



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



ASH SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 14, 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.

5745 Wales Street, Vancouver V5R 3N3  
Phone: 604-435-6020 Fax: 604-430-6930  
Email: [info@firstlutheranvancouver.com](mailto:info@firstlutheranvancouver.com)  
[www.firstlutheranvancouver.com](http://www.firstlutheranvancouver.com)

**ASH SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 14, 2014**

***Those Serving the Servants Today***

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Linda Collins
<i>Lector</i>	Janet Ray
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Lorna Hau
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson
	Amy MacLeod
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Anointers</i>	Adolf Manz Elina Singh John Morley Janet Ray
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson Doreen Reid Dennis Reid
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Cheri Ditsche Fred Batscheider
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Laslett Betty Wong Wayne Wong
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Alex Wilson

*Today's liturgy was adapted from Iona community's worship material by Pat Bennett "WALKING THE WILDERNESS".*

**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.**

**ASH SUNDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 14, 2016**

**INTRODUCTION**

*Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.*

**PRELUDE**

*Prelude in D Minor  
Have Mercy on Me, O Lord God*

Antonio Vivaldi  
Johann Sebastian Bach

**GATHERING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING DIALOGUE**

Jesus, by your example you challenge us to make this season a journey of discovery;

**As we leave comforting landmarks behind to inhabit  
and explore our own uncharted places,**

**help us to discern who we are and embrace what we might become.**

Jesus, by your words and actions you show us how to watch and wait and wrestle;

**Help us to recognize where we are and envisage where we need to move to.**

Jesus, you offer us your company in the known and the unknown places;

**Help us to better understand the threads of our lives and see**

**how to weave them with yours into the patterns of God's Kingdom.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God of stillness,

**you draw us into the quietness of the desert so that we can encounter ourselves.**

**But we confess that all too often we stubbornly cling to false images  
rather than face the necessity of change.**

God of Truth,

**you call us into the emptiness of the desert so that we can confront our desires.**

**But we confess that all too often we continue to choose our own comfort  
rather than serving the needs of others.**

God of new ways,  
**you call us into the desert so that we can engage with your Kingdom.  
But we confess that all too often we prefer the smooth roads of safety  
over the pathways of justice.**

God of new life,  
**forgive us, O God, wherever we have chosen to be, or do,  
or dare less than you have asked of us; and as we walk on in the desert with you help us  
watch and wrestle with these things, and lead us on in new ways.**

**GATHERING HYMN # 326 “Bless Now, O God the Journey”**

### **GREETING**

The grace of Jesus Christ our Saviour, the reconciling 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. Gracious and loving God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the  
breath of life, creating us to live and serve you and our neighbours. Create in us new and  
honest hearts, so that, in our turning towards you, towards life, we may knowingly receive from  
you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our  
Saviour and Beloved. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** by Denise Pawliuk

### **READING: Isaiah 58:1–12**

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked. Sincere repentance will lead to a dramatic improvement of their condition.*

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

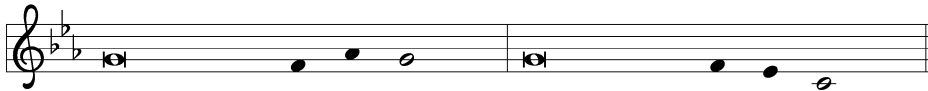
<sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

- Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.
- <sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.
- <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?
- <sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
- <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
- <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
- <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
- <sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.
- <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.
- <sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

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

## PSALM 51

*Tone*



*Refrain*



Have mer - cy on me, O God, ac - cord - ing to your stead - fast love.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>1</sup>my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through <sup>1</sup>from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me <sup>1</sup>from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>1</sup>my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>1</sup>er before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>1</sup>in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>1</sup>in your judgment. R**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born <sup>1</sup>steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my <sup>1</sup>mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth <sup>1</sup>deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom <sup>1</sup>deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I <sup>1</sup>shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- <sup>1</sup>er than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear <sup>1</sup>joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken <sup>1</sup>may rejoice. R**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face <sup>1</sup>from my sins,  
and blot out <sup>1</sup>all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean <sup>1</sup>heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- <sup>1</sup>it within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away <sup>1</sup>from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir- <sup>1</sup>it from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of <sup>1</sup>your salvation  
and sustain me with your boun- <sup>1</sup>tiful Spirit. R**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways <sup>1</sup>to offenders,  
and sinners shall be re- <sup>1</sup>stored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of <sup>1</sup>my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing <sup>1</sup>of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, o- <sup>1</sup>pen my lips,  
and my mouth shall pro- <sup>1</sup>claim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or <sup>1</sup>I would give it.  
You are not pleased <sup>1</sup>with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a <sup>1</sup>troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will <sup>1</sup>not despise. R

**LENTEN VERSE**

*LET YOUR STEADFAST LOVE  
(Sing before and after reading. All rise)*

p. 103

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

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

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>5</sup>"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>16</sup>"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*Response after reading: **Praise to you , O Christ.***

**HOMILY** (*Silence for meditation follows*)

**HYMN OF THE DAY** # 512 **"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"** (*sung twice*)

### **INVITATION TO LENT**

*Lent is time of preparation, as we mindfully journey throughout forty days, and affirm our own baptismal covenant. This is a journey of renewal, as we listen to God's call in our hearts and lives. This is a season where we intentionally reflect, and take the time to be still in the presence of God's embracing love. This is a season when we are assured that God's grace is working in us and in our lives, bringing life-giving change and liberating us to live our lives anew.*

**IMPOSITION OF ASHES** *"Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

*All desiring a cross of ashes to be marked upon their foreheads are invited to come forward to receive the sign of mortality and penitence, the sign that in Christ, our sin is put to death, and the sign that in all life is the breath of God.*

**HYMN** # 336 **"Lamb of God"**

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Show us your mercy, O God,  
**and grant us your salvation.**  
Give us the joy of your saving help again,  
**and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**  
Give peace in all the world;  
**for only in you can we live in safety.**  
Keep the nations under your care,  
**and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
Let your way be known upon earth;  
**your saving health among all nations.**  
Let not the needy be forgotten,  
**nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.**  
Lord, hear our prayer, and let our cry come before you.  
**Renew us with your everlasting love. Amen.**

## PEACE

May the peace of God, the comforting peace of familiar presence,  
the untamed peace of wilderness places, the challenging peace of watching and wrestling,  
surround and shape your journey onwards. **And also with you.**

*Signs of peace are exchanged.*

## OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* arr. Jack Schrader

## INVITATION

In the wilderness the table of God stands open and ready  
as a place of sanctuary and safety, of hospitality and healing.  
So come, all you who are tired and travel-stained, footsore and famished;  
come with your fellow travelers and find companionship and comfort;  
for here, Jesus – who knows what it is to wander, watch and wrestle in desert places  
– waits to meet us and welcome us in offering us rest and restoration,  
solace and strength, for the journey still to come.



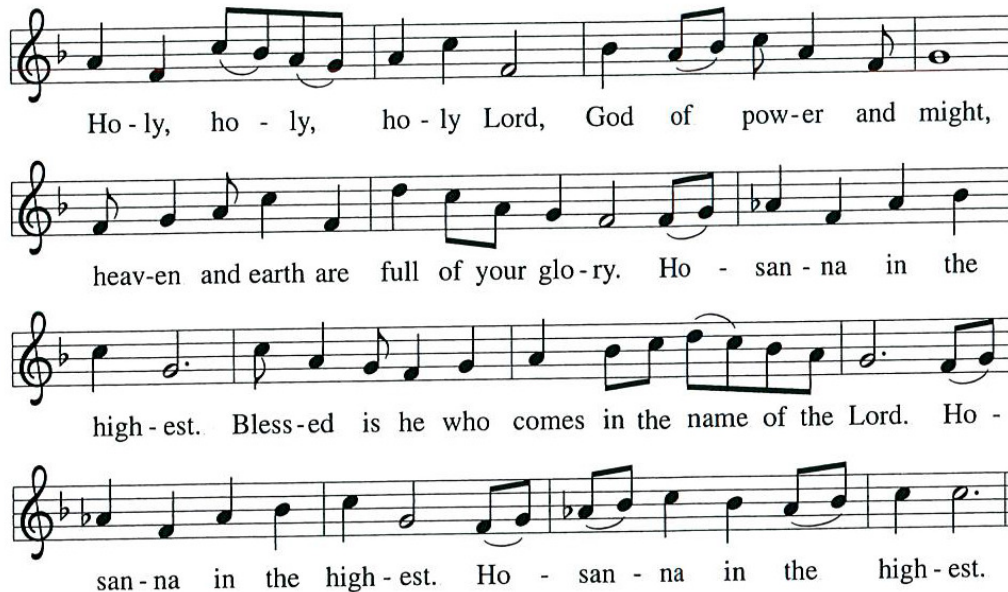
## MEAL

### COMMUNION NARRATIVE AND THANKSGIVING

Before going out into the wilderness,  
Jesus sat down to eat and drink with his friends.  
To show them the challenge of the way ahead,  
and offer them gifts for that journey,  
he took bread – sustaining and wholesome – and poured wine  
– earthy and warming – sharing these  
as signs of his continuing presence with them throughout time to come.

**And now, remembering that moment,  
and recognizing that its promise is also for us in this time and place,  
we too break bread and pour wine to share with one another.  
And in that action, we recognize and affirm with joy  
that Christ is present with us now, and throughout time to come;  
and we join our voices with those of all creation in the unending song of praise:**

### “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”



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

God of new life, send down upon us now,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine,  
that same Spirit who called Jesus into the desert,  
that we too may be strengthened by your Presence  
and refreshed and renewed through your love.

The table is set, and God waits for us to come in from the desert for a while and be refreshed. **Thanks be to God.**

**“LAMB OF GOD”**

p. 135

*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. **Anointing is available for those who would like to receive prayer for healing.***

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION** # 329 *“As the Sun with Longer Journey”*  
*Watch and Pray* Johann Sebastian Bach

**SENDING**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

God has called us to journey for a season through the wilderness places;  
**And so, as Jesus did before us, we will set out once more**  
**to wander in an uncomfortable landscape and wrestle with its challenges,**  
**trusting in the work of the Spirit, to inspire us to do the work of the Kingdom.**

**BLESSING**

Go into the world with eyes open to the transforming light of Christ, hands open to serve those you meet, ears open to the call of the Spirit, hearts open to the bountiful love of God, and lives open to follow Christ to the cross. The God who opened for us the way of everlasting life + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** # 545 *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

**DISMISSAL** Go now in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Rockingham* Healey Willan

**This Week**

**Today**

Sunday School, 10:45 am  
Youth Study on "Animate Faith", 4:30 pm  
Lent Evening Service, 5:30 pm  
*"Open My Life in the Wilderness"*

**Monday**

Centering Prayer, 7 pm

**Wednesday**

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am  
Joint Lenten Study at FLC, 7 pm

**Thursday**

Ministerial, 11 am  
Choir, 7:30 pm

**Next Sunday**

Lent 2, 10:30 am  
Sunday School, 10:45 am  
Confirmation, 4:30 pm  
Lent Evening Service, 5:30 pm  
*"Open My Life in the Wilderness"*

**LENTEN EVENING SERVICES**

*"Open My Life in the Wilderness"*

**5:30 pm on SUNDAYS**

**FEBRUARY 14, 21, 28**

**MARCH 6, 13**

Our deepest condolences and prayers are with Kirsten Jensen and family as they mourn the death of her mother Barbara Jensen who passed away last Monday. *"Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her."*

**First Lutheran's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be on Friday, February 26, 2016.** Potluck dinner will start at 6:15 pm on the lower level and business meeting at 7 pm. Thanks to all who have submitted their reports. If you have not yet sent your report but would like to have the report included in the booklet (to be printed this week), please do so by tomorrow morning. Thank you.

**Youth Study on "Animate Faith" 2016**

February 14	March 6
April 10	May 15
June 5	

**Adult Study on "Animate Faith" 2016**

February 28	March 20
April 24	May 22
June 12	

**Sunday School Schedule 2016**

February 14, 21  
March 6  
April 3, 17  
May 1, 15, 29

**Confirmation class 2016, 4:30 pm**

February 21	March 13
April 3, 17	May 8

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

**Would you be willing to serve your church on council?** First Lutheran Church Council is now looking for new members to oversee the following portfolios:

1. **Community Outreach:** someone willing to be the point person for community networking (Friends InDeed, MVA, Collingwood Neighbourhood House, and St. Thomas Anglican), and possibly to help inspire a guiding team from FLC to join the Missional Renewal.
2. **Outreach Technology:** someone willing to work on FLC webpage, help with weekly updates, service streaming., supervising and operating of our sound system as needed, including occasional (paid) assistance to rental groups
3. **Stewardship:** someone to help inspire the sharing of resources in the community through creative stewardship ideas.

Please contact Marly Zell, Alex Wilson or Pr. Lori-Anne if you are inspired to help serve your community as a council member.

Following the service on the sixth of March, we will have a baby shower to welcome Baby Skylar and a 'toddler shower' to honour young man Euan (coming 20 months). We could use help with shopping, decorating and/or bringing a few extra treats that day. Anyone wanting to help out or to contribute to a group gift, please contact Anne Johnson.

### **Joint Lenten study program**

*“Wisdom for Lent, Wisdom for Life: how ancient wisdom and ancient practice can help us respond to global warming, terrorism, and economic uncertainty.”*

**Beginning February 17 at First Lutheran  
Wednesday evenings at 7 pm**

### **CALL FOR SYNOD CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Coquitlam is the host for the next Synod Convention being held in the lower mainland April 28 – May 1, 2016. Our responsibility is to be the lead congregation for the local arrangements for the event. Though many have graciously volunteered to lead teams or to work within a team we still need more people to help. Our church will be hosting a catered dinner for the delegates Thursday, April 28 and also a breakfast on Sunday, May 1 so we will need people to help with table set up and take down for both events and to act as hospitality hosts. We also still need volunteers to be Stewards, help with Registration, work with Pastor Nathan Fong in Communications, and help with transportation to and from the church from the Executive Plaza Hotel on North Road where the convention is being held. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions or have any questions please contact Dawn Nieman (Local Arrangements Committee Coordinator) at 604-936-1853 or email [dawn.nieman@telus.net](mailto:dawn.nieman@telus.net).

## 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>	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 Artist</b>	June Schramm

---

### Church Council

Lanny Harris - Chairperson  
John Morley - Vice Chairperson & Property  
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer  
Jen Langerud - Secretary & Human Resources  
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary  
Alex Wilson - Property  
Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship & Hospitality  
Deanna Wilson - Fellowship and Hospitality  
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality  
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)  
TBD - Outreach Technology  
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults  
June Heywood - Education & Human Resources  
Marly Zell - 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