleanup, and/or bring a dish, please contact Joseph at 778-714-0691 or jnur@live.ca.



**This Week**

**Today**

Ecumenical Advent Service, 3 pm  
Advent Evening Service, 5:30 pm  
*“Waiting in Darkness”*  
Installation of Rev. Kathy Martin  
as Assistant to the Bishop, 7:30 pm

**Monday**

Centering Prayer, 7 pm

**Tuesday**

Flash Mob, 7 pm  
*Food Court at MetroTown*

**Wednesday**

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am  
Joint Advent Study, 7:30-9 pm at FLC  
*“The Feminine Face of God”*

**Next Sunday**

Advent 3, 10:30 am  
Confirmation, 4:30 pm  
Advent Evening Service, 5:30 pm  
*“Waiting in Darkness”*

**Youth Study on “Animate Faith” 2016**

January 24	February 14
March 13	April 10
May 15	June 5

**Adult Study on “Animate Faith” 2016**

January 31	February 28
March 20	April 24
May 22	June 12

**Sunday School 2016**

**January 10, 24**

**Confirmation class 2015-2016, 4:30 pm**

December 13	January 17
February 7, 21	March 6
April 3, 17	May 8

Students and families are enthusiastically invited to stay for the evening service as part of formation.

**Advent Evening service starts at 5:30 pm**

*“Waiting in the Darkness”*

December 6, 13, 20  
No service on Dec 27 and January 3, 2016.

On Sunday, **December 27** we will worship **with St. Thomas** for a Carols Service at 10:30 am at FLC. We will continue with the tradition of sharing the **Feast Day of Epiphany** on **January 3, 2016** with **St Thomas Anglican Church**. Worship this year will begin at **10:00 am at St. Thomas**.

50 Plus group is inviting everyone to join them for a Christmas Light Tour at VanDusen Garden on **Monday, December 21. The group meets at 7 pm at FLC.** Church van and carpooling will be available. Everyone is invited to return to church for a hot chocolate. The entrance fee is \$16/person for a group of 10 or more, \$13 if less than 10. Please note this is instead of the Christmas Light Bus Tour. Questions, please contact Debbie Powell at 604-346-5568 or debpow50@gmail.com.

### **An Invitation from Adolf Manz**

Do you like to sing? Would you like to use your voice to help spread the Gospel in a fun way?

The call of the Church is to share the message of God's love and grace. This is what you are invited to do on **Tuesday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>** by having a flash mob song presentation/proclamation in the **Food Court at Metro-town Mall**. The suggested time is **7pm**. We would need to gather earlier to take seats and then stand to sing in succession from different locations in the Food Court.

The song is (LBW 267) *Joy to the World*

This fun event is open to all your friends and any others who would like to sing. Feel free to invite them to participate. An invitation is also sent to St. Thomas Anglican Church.

By the way, a Flash Mob is supposed to be a surprise, so don't tell others unless you are inviting them to come sing.

So far we have a couple of people to play a trumpet and flute and 8 others to sing. It has been suggested we have about 40 singers. So here is your chance to have some fun and spread the message of joy to the world.

We may consider 3 or 4 groups of singers, perhaps with the instruments playing an introduction or the first verse, and then each group in turn singing only the words "Joy to the World" from their location, followed by everyone singing the whole verse together.

If your voices are strong/loud enough the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse could be all female voice, the 3<sup>rd</sup> verse all male voice, and verse 4 all together.

It would be great to have 3 or 4 volunteers to take videos, which may be a part of your Christmas greetings to share with friends and family.

Please leave me a message at [adolfmanz@shaw.ca](mailto:adolfmanz@shaw.ca) to let me know of your participation and of others you may have invited. I look forward to receiving your thoughts and suggestions so preparations can be made in time. Send me an email and I'll keep you posted.

Thanks - Adolf Manz

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Accommodation needed for a male tenant near Sarah McLaughlin School of Music (135 East 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver). Another desirable location is the First Lutheran neighbourhood. The tenant has a budget of \$700 for rental per month. If you are able to help, please contact Joy Anderson at [joyanderson24@gmail.com](mailto:joyanderson24@gmail.com).

## 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>Friends InDeed Lead Coordinator</b>	Rev. Margaret Marquardt
<b>Friends InDeed Information and Communication Coordinator</b>	Elina Singh
<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

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### Church Council

Lanny Harris - Chairperson  
John Morley - Vice Chairperson & Property  
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer  
Jen Langerud - Secretary & Human Resources  
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary  
Alex Wilson - Property  
Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship & Hospitality  
Deanna Wilson - Fellowship and Hospitality  
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality  
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)  
TBD - Outreach Technology  
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults  
June Heywood - Education & Human Resources  
Marly Zell - 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

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

**User name: flcwifi  
Password: flc1890**

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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”, and all will respond by singing “The Spirit Intercedes”.*

Emmanuel has come, is here, and is coming soon. Let us join in prayer for the church, the earth, and those who are in need, that all receive what God promises to give. *A brief silence.*

O God, our hope of unity, come to your church around the world. Give to all the wisdom and courage to proclaim your word of forgiveness and renewal. This Advent, help us to prepare for your coming. Make us gifts to one another, that no one remains destitute or despairing. Lord, in your mercy, **sing...**

O God our Saviour, come to the earth that you made. Nurture the health of lands and seas. Give to plants and animals favourable weather. O God of peace, come to all the nations. Inspire leaders with a passion for justice. Bring peace throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **sing...**

O God of love, come to everyone in need. Heal the sick. Answer the cries of those who are poor, those without housing, and those who have fled from violence or famine. We pray *especially* for those whom we name aloud or silently in our hearts... Lord, in your mercy, **sing...**

O Lord of hosts, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful *especially* for those whom we name aloud or silently in our hearts... Bring us with them to your feast of eternal compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **sing...**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and make us ready to receive you when you come through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**