



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 7, 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 - 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.

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**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 7, 2016**

***Those Serving the Servants Today***

*Presider/Homilist* Pr. Matthew Senf

*Assisting Minister* Linda Collins

*Lector* June Heywood

*Ministry of Music*  
*Organ/Piano* Jeanette Price  
*Flutist* Anne Johnson  
*Trumpeter* Karl Maier

*Gift Bearers* Blair Duddy  
Karen Duddy

*Tray Holders* Ruby Carson  
Melody Carson

*Communion Servers* Pr. Adolf Manz  
Ingrid Tymm  
Karen Duddy  
Ingrid Bielenberg

*Coffee Hour Hosts* Michael Ray

*Altar Guild* Ingrid Anderson  
Shannon Ingersoll  
Alysha Ingersoll

*Offering Counters* 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.**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**AUGUST 7, 2016**  
*Holy Communion, Setting Eight*

*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 says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*

**PRELUDE**

*Andante Religioso*  
*Deep River*

Alec Rowley  
Spiritual

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**THE ORDER OF 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, abounding in steadfast love toward us,  
healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Just and gracious God,

**we come to you for healing and life.**

**Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you.**

**Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you.**

**Show us your mercy, O God.**

**Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.**

The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses,  
God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross."

Jesus says to you, "Your sins are forgiven."

Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN # 733 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

**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 God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6**

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God’s promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

**PSALM 33:12-22 (congregation reads the bold)**

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!  
Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!  
<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**  
<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.  
<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**  
<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.  
<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,  
<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**  
<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.  
<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**  
<sup>22</sup>Let your loving kindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” <sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Sing Alleluia verse before and after reading. All rise*) p. 188

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

<sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. <sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** # 764 “*Have No Fear, Little Flock*”

**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**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY** *Cornet Voluntary* John Travers

**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. 190

**“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”** p. 190

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (*Prayer over the gifts*)

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** p.191

**INVITATION**

Come to the table. Feast on God’s abundant life for you. **Thanks be to God.**

## SHARING OF THE BLESSED SUPPER

*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.191

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 792 “When Memory Fades”

*Song 1*

Orlando Gibbons

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*All rise*)

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 Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty,  
the blessing of † Christ Jesus, the Beloved One,  
and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

# 774 “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

### DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

*Minuet Finale (Water Music)*

George Frederic Handel

**This Week**

**Monday**  
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm

**Wednesday**  
Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am

**Next Sunday**  
Pentecost 13, 10:30 am

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 Luther! 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!

**FLC Clean-up Day!**

A clean-up day at First Lutheran on **Saturday, August 20th from 9:00 AM to noon.** Kitchen, Bathrooms, Sanctuary etc. and some Painting and repairs.

Our thanks to Pr. Matthew Senf for leading the worship this morning while Pr. Lori-Anne is on vacation. Pr. Lori-Anne will return to the office on August 25. Friends InDeed is here to support members throughout the summer. Pr. Margaret Marquardt 604-253-0379.

For pastoral emergency, please contact the church office or the following pastors:

Aug 7-16: Pr. Nathan Fong  
604-433-1515

Aug 17-24: Pr. Jennifer Wilson  
604-584-0111

The refugee committee wants to extend our support of Naw Lwe and her family for a further three months. We have some funds to cover this but are \$1750 short of the total needed. If you would like to contribute please donate to the love fund with the direction "For Refugees".

**Parish Listening Gathering**  
**Sunday, September 11**  
**Noon – 1:15 PM**

Please sign up in the narthex.



## 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>	The 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 Artists</b>	Linda Collins Marion Manz 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  
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

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

**User name: flwifi  
Password: flc1890**

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

Faithful God, encourage your church in new ventures of faith: new congregations, ministries, conversations, and partnerships. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, the abundance of your creation fills us with awe and delight.  
Call us daily to be vigilant and responsible stewards of all you have made.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, calm the fears that produce wars, prejudice, and injustice. Equip governments, leaders, and peacemakers to be models of cooperation and reconciliation among the nations.  
We pray *especially for* ...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Steadfast God, we pray for those in life transitions that bring anxiety.  
Heal those hurt by broken promises, and sustain them with your never-ending love.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Restoring God, comfort all who long for relief from circumstances of grief or sickness.  
Bless hospitals, mental health facilities, and all places of healing. We pray *especially for* ...  
and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for all the saints who now enjoy unfailing treasure in heaven, and we rejoice that we are united with them in your love. We remember *especially* ...  
and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .  
Hear us, O 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.***