



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
APRIL 2, 2017

**WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890**

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APRIL 2, 2017**

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 - 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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Presider/Homilist Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford

Assisting Minister Arvid Vimb

Lector Christine Neumann

Ministry of Music

Organ/Piano Jeanette Price

Cantor Brad Langerud

Flutist Anne Johnson

Violinist Elina Singh

Trumpeter Karl Maier

Exploring Worship Group

Gift Bearers Ernie Neumann
John Morley

Anointers Elina Singh
Karen Duddy
Sandi Strate
John Morley

Communion Servers Christine Neumann
Ernie Neumann
Ingrid Anderson
Karl Van Spronsen

Tray Holders Ashlee Van Spronsen
Stephanie Van Spronsen

Coffee Hour Hosts Ingrid Tymm

Altar Guild Carol Laslett
Christine Neumann
Soriya

Offering Counters Betty Wong
Ernie Neumann

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

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.**

KYRIE

p. 98

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, Christ Jesus came into the world to free us all from sin and death. As we wait for you, breathe upon us and renew us with your Spirit. Raise up our dry bones, and call us out of our graves that we may live life anew, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Beloved Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - by Denise Pawliuk

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

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

HYMN (led by Exploring Worship Group) *Stay with Us*

Stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, night will soon fall. Then
 Bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, Herr Je - su Christ. Ach,

stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, light in our dark - ness.
 bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, du treu - er Gott.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

LENTEN VERSE (Sing before and after reading. All rise)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

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

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

HOMILY (*Silence for meditation follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

333 **"Jesus Is a Rock In a Weary Land"**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Spirit of Life: Renew us."

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

Largo (Xerxes)

George Frederic Handel

MEAL

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 107

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

p. 108

PRAYER OF INSTITUTION

p. 108

LORD’S PRAYER

p. 112

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.112

*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 *# 330 “Seed That in Earth is Dying”*
Lord For Thy Tender Mercy’s Sake Richard Farrant

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

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favour and give you ☩ peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *# 666 “What Wondrous Love Is This”*

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

POSTLUDE *Prelude in D Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

***Men's Easter Breakfast is coming soon - we need male volunteers to help
prepare, serve and cleanup. Contact Jack Kuyer or Lanny Harris.***

This Week

Today

Council executive meeting, after worship
Confirmation, 3-4:15 PM

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7:15 PM

Tuesday

MVA Provincial Election Assembly, 6-8 pm
(see announcement elsewhere)

Wednesday

Soup meal, 5:30 PM
Council, 6:30 pm
Exploring Worship, 7 PM
Lenten Study at St. Thomas, 7:30-9 pm

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 PM

Next Sunday

Faith Study, 9:15 am
Procession from St. Thomas to FLC, 10 am
Passion Sunday, 10:30 am

**Community Coffee House & Open Mic
Friday, April 28, 7-9 pm**

Volunteers needed for set-up and clean-up! If you're able to help, please talk to Elina or Shannon, or sign up in the narthex.

Confirmation Schedule 2017

3-4:15 PM on Sundays
May 7, 21 (last class)

Children's Worship 2017

10:45 AM on Sundays
May 7, 21

***A PLACE FOR INQUIRY,
A PLACE FOR FAITH***

**Faith Study, 6 Sundays before Easter
March 5-April 9, 9:30am-10:15am**

Books are provided for the study.
Onsite childcare available.

Joint Lenten Study

Passion: the death of a messiah

Led by Rev. Michael Batten
at St Thomas Anglican Church

7:30-9PM, Wed evenings in Lent

Girl Guide Cookie Sale

TODAY & April 23

\$5/box of original cookies

**MVA Provincial Election
Accountability Assembly**

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 from 6-8 PM
Registration at 5:15 PM
Italian Cultural Center
(3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver)

We will be asking the provincial party leaders to support our efforts on Economic Justice, Affordable Housing, Accessible Transit and a Strong Foundation for Healthcare.

The province we want:

- 1. A fair, equal and poverty-free place, with economic justice for all**
- 2. A better housed province**
- 3. Accessible transit for all**
- 4. A strong foundation for health care**

Holy Week Worship Schedule 2017

April 9

Palm/Passion Sunday

10:00 AM Process from St. Thomas to FLC

10:30 AM Morning liturgy at FLC

(Please bring a snack or dessert for coffee hour)

April 13

Maundy Thursday

6:00 PM Soup dinner at FLC

7:00 PM Worship

April 14

Good Friday

10:15 AM Procession from FLC to St. Thomas Anglican

10:30 AM Joint service at St. Thomas

April 16

Resurrection of Our Lord

8:00 AM Pancake breakfast

10:30 AM Service at FLC



DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's People
Pastor	Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford 604.720.7255
Minister of Music	Jeanette Price 604.251.2656
Friends InDeed Coordinator	Elina Singh
Office Administrator	Iris Kong
Caretaker	Peter dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Janet Schreiber
Liturgical Artists	Linda Collins Marion Manz

Church Council

Jen Langerud - Chair & Human Resources
John Morley - Vice Chair & Property
Karen Duddy - Secretary & Community Outreach
Lanny Harris - Property
Ernie Neumann - Treasurer
Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary
Wayne Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality & Property
Betty Wong - Fellowship and Hospitality
Debbie Powell - Adult Outreach
Francis Antobre - Outreach Technology
Russell Collins - Community & Technology Outreach
Felix Opoku - Outreach Youth & Young Adults
Shannon Ingersoll - Worship and Music
Heather Robbie - Education
Janet Ray - Community Outreach, Human resources

Mutual Ministry Committee:

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

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: “Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**”*

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God, our sure strength, set the mind of your church on the Spirit of love and kinship. Bring healing where there is division and hope where there is worry.
Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

You bring life where there was despair and death. Bring new hope and new growth to barren lands and water to parched earth. Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

Listen to the voices of the weak and oppressed. Guard people in all lands from danger and injustice *especially*... Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

Bring life to dry bones in our community. Breathe your life-giving Spirit into the corners of our ministry that need renewal. Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

Martha and Mary pleaded for healing. Hear the cries of your people who call out in need and pain. Grant healing and comfort to those who are ill. We pray especially for... and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . .
Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

We give thanks for the faithful departed and for the assurance that we will join with them in the heavenly banquet. We remember especially . . . and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . Spirit of Life: **Renew us.**

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**