



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 28, 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.

5745 Wales Street, Vancouver V5R 3N3
Phone: 604-435-6020 Fax: 604-430-6930
Email: info@firstlutheranvancouver.com
www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 28, 2016**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Karen Duddy
<i>Lector</i>	Heather Robbie
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	John Morley Ingrid Anderson
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Emmanuel Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Communion Servers</i>	John Morley Felix Opoku Karen Kerfoot Ingrid Anderson
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Pr. Adolf Manz
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Laslett Patricia Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Offering Counters</i>	John Morley

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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 28, 2016
Now the Feast and Celebration

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

Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”

PRELUDE

Andante Religioso
Arioso

Alec Rowley
Johann Sebastian Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN # 524 “What Is This Place”

THE LITURGY OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

The candidates for baptism, sponsors, gather around the font.
The presiding minister addresses the assembly

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope
through the sacrament of baptism.

By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death
and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ.

We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ,
anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit,
and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

The sponsors present the candidates

We present *Francis Cobbinah Antobre and Mina Kahaei* for holy baptism.

The minister addresses the assembly

People of God, do you promise to support and nurture *Francis and Mina* in the Christian faith, to pray for them as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The minister addresses the gathered community

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce evil and all the forces that defy God?	I renounce them.
Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?	I renounce them.
Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?	I renounce them.

The minister addresses the assembly

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE GIVING OF THE NAME

By what names do you wish to be called now and in eternal life?

The Christian name of the candidates are spoken aloud

Francis Cobbinah Antobre and Mina Kahaei

May these names be written forever in the Book of Life, in the palm of God's hand.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water is poured into the font during the words of the prayer over the water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth.
You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel.
You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us
that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into us all.

By your Spirit proclaim us all as your children, through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE HOLY WASHING

The presider baptizes by pouring water over the candidates three times while saying

Francis and Mina, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give
your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays

Sustain *Francis and Mina* with the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

CHRISMATION

*Using oil prepared for this purpose, the presiding minister anoints the newly-baptized
and marks the forehead with the sign of the cross.*

Francis and Mina, children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

A lighted candle is given to each of the newly baptized as a representative of the congregation says

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

*Following this expression of faith and life, all gathered at the front face the assembly
while a representative of the congregation speaks*

Let us welcome our newly baptized today.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God who has drawn us by the love of Christ Jesus.
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

All face the presider for the following blessing.

Beloved ones, we entrust you all to the mercy and help of God.
May the Holy One watch over your lives; may we all walk by the light of faith;
and may we receive all the good things God has promised us. **Amen.**

The baptismal parties return to their seats. All rise for the hymn.

HYMN # 453 "Baptized and Set Free"

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY *(All rise)*

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.**
Let us pray: O God, with your grace, you renew the hearts of both the proud and the humble.
Teach us to receive from your welcoming and humble heart.
Give us the grace to generously extend our gifts to others. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

*The reading is concluded: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 112 (Congregation reads the bold) Translated by Nan C. Merrill

Praises be to You, O Gracious One!

Blessed are those who reverence the Holy One, who delight in Love Consciousness!
For they dwell with the Beloved, and their children will learn of peace and justice.

Abundance and wholeness will be their heritage, and truth will be their banner.

Light penetrates the darkness for those who live in fear;

Love stands by them with mercy and forgiveness.

It goes well for those who are loving and kind, who live their days with justice and integrity.

They become co-creators with the Divine One; they bless the world with their presence.

In times of trouble, they know not fear; their hearts are firm,

trusting in your Loving Companion Presence.

Yes, their hearts are steady, they are not afraid, even their enemies are blessed by their love. They are generous and give freely; the needy are offered shelter and food;

justice and mercy make their home there; and their righteousness endures forever.

The unloving are witness to this; who knows when the Seed will find a fertile heart?

The fruits of those who know Love are blessing to all!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*The reading is concluded: Holy Wisdom, holy Word. **Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*sung twice before and after reading*)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.

The gospel is announced. The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.

⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host;

⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the

poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel concludes: The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY *Silence for reflection follows*

HYMN OF THE DAY # 720 “*We Are Called*”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**”*

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ

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

All may greet one another saying, “Peace be with you”.

MEAL

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Scenes from Childhood* Robert Schumann

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set with the gifts of bread and wine which are brought forward.

After the offering is gathered and presented, the assembly stands

OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the saints in heaven, we sing together in praise:

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE *(Prayer over the gifts)*

In the night of his offering, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples saying:

“Take, and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this to remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying:

“Drink of it, all of you, this cup is the new covenant in my blood.

It is poured out for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this to remember me.”

We thank You, God of Abundant Love, for these gifts given in love for us.
Accept us, forgive us, heal us, and free us to live transformed and renewed.

Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.**

*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.*

HYMNS DURING THE MEAL # 726 “*Light Dawns on a Weary World*”
Be Thou My Vision Paul Manz

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the life-giving presence of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life.
The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Creator, the ☩ Redeemer, and the Sustainer, be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN # 845 “*Voices Raised to You*”

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Promenade

Modest Moussorgsky

This morning we welcome *Francis Cobbinah Antobre and Mina Kahaei* into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Francis is the husband of Patricia Manu and father of Skylar Cobbinah. His sponsor is Felix Opoku. Mina is the wife of Bahman Zabeti, who is also her sponsor.

Special blessing next Sunday: BLESSING OF OUR WORK

We are going to have a special blessing in our liturgy next Sunday, September 4. So bring your backpack, laptops, smart phones, work tools and whatever you wish to be blessed to church.

NEW FURNACE REQUIRED

It is time to replace the Sanctuary furnace. The existing is the original 1954 oil burner converted to natural gas and is most inefficient by today’s standards. It could easily malfunction during the winter months. **The cost will be just under \$12,000 so contributions to the building fund would be in order. All donations welcome, significant ones especially.** Tours of the existing furnace with its clockwork controls can be had on Sunday mornings. Thanks.

FLC Property Committee

This Week

Monday
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm

Wednesday
Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am

Next Sunday
Pentecost 16, 10:30 am

The Craft Drop-In sessions will be resuming in September. We are looking forward to welcoming some new faces. We usually meet on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. This is a social time for crafters to bring whatever projects they are working on and meet with other crafters. So gather up your painting supplies, your knitting, your jewelry making, your quilting, your scrapbooking, or whatever ... and join us for a couple of hours of dedicated crafting time. Mark these dates on your calendar: September 10, October 1, November 5 and December 3. See you there! For more information, please contact Linda Collins.

Parish Listening Gathering
Sunday, September 11, Noon – 1:15 PM
Offered by Friends InDeed

Contributions of finger food, crackers and cheese or fruit or veggies will be greatly appreciated to share on September 11th at the parish gathering. Tables will be set up with numbers on them and everyone will be given a table number to join. Please go to the table assigned. Please let Pastor Margaret know by next Sunday, September 4th if you plan to participate.



Parkinson Society
British Columbia

A walk to support Parkinson's Disease research will be held September 12, 2016 from 1:30-3:30 PM at Confederation Track, 4548 Albert Street in Burnaby. Members and friends are encouraged to attend to support this worthy cause. Posters with more information are posted in the narthex. All who register and walk will receive a free T-shirt. Please indicate your name and T-shirt size on the yellow sheet in the narthex. Our Fifth Annual Super Walk in Burnaby coincides with the 500th Anniversary of Reformation! With consultation we have decided (for church walkers) to recycle new or near new T-shirts from a former year. Their vibrant green will remind us of the 500,000 trees to be planted before 2017! The Dawson family has already planted two trees recently. If you don't feel up to walking, come for the silent auction and bid for a treasure. Items are all brand new donations from businesses (not items discarded from friends' attics!). Or come for a complimentary bottle of water and a "Kuyer cookie". Whatever you do, please give a pledge!

Community BBQ
Saturday, September 24, 11AM - 2 PM

Please plan to attend this community gathering. Sign up in the narthex.

This message is from Pr. Nathan Fong, Vice Dean of the Greater Vancouver Conference.

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The Joint Conference Convention of the Greater Vancouver and Lower Fraser Valley Conferences will be on **Saturday, September 17th** at **Mount Olive Lutheran Church in White Rock, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.**

We plan to explore and assess the practical implications for our Conferences moving into area ministry strategies.

To properly facilitate this, we strongly urge each congregation to send a team of 5 to 6 delegates, along with their rostered clergy. Please mark your calendars and seek out delegates. More information to follow.

The Deans of both Conferences along with Bishop Greg and Assistant to the Bishop for Missional Renewal Kathy are planning this event, so feel free to ask any of us any questions you may have. Thanks!

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 Artists	Linda Collins Marion Manz 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: “Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**”*

Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

O God, guide leaders who speak your word to your people. Use your church’s powerful witness and genuine invitation to welcome all to your banquet table. We pray especially today for Francis and Mina, who have been welcomed into Christ’s living waters.
Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for tables of abundant food. Bless crops, farms, and industries, that as co-creators with you, we may provide responsibly from the earth for the sake of all.
Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

Break the bonds of captivity and injustice. Work in leaders and nations to bring peace and to advocate for the least of these. Especially we pray for . . .
Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen marriages, families, and friendships with mutual love and respect. Bless our congregation to be a place of support and care for healthy relationships.
Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

Heal and comfort those we hold in our hearts and those who have asked for our prayers. Bring hope to prisoners, refugees, and outsiders. We pray *especially for*... and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the promise of the heavenly banquet, we give thanks for all those who have died in faith. Join us, with them, at the resurrection of the righteous. We remember *especially* . . . and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .
Welcoming God, **Your mercy is great.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Would you like to add a prayer petition on Sundays? We invite you to write down your prayer request on the music stand in the narthex, which will be included each Sunday in the prayers of the people. Please note that prayer petitions will be refreshed each week.