



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 4, 2016

**WELCOME TO  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOUNDED 1890**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 4, 2016**

***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  
Phone: 604-435-6020 Fax: 604-430-6930  
Email: info@firstlutheranvancouver.com  
www.firstlutheranvancouver.com

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Lector</i>	Christine Neumann
<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>	Jackie Cleroux Lanny Harris
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Erik Makinen Viktor Makinen
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Christine Neumann Irina Lennikova Christine Neumann
<i>Anointers</i>	Pr. Adolf Manz Karen Duddy John Morley Julie Bauming
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Esther Ling Michael Ray
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Laslett Christine Neumann
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Betty Wong Ernie Neumann

**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 Wayne or Betty Wong at 604-301-9381.**

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 4, 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

*At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the light of Christ's coming. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.*

### PRELUDE

*Prelude on "Divinum Mysterium"  
Noel Huron*

John Wilkinson  
Denis Bedard

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

**ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP** *The second candle on the Advent Wreath will be lit during the song*

*"Creator of the Stars of Night"*

Plainsong Mode 1V (Men's choir)

### OPENING RESPONSES

In this waiting season -in a time between times when living seems restricted

**We gather to remember one who embraced constraint while waiting for birth.**

God with us in the past, as we recount your story

**Teach us that waiting is not dead time but a dreaming time  
through which new ideas and insights are engendered.**

God with us in the present, as we share your supper

**Teach us that waiting is not lost time but a liminal time  
within which new possibilities and patterns take form.**

God with us in the future, as we celebrate your Kingdom

**Teach us that waiting is not quiescent time but a quickening time  
from which new life and love emerges.**

God with us in all time, as we look for your coming

**Teach us how to inhabit this waiting time.**

## CONFESSION

God with us, through Christ Jesus you have shown us what it is to live imaginatively, love expansively and act creatively.

**We confess that sometimes we have waited without thought and so have stifled fruitful possibility . Sometimes we have waited without generosity and so have constricted fruitful connection. Sometimes we have waited without hope and so have limited fruitful action. Sometimes we have simply been too busy or too distracted to wait and to trust in you.**

And so as we look once more for you: free us with your grace!  
Forgive the poverty of our waiting, touch our dreaming.  
Stretch our living and energize our acting that we may be ready for your coming. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**      *# 250 “Blessed Be the God of Israel”*

## 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. Stir up our hearts, Gracious God, to prepare the way of our Lord. Nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, the One who brings us life.  
**Amen.**

## WORD

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - By Denise Pawliuk**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*In today’s reading the prophet describes the ideal ruler who will come in the future as a green shoot springing from a dead stump (David’s royal line) of Jesse (David’s father). Gifted by the Spirit, this messiah will seek justice for the poor, and the reign of this monarch will be experienced as paradise regained.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,

or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.  
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;  
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

**PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19** (*congregation reads the bold*) Translated by Eugene Peterson

Give the gift of wise rule to the king, O God,  
the gift of just rule to the crown prince.  
May he judge your people rightly, be honourable to your meek and lowly.  
**Let the mountains give exuberant witness;  
shape the hills with the contours of right living.**  
**Please stand up for the poor, help the children of the needy,  
come down hard on the cruel tyrants.**  
**Outlast the sun, outlive the moon—age after age after age.**  
Be rainfall on cut grass, earth-refreshing rain showers.  
Let righteousness burst into blossom and peace abound until the moon fades to nothing.  
Rule from sea to sea, from the River to the Rim.  
**Blessed God, Israel's God, the one and only wonder-working God!**  
**Blessed always his blazing glory!**  
**All earth brims with his glory. Yes and Yes and Yes.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13**

*God’s promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God’s blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God’s family.*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; <sup>11</sup>and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*“Long Awaited One”*

Douglas Nolan

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

The musical score consists of two systems of vocal lines. Each system has a soprano line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12**

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

<sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

<sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

*Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **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: “Let us pray”, and all will respond by singing “The Spirit Intercedes”.*

The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with

sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh.

## **THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ, the dynamic peace of imaginative dreaming, the challenging peace of radical loving, the powerful peace of engaged action, fill you to overflowing in this season of waiting. **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING/OFFERTORY**

*Wachet Auf*

Paul Manz

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

Let us pray: **Saviour of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.**

## **MEAL**

### **INVITATION**

This is the table of our God who is with us – a place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God’s time, and work to build God’s Kingdom. A place where we recognize that the One for whom we wait is also the One who is already, and always, here with us.

So come, whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading the first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face. Come with quiet confidence because it is here where we encounter the One who watches for our coming, who shows us what it is to wait well, and who waits with love and joy to welcome us in so that we might re-imagine life.

### **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.**

With this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:

**“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”** *(see facing page)*



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to e - res Se - ñor.  
 My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.


**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

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.”**

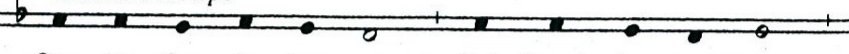
**THE LORD’S PRAYER** *(music on next page)*

*Celebrant*

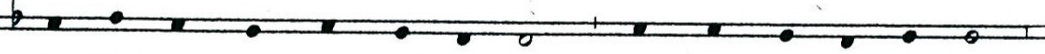


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,


*Celebrant and People*




Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



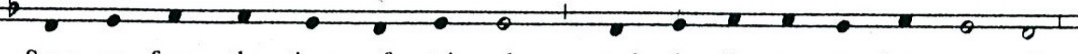
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



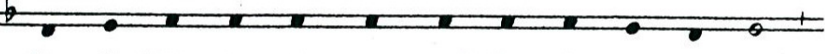
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



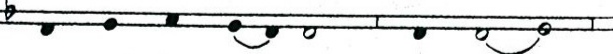
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

### SHARING OF GIFTS

The bread and wine declare that waiting is not time frozen but time freed and fruitful.

**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 now available pre-poured in the trays. Please note that full communion is received when only one of the elements is consumed. Those who desire prayer and anointing for the healing of any illness or brokenness in mind, body or spirit are invited to receive these blessings after communing.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 241 “O Lord How Shall I Meet Thee”

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (All rise)

The earth still waits for its healing. **God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

**BLESSING AND FAREWELL** Rev. Margaret Marquardt

### BLESSING

May Christ, the Light of the world, shine upon you  
and scatter the darkness from before your path.  
Almighty God, Creator, ☩ Redeemer, and Sustainer,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** # 264 “Prepare the Royal Highway”

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

**POSTLUDE** “Once He Came in Blessing” Johan Sebastian Bach

*Today’s liturgy is adapted from “In This Season of Waiting”  
- a communion liturgy for Advent by Pat Bennett*

*Dear Friends,*

*As I complete my work here for the past year among you as the Lead Coordinator of Friends InDeed, I want to say how much I have appreciated your openness in being part of the various gatherings and offering your leadership and compassion. It has been a joy to have witnessed your faithfulness in seeking to be the Body of Christ. There are so many ways that you look out for and after each other.*

*Thank you to Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford for her vision and stamina in the leadership she gives to support you in being faithful in your ministry in this place and in your calling to be a voice of courage in God's beloved world, and to Iris Kong for her ever generous office assistance and welcome. Thank you to the Friends InDeed Working Group; Janet Ray, Sandi Strate and Jen Stewart with Pr. Lori-Anne, in their commitment of time and wisdom as they have guided this ministry. You have the gift of Elina Singh in her passion for justice and the wider mission of the church to continue to support this ministry with you into 2017. I would like to close with a Blessing for you as a parish community; one that many of you know and which I heard here at First Lutheran and at the close of every Eucharist by my former Bishop Michael Ingham.*

*The Rev. Margaret Marquardt, December 1, 2016*

*Return now to the place  
where God has given you responsibility.  
Remember the peace and love we have celebrated  
and do not fail to show to all people  
the new life that is already among us.  
Have courage.  
Hold on to what is good.  
Return no one evil for evil.  
Strengthen those who fail.  
Support the weak  
and honour all life.  
And the blessing of God Our Creator,  
the Redeemer and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you  
now and forever. Amen.*

### **This Week**

#### **Today**

Worship Leaders' Workshop  
with Pr. Paul Schmidt, after service

#### **Monday**

Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm

#### **Wednesday**

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am  
Soup meal, 5:30 PM  
Scripture study, 6:30 pm  
Exploring Worship, 7 PM

#### **Next Sunday**

Advent 3, 10:30 AM  
Confirmation, 3—4:15 PM

### **Christmas Day Potluck Meal**

Family is busy, or far away?  
Why not join the church family  
for a Christmas potluck meal!  
Come to worship on Christmas Day,  
and stay to share a meal afterwards.

Bring a dish to share, and celebrate the  
season. Please sign up in the narthex.

Everyone is welcome to help decorate  
the sanctuary Christmas tree on Tuesday,  
December 13 at 7:30 p. m.

### **Confirmation Class Schedule**

3 - 4:15 PM on Sundays  
Dec 11

### **Mark Your Calendar!**

**Congregation Caroling  
in the neighbourhood  
on Wednesday, December 14!**

5:30 PM Soup Meal at FLC  
6:30 - 8 PM Caroling

All are welcome! For more info, please talk  
with those coordinating the caroling event in  
the parish - Arvid Vimb, Pr. Adolf Manz,  
Donna Dufresne, Karen Duddy and Elina  
Singh.

### **Leadership opportunities on Council**

FLC Council is seeking volunteers to  
join the team and take on the following  
portfolios: **Community Outreach,  
Education, Fellowship, and  
Worship&Music Liaison.** Contact the  
church office for a description of the  
portfolio(s) that you are interested in.

### **Empty containers needed for take-home soup**

The soup and bread group is in need of  
empty containers, such as those of yogurt  
or butter, to distribute the excess soup on  
Wednesday night. If you have some to  
donate, please drop off on Sunday.

We will continue the tradition of sharing the  
**Feast Day of Epiphany on January 1, 2017**  
with **St Thomas Anglican Church.** The  
joint worship this year will begin at **10:30  
am at First Lutheran.**

## 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 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

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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  
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality  
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)  
Francis Antobre - Outreach Technology  
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults  
Ray Hartley - Member at large

### Mutual Ministry Committee:

Sandi Strate - Chairperson  
Russell Collins  
Anne Johnson  
Arvid Vimb  
Shannon Ingersoll

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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: “let us pray” and all will respond by singing “The Spirit Intercedes”.*

As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

For the church throughout the world, for all inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, and for all who proclaim the wondrous deeds of God; that all divisions and disagreements cease, let us pray. **The Spirit Intercedes**

For the earth and its creatures, for animals of every size, for plants that provide shade and nourishment; that we see God’s goodness revealed in every living thing. For the nations and those in authority, for police officers and firefighters, for social workers and attorneys; that God grant them wisdom to work for peace and justice, especially as we remember. .. Let us pray. **The Spirit Intercedes**

For the poor, the meek, the unwelcomed, those suffering from malaria and HIV/AIDS, the sick and the bereaved that they experience Christ embodied in healthcare workers and caregivers. We pray especially for... and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . let us pray. **The Spirit Intercedes**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who have died in Christ that they show us the way of hope through the incarnate Word. We remember especially ... and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . let us pray. **The Spirit Intercedes**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Saviour. **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.*