



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 3, 2016

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

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www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 3, 2016**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Sylvia Schmidt
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Michael Ray
<i>Lector</i>	Heather Robbie
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organist/Pianist</i>	Christopher Sims
<i>Flutists</i>	Amy MacLeod Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Soriya Salehi Deanna Wilson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Karl Van Spronsen Ernie Neumann Karen Kerfoot Julie Bauming
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ashlee Van Spronsen Stephanie Van Spronsen
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Janet Schreiber Christine Neumann Soriya Salehi
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Ernie Neumann 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 Deanna Wilson at 604-430-5893 or Betty Wong at 604-877-1578.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

A Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

APRIL 3, 2016

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 spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

PRELUDE

EASTER ACCLAMATION Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!** (Repeat 3x)

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN # 361 *"The Day of Resurrection!"*

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. Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

LESSON HYMN # 390 "The Risen Christ"

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God,
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (music printed on facing page)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

Hal - le - lu - jah.

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

*Response to announcement of the Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them

and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 622 "*Neither Death nor Life*"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERTORY HYMN # 525 "*You Are Holy*"

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: **Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SENDING

GODSPEED AND FAREWELL

BLESSING

The God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and + bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *# 367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*

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

POSTLUDE

This Week

Today

Sunday School, 10:45 am
No Evening Service
(Evening service resumes next Sunday)

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7 pm

Wednesday

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am
Council, 7 pm (NO MEAL)

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

Easter 3, 10:30
Contemporary Evening Service, 6:30 pm
"Living Anew"

Thanks to the following individuals and families for dedicating Easter lilies to adorn our chancel area. Apologies for not having their names included on Easter Sunday.

Alex and Deanna Wilson

In loving memory of Simon Chou

Anne Johnson

In loving memory of
Floyd and Genevieve Johnson,
And Harry and Grace Kucheran

Lanny and Sylvia Harris

In loving memory of the Becker
and Harris families

Please update your directory with Daniel and Eve Luong's new contact info:

402-3278 Vanness Ave
Vancouver V5R 5A6
778-840-3839 (Eve)
eve_poon@hotmail.com
evpdan@yahoo.ca

Our thanks to Pr. Sylvia Schmidt for leading the worship this morning, and also to Christopher Sims for playing the service while Pr. Lori-Anne and Jeanette are away resting after a busy Holy Week.

Confirmation class 2016, 4:30 pm

April 17 May 8

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

Sunday School Schedule 2016

April 3, 17 May 1, 15, 29

First Lutheran has been invited to join Collingwood Neighbourhood House in the effort of supporting local Syrian refugee families and collecting art supplies (paper, scissors, crayons, pencil crayons, markers, glues, and etc.), toys in clean and good conditions for children of all ages, and books. Please bring your donations to church if you are willing to help. We are also looking for a volunteer to coordinate this effort. If interested, please contact church office.

This morning we bid farewell to Kim Hoath and Randall Hunter, who will be moving to Penticton this Saturday. Our best wishes to Kim and Randall as they explore and enjoy their new home in Penticton.

“Living Anew” Easter Evening services
Featuring Brad Langerud’s original liturgy

April 10, 17, 24 May 1

Evening services will recess after May 1 for the spring and summer, and will resume in the fall.

Youth Study on “Animate Faith” 2016

April 10

May 15 and **June 5** study cancelled due to shortened evening service season.

Adult Study on “Animate Faith” 2016

April 24

May 22 and **June 12** study cancelled due to shortened evening service season.

***A PLACE FOR INQUIRY,
A PLACE FOR FAITH***

*Are you new to the Christian faith?
Looking for a safe space to connect
with others in your faith journey?*

*Have more questions
than you do answers?*

*Interested in learning more
about the Lutheran faith?*

Join us for a 6-week small group study over coffee and snacks on Sunday mornings **9:30am-10:15am** before worship in the lower level.

April 10, 17, 24
May 1, 8, 15

This small group will be an open and safe place for prayer and inquiry, to learn more about and to experience our Lutheran tradition, and to be supported by a faith sponsor. Content for each group session will come from **Daniel Erlander’s, “Baptized We Live.”**

Please indicate if onsite childcare is needed. Please contact Pastor Sylvia Schmidt or Pastor Lori-Anne if you are interested in joining the study.

DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford 604.720.7255
Minister of Music	Jeanette Price 604.251.2656
Friends InDeed Lead Coordinator	the Rev. Margaret Marquardt
Friends InDeed Information and Communication Coordinator	Elina Singh
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 & Property
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Jen Langerud - Secretary & Human Resources
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship & Hospitality
Deanna Wilson - Fellowship and Hospitality
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)
Francis Antobre - Outreach Technology
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults
June Heywood - Education & 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**"*

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation. *A brief silence.*

Holy God of resurrection, fill us with your Holy Spirit to announce the new life you give through Christ Jesus. Lead us to people who need to hear good news.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Breathe new life into all of creation. Send sun to warm and water to saturate yards, fields, and mountains. Set all things in order, that abundance may come forth.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Open paths for cooperation between nations to care for refugees, survivors of natural disaster, and people living through war. Bless the efforts of peacemaking troops, diplomats, and relief organizations to foster peace in the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gather together the various gifts of this community and unite us in praise.

Harmonize the sound and movement of instruments, voices, hands, feet, and, bodies.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your enduring mercy to strengthen those who persevere in difficult times.

Guide them to places where they may find shelter in your presence. We pray especially for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have united yourself with the saints at rest through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. Join us all together in his resurrection on the last day. We pray especially for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**