



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 14, 2015

**WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 14, 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. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Linda Collins
<i>Lector</i>	Sylvia Harris
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Guest Pianist</i>	Kathryn Roller
<i>Cantor</i>	Lorna Hau
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson
	Amy MacLeod
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Trombonist</i>	Taka Kasuya
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Alex Wilson
	Deanna Wilson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Alex Wilson
	Deanna Wilson
	Sylvia Harris
	Lanny Harris
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ingrid Anderson
	Joy Anderson
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Sylvia Schmidt
	Paul Schmidt
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mikhail Lennikov
	Daniel Luong
	Eve Luong
<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 Deanna Wilson at 604-430-5893 or Betty Wong at 604-877-1578.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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Holy Communion, "Tree of Life"

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

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

PRELUDE

Arioso
Evening Prayer

J. S. Bach
Englebert Humperdink

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

p. 2

GATHERING SONG

"Tree of Life, Entrance Hymn" (all verses)

p.3

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

³on the psaltery, and ¹on the lyre,
and to the melody ¹of the harp.
**⁴For you have made me glad by your ¹acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works ¹of your hands. R**
¹²The righteous shall flourish ¹like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a ce- ¹dar of Lebanon.
**¹³Those who are planted in the house ¹of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts ¹of our God;**
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit ¹in old age;
they shall be ¹green and succulent;
**¹⁵that they may show how up- ¹right the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is ¹no injustice. R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6–17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord — ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Sing before and after reading. All rise*)

p. 10

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26–34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

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

²⁶He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."
³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

HOMILY *(Silence for reflection follows)*

HYMN OF THE DAY # 679 *“For the Fruit of All Creation”*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**”*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *This Is My Father’s World* Robert Hobby
“COME, LET US BRING” p. 13

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)* p. 13

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 14

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” p. 14

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Prayer over the gifts)*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

p. 17

FRACTION (as the bread is broken)

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

*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.*

“LAMB OF GOD”

p. 17

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

516 “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

Joyous Light

Marty Haugen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

“BY YOUR HAND YOU FEED YOUR PEOPLE”

p. 18

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

p. 19

SENDING

BLESSING

God bless and keep you, this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

856 “How Great Thou Art”

v. 3, instruments only

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Scherzo in B Flat Minor

Frederick Chopin

FIRST LUTHERAN/ST THOMAS JOINT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Are you interested in becoming more involved in outreach to our local community?

Have any ideas for our future?

*Would you like to help our churches join their resources
in connecting with our neighbours?*

Please contact Pr Lori-Anne if you are interested.

This Week

Monday

No Centering Prayer

Wednesday

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am

Saturday

World Refugee Day

(See announcement elsewhere)

Next Sunday

Pentecost 4, 10:30 am

Sunday School, 10:45 am

Sunday School 2015

June 21

Looking for rest, inspiration or challenge this summer? Come to Sorrento Centre! An inviting, family-friendly retreat on the edge of Shuswap Lake, with options for every person, family, group, and budget. Full information at: www.sorrento-bc.ca.

Housing wanted!

Linda, a UBC student originally from Tanzania, is looking for a quiet and safe accommodation starting sometime in the fall. She will be happy with even a spare room in your place. Linda is described a "warm and kind person" and "willing to help out in little ways" around house. If you are able and willing to provide housing for Linda, please contact Pr. Fleming Blishen at (250) 564-4336 or through his email pastorblishen@gmail.com.



Canadian Lutheran & Settlement Orientation Services
World Relief

World Refugee Day Celebrations

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Walk with us in support of refugees

10:15 a. m.

Settlement Orientation Services (SOS)

744 West Hastings Street

Join us for a free Services Fair

11 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Library Promenade

at the Vancouver Public Library

350 West Georgia Street

- Music
- Face-painting
- Refugee services info fair

Events are free and all are welcome!

Please email senait@clwrbc.ca for more info.

Fellowship and Hospitality Committee invites you to be part of the team either by signing up to host the fellowship or by donating supplies, such as cookies, cakes, pies and sandwiches, and also by volunteering to help set up and/or clean up. Goodies can be marked "Fellowship supplies" and dropped off in the kitchen before service. There will be a donation box downstairs during coffee hour for anyone desiring to contribute financially to our Sunday fellowship. Thank you for your engagement, participation and willingness to make our church welcoming and hospitable!

REFUGEE UPDATE

Our refugee family of young parents and Daughters aged 1 and 4 will be arriving on June 24 at 7:25 pm! We need to find enough furnishings for a two bedroom apartment or similar space. Some people have already donated but we need much more, if you have any items in reasonable condition that may be of use please contact directly the following.
Do not just drop off at Church.

For general furnishings - Phil Schulze – philschulze@hotmail.com

For Children's items and Kitchen equipment – Holly Hergesheimer
joshnholly@hotmail.com. Currently Holly is specifically looking for:

Kids Items: - a play pen, cloth / disposable diaper supplies for the 1 year old, kids plates / bowls / cutlery / cups, warm coats, rain coats, boots, crock type shoes, tights.

Kitchen Items: - big pot for boiling, large good quality wok, frying pan, cutting boards, dish rack, electric rice cooker, bowls / plates / cutlery, good chopping knives.

If anyone has some storage room in a garage or other space please call Phil.

We have not yet finalized the accommodation, however, an apartment is on hold in Surrey until we can finalize the application. if anyone has any suggestions where we could house this family please contact Karen Duddy – 604-742-1607.

John Morley will be unavailable this week due to medical condition. Please contact Karen Duddy for general inquiries.

The following is a list of the current Refugee Working Group Portfolios:

Holly Hergesheimer – Children's item and Kitchen utensils

Karen Duddy - Contact other Church organizations to solicit suitable accommodation.

Cheryl Conant - Liaise with Burmese Karen Community.

Phil Schulze – Furniture for two bedroom apartment and Transportation.

Janet Filippelli – All Financial records and Payments from PCC,

Help with finding Interpreters.

Janet Ray – Coordinate registering with Government organizations.

Liaise with CNH and Mosaic.

Fikre – Responsible for all matters at Welcome House.

Senait – Assist Holly with Medical/dental matters.

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**"*

Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.
A brief silence.

Life-giving God, the trees sing of your faithfulness. Give growth to trees and shrubs, grasses and all flowering things, that their beauty may flourish for their sakes and ours.
God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of wisdom, you provide for all peoples and nations. We pray for governments and international organizations, for all who shelter refugees and strive for peace and justice.
God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, you prosper the work of our hands. We pray for the outreach ministries of this congregation, especially as we prepare to sponsor a new refugee family. We trust your Spirit moving through and among us even when we do not see the fruits of our labors.
God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, you know our hurts and failings. We pray for those who are homeless, unemployed, imprisoned, hungry, and sick *especially...*
God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember in thanksgiving the saints who have gone before us *especially...*
Anchor us in the triune God, confident in the abundant life you promise.
God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, gracious God, and those prayers known only to you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

