



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 4, 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.

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**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 4, 2016**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Carol Laslett
<i>Lector</i>	Emmanuel Manu
<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>	Blair Duddy Karen Duddy
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Emmanuel Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Pr. Adolf Manz Felix Opoku Karen Duddy Ernie Neumann
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Ingrid Anderson Wayne Wong Betty Wong
<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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 4, 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

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship today, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of the Christ in the blessed sacrament and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

PRELUDE

Aria
Largo (Guitar Concerto)

Paul Manz
Antonio Vivaldi

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, who dwells in light and shines light upon us;
Christ Jesus, who came to save us; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of overflowing grace,
we come to you with repentant hearts.
Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.
Forgive us for passing by the ones in need.
Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures.
Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness.
Bring us home from the wilderness of sin,
and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

By the grace of God in ☩ Christ Jesus,
your sins are forgiven and you are made free.
Rejoice with one another!
We are home in God's mercy, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 859 *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

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: Gracious God, direct us in all our doings, build us up with your continual help.
May our lives be lived in your grace. May all of our works begin, continue, and end in you;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

PSALM 1 (*congregation reads the bold*)

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by a runaway slave named Onesimus. The slave's master, Philemon, was a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to his master and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will

repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the fearsome costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

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

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 670 *“Build Us Up, Lord”*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Down to the River to Pray* arr. Pepper Joplin

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

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.**

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 # 815 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Joyous Light

Marty Haugen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*All rise*)

Let us pray. We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING OF OUR WORK

Dear God,

As summer is ending, and we get ready to start another year in school,
another term at work, another chapter spent with family and friends,
another season in our life as church together,
we ask for your blessing upon us, our backpacks, our work tools, our work clothes,
our working minds and our working hands,
and all that we have that you have blessed us to work with.

Bless us with an eagerness to learn, that their world may grow large,
for joy when learning is easy, and patience when learning is hard.
Bless us with respect for one another, for teachers and students,
for colleagues and leaders, for our neighbors, friends, and family,
that we may form healthy and life-giving relationships.
Teach us to love your world, that we may become caretakers of your creation.
Remind us that Jesus is our best teacher and closest friend.

We ask that you would protect your children, young and old.
Watch over them and keep them safe as they travel to and from school.
As they learn, help them also to discover
the different gifts that you have given each one of them
to be used in your work in the world.

As your children young and old hear the many voices that fill their days,
help them to listen most carefully for your voice,
the one that tells them you will love them always,
no matter what.

The blessing of the Living God, 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

798 "Will You Come and Follow Me" v. 3, unaccompanied

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Postludium

Gordon Young

This Week

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm

Wednesday

Communion Service at St. Thomas, 10 am
Council, 7 PM

Thursday

Friends InDeed Working Group Meeting,
5:30 PM

Saturday

Worship and Music Committee Meeting,
9:30 AM

Next Sunday

Pentecost 17, 10:30 am
Parish Listening Gathering, after service

Parish Listening Gathering

Sunday, September 11, Noon – 1:15 PM

Offered by Friends InDeed

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

Community BBQ

Saturday, September 24, 11AM - 2 PM

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

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

NEW FURNACE REQUIRED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MVA event:

The Metro Vancouver Alliance Annual General Meeting
Thursday, Sept 22nd, 7- 9 pm
St. Augustine's Church, 2020 W. 7th Ave., Vancouver

DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford 604.720.7255
Minister of Music	Jeanette Price 604.251.2656
Friends InDeed Lead Coordinator	The Rev. Margaret Marquardt
Friends InDeed Information and Communication Coordinator	Elina Singh
Office Administrator	Iris Kong
Caretaker	Peter dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Janet Schreiber
Liturgical Artists	Linda Collins Marion Manz June Schramm

Church Council

Lanny Harris - Chairperson
John Morley - Vice Chairperson & Property
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Jen Langerud - Secretary & Human Resources
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
Wayne Wong - Property and Fellowship & Hospitality
Deanna Wilson - Fellowship and Hospitality
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality
Debbie Powell - Outreach Adult (seniors)
Francis Antobre - Outreach Technology
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults
June Heywood - Education & Human Resources
Brad Langerud - Music and Worship
Ray Hartley - Member at large

Mutual Ministry Committee:

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

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

**User name: flwifi
Password: flc1890**

You can find First Lutheran on:
FB: First Lutheran Church Vancouver
TWITTER: FirstLutheranVan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**”*

Rejoicing in the Spirit’s work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. *A brief silence.*

Let us pray for all of God’s people, that they be strengthened in their discipleship through grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the creation, that it thrives and flourishes. Make us good stewards of the land with all its vegetation, mammals, birds, and creatures of all kinds.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who lead and direct us: for elected officials, school boards, pastors, bishops, trustees, councils, ministry teams, business owners, judges, and community organizers.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our congregation and community, that they be safe places for all.
Revive and refresh our hearts as we receive the forgiveness of Christ.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for refugees, immigrants, prisoners, and all who seek new life. Show life and prosperity to those who struggle with injury or illness. We pray *especially for...* and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us remember with thanksgiving the dearly departed who rest from their labours.
We remember *especially* . . . and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .
Instruct us by their witness and bring us, with them, into the promised land.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **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.***