



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 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 - 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

**TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 7, 2016**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Carol Laslett
<i>Lector</i>	Janet Filippelli
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organist/Pianist</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Heidi Ackermann
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Christine Neumann Julie Bauming
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ingrid Anderson Joy Anderson
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Christine Neumann Janet Filippelli Julie Bauming Ernie Neumann
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Sylvia Schmidt Paul Schmidt
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Janet Schreiber Shannon Ingersoll Alysha Ingersoll
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Ernie Neumann Betty Wong

If you'd like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Iris Kong, our office administrator, at 604.435.6020. If you'd like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Deanna Wilson at 604-430-5893 or Betty Wong at 604-877-1578.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 7, 2016
A LITURGY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

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

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being “transformed into the same image” by the Spirit of God.

PRELUDE

*Christ Thou Art Our Light and Day
A Quiet Voluntary for Evensong*

George Bohm
Basil Harwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN # 553 “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

THE LITURGY OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

*The candidate for baptism, parents, 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 candidate

We present *Madden Emerson Daigle* for holy baptism.

The minister addresses the parents

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God,
do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ? **We do.**

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are invited:
to live among God's faithful people,
to receive the word of God and the holy supper,
to offer your hearts to God in prayer,
to nurture others in faith and prayer,
so that we may all learn to trust God,
to proclaim Christ through word and deed,
to live in the spirit of the gospel, of love, peace, and forgiveness,
to care for others and the world God made,
and to work for justice and peace.

Parents, do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life? **We do.**

The minister addresses the assembly

People of God, do you promise to support and nurture *Madden Emerson* in the Christian faith, to pray for him as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him 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.**

Parents, do you promise to remain faithful to your child whatever the future may bring, to respect her wherever she may go, and to remember always that your child is born of God?
We do.

THE GIVING OF THE NAME

By what name do you wish your child to be called now and in eternal life?

*The Christian name of the candidate is spoken aloud
Madden Emerson Daigle*

May this name 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 candidate three times while saying

*Madden Emerson, 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 *Madden Emerson* 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.

Madden Emerson, child 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 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 party return to their seats.

BAPTISMAL 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:
Holy God, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in
his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

²⁹Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord,

the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. ^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*sung twice before and after reading*) # 212 **"You Belong to Christ"**

GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-43a

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

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

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. ³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

HOMILY *Silence for reflection follows*

HYMN OF THE DAY # 671 “*Shine, Jesus, Shine*”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “God of Grace: **Renew us.**”*

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

On Eagle’s Wings

Anne Krenz Organ

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. **Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. 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.

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 # 815 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
O Splendour of God’s Glory Bright 15th Century Plainsong

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in 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 # 677 *“This Little Light of Mine”*

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Thaxted

Gustav Holst

This morning we welcome *Madden Emerson Daigle* into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Madden is the son of Nicole and Jonathan Daigle, the brother of Harper Adelyn Daigle, who was also baptized at FLC in 2013, the grandson of Teresa Bradley and the great-grandson of Shirley Toth, a member of our congregation.

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 Assistant:** 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.

This Week

Today

50+ Super Bowl Party, 3 PM
206 - 612 Fifth Ave, New Westminster
Confirmation, 4:30 pm
Epiphany Evening Service, 5:30 pm
"Enter with Joy"

Monday

Office closed on Family Day
No Centering Prayer
MVA Housing Affordability Assembly, 1 pm
(see announcement elsewhere)

Wednesday

Joint Ash Wednesday Communion Service
at St. Thomas, 10 am
Ash Wednesday service at St. Thomas, 7 pm

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

Ash Sunday/Lent 1, 10:30 am
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"

Epiphany Evening service "Enter with Joy"
February 7

Ash Wednesday - February 10

Joint communion service with St. Thomas
parish at St. Thomas Anglican, 10 am
Evening service at St. Thomas, 7 pm

February 14

Ash Sunday Service at FLC, 10:30 am

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 13
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 6
April 3, 17	May 8

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

**MVA HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
ASSEMBLY**

Monday, February 8, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

St. Catherine's Church,
1058 Ridgewood Dr., North Vancouver

Metvanalliance.nationbuilder.com
Facebook.com/metvanalliance @metvanalliance
info@metvanalliance.org
604-441-8136
1019 Broughton St., Vancouver V6G 2A7

LENTEN EVENING SERVICES

"Open My Life in the Wilderness"

5:30 pm on SUNDAYS

**FEBRUARY 14, 21, 28
MARCH 6, 13**

Please remember to save the ice cream buckets, your used postage stamps, Campbell soup labels, and "no longer needed" eye glasses and drop them off in the church office.

6 light brown, microfiber material dining chairs free to a family who needs them. Currently stored in flat pack (2 in each container) and easy to assemble. Clean, like new condition. Please contact the office if you are interested.

"The down town Anglican Cathedral is seeking a part-time/casual custodian." Info on vancouver.craigslist.ca

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.

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	Rev. Margaret Marquardt
Friends InDeed Information and Communication Coordinator	Elina Singh
Office Administrator	Iris Kong
Caretaker	Peter dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Janet Schreiber
Liturgical Artist	June Schramm

Church Council

Lanny Harris - Chairperson
John Morley - Vice Chairperson & Property
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Jen Langerud - Secretary & Human Resources
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “God of Grace: **Renew us.**”*

Rejoicing with all the faithful, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.
A brief silence.

God of glory and new life, guide and empower your church’s leaders to trust your promises as Moses and Elijah did. Shine the light of Christ through your church to the world, and especially through Madden Emerson. Show us your will for the ministries in this place, and transform us for mission and witness. God of Grace: **Renew us.**

God of majesty, from the highest mountain to the lowest valley, your power is seen in your creation. Help us to protect and care for soil, air, water, and all the creatures you have made. God of Grace: **Renew us.**

God of hope and freedom, give just laws; fair leaders; sufficient food, water, and shelter; and abundant peace to all nations in poverty, strife, or at war. God of Grace: **Renew us.**

God of wholeness, bring clarity to those in confusing times, healing to those in painful times, and peace to those in trying times. We pray especially for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . God of Grace: **Renew us.**

God of glory, we give thanks for all the beloved who rest in your loving arms. We pray especially for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . Keep us from losing heart and strengthen our faith in your promise of everlasting life. God of Grace: **Renew us.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**