



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 8, 2017

**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

**BAPTISM OR OUR LORD
JANUARY 8, 2017**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Sylvia Schmidt
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Karen Duddy
<i>Lector</i>	Janet Ray
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Violinist</i>	Elina Singh
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ashlee Van Spronsen Stephanie Van Spronsen
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson Janet Ray Lanny Harris
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Michael Ray Esther Ling
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jackie Cleroux Christine Neumann Soriya Salehi
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Lanny Harris Alex Wilson

If you'd like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Iris Kong, our office administrator, at 604.435.6020. If you'd like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Wayne or Betty Wong at 604-301-9381.

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
JANUARY 8, 2017
Holy Communion, Setting Seven

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

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

PRELUDE

*Largo (Concerto in D)
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

Antonio Vivaldi
J. S. Bach

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 stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,
**we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.
Forgive us for the times
we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:
Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 310 "Songs of Thankfulness"

GREETING

From God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

p. 175

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:
O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant Israel is endowed with the Spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever keep it from fulfilling its task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the new assignment of the servant is to bring light to the nations.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

PSALM 29 (*congregation reads the bold*) Translated by James Taylor

Age and experience have their benefits.
A child's excitement sometimes needs a parent's stability.
A caring parent is like a raft in a torrent of people.
The flood surges along irresistibly.
It picks up small children and swirls them away under its surface.
Its bedlam drowns the tiny cries of lost little ones.
The calls of parents go unheard.
But a child is safe, riding on a parent's shoulders.
It rises above the tumult; it cannot be swept away.
God, you stand firm against every tumult.
No flood can tumble you along;
No crisis can sweep you away.
Sometimes we cannot hear your voice over the chaos;
The din of destruction drowns our feeble cries for help.
We can be safe only when we wrap our arms around your neck, and hold you tight.
Then the torrent cannot touch us.
God is much stronger than we are.
God can carry us to safety.

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 179

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God’s child.

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

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Response to conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 453 *“Baptized and Set Free”*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Cornet Voluntary

John Travers

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)*

Let us pray. **Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 180

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

p. 181

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Prayer over the gifts)*

THE 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

The holy gifts of God for you, the holy people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

“LAMB OF GOD”

p. 182

*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.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 305 *“When Jesus Came to Jordan”*
O Splendour of God’s Glory Bright 15th Century Plainsong

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*
Let us pray. **O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now— today, tomorrow, every day— that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING
The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, 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 # 322 *“O, Love How Deep”*

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

POSTLUDE *Minuet Finale (Water Music)* George Frederic Handel

BISHOP GREG VISITING FIRST LUTHERAN

Please join us in welcoming a visit from Bishop Greg Mohr on January 22. Bishop Greg will be leading our worship as the presider and preacher.

This Week

Monday

Exploring Music with Joe Campos, 4 pm
Centering Prayer, 7:15 PM

Wednesday

Soup and Study, 5:30 PM
Mutual ministry, 7 pm
Exploring Worship, 7 PM

Thursday

Missional renewal clergy cohort, 9:30-3:30
Choir, 7:30 PM

Next Sunday

Epiphany 2, 10:30 am
Children's Worship, 10:45 am
Confirmation, 3-4:15 pm

Our thanks to Pr. Sylvia Schmidt for leading the worship and proclaiming the good news this morning. Pr. Lori-Anne will return to the office on Wednesday.

Children's Worship 2017 10:45 am on Sundays

January 15
February 5, 19
March 5
April 2
May 7, 21

Leadership opportunities on Council

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

A special lunch will be hosted at FLC by Joseph Nurani in memory of his late uncle John Eisen after service on **January 29**. Please indicate your attendance by signing up in the narthex to help with the meal planning. If you are able to help with set-up or clean up, please also indicate on the sheet.

First Lutheran's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be **after morning service on Sunday, February 19, 2017**. All those who have the responsibility of providing reports for the AGM booklet are to have those reports in to the church office by **Sunday, February 5**. Food contributions, especially sandwiches, are appreciated for the potluck lunch prior to the business discussion. If you are willing to help in the kitchen, please let Betty and Wayne Wong know.

Confirmation Schedule 2017

3 - 4:15 PM on Sundays

January 15, 29
February 5, 26
March 12, 19
April 2, 23
May 7, 21 (last class)

Free Car Racks

Please contact Barbara Schaub if interested.

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

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

Mutual Ministry Committee:

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

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**"*

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.
A brief silence.

Pour out your Spirit of unity, triune God. Renew our lives in the promises of baptism. Hold us together in the oneness of the body of Christ. Empower us to be one as you are one. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of life, eternal God. Move over polluted waters. Breathe on barren fields. Strengthen ancient cedars and oaks. Engage us in your care of sea, land, and sky. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of wisdom, holy God. Guide politicians and military officials as they wrestle with complex situations. Grant them courage and compassion to work for peace in every nation *especially*... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of love, glorious God. Sustain all who knit prayer shawls, sew quilts, and provide housing for our neighbors who are homeless. Surround those who seek warmth and shelter with grace-filled advocates. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of justice, gracious God. Heal the pain of all who are victims of crime. Be present with all who are imprisoned. Reconcile broken relationships within communities. Comfort the sick and their caregivers. We pray especially for... and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit of peace, resurrecting God. Bring all who grieve into a community rooted in you. Uphold them with your grace and keep us all grounded in your promise of life eternal. We remember especially . . . and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **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.