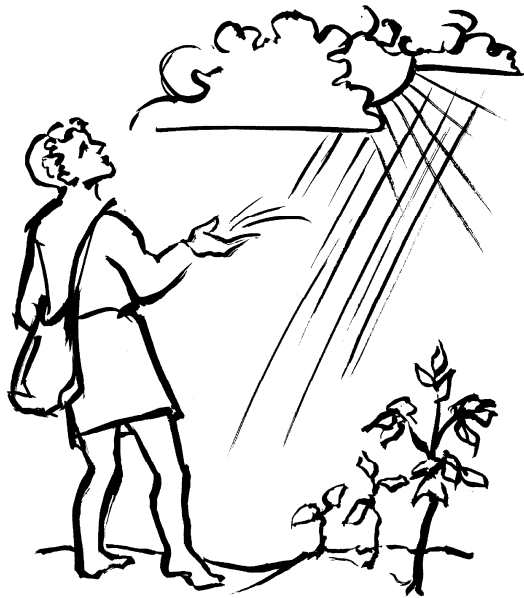




FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 16, 2017

**WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDED 1890**

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 16, 2017**

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

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Michael Rodgers
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Lector</i>	Janet Filippelli
<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>	Karen Duddy Janet Ray
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Emmanuel Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Karen Duddy Janet Ray Lanny Harris Sylvia Harris
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Donna Dufresne Michael Ray
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Laslett Patricia Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Tony 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 Wayne or Betty Wong at 604-301-9381.

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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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

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

PRELUDE

*Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus
Air from 'Semele'*

Paul Manz
George Frederic Handel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN # 524 *"What Is This Place"*

GREETING

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

GLORIA

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:
Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

PSALM 65:1-13 (*congregation reads the bold.*)

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
²**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**
³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.
⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**
⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.
⁶**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**
⁷You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**
⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**
¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its slavery. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 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 after the reading: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*sung before and after the gospel reading. Please rise*) p. 179

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

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

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood

on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!”

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY (*please rise*) # 734 **“God, Whose Farm Is All Creation”**

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

Give Me Jesus

Mark Hayes

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*Please rise*)

Let us pray. **Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 180

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heave, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

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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

679 “*For the Fruit of All Creation*”

Lead Me Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(Please rise)*

Let us pray. **Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. 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 # 551 *“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

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

POSTLUDE *Hyfrydol* Jonathan Reuss

Our thanks to Pr. Michael Rodgers for leading the worship this morning while Pr. Lori-Anne is on holidays. She will return to the office this Wednesday. For pastoral emergency, please contact Pr. Nathan Fong at 604-433-1515 or pastor@graceburnaby.com.

This Week

Today

Table Talk during coffee hour

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7:15 PM

Wednesday

Council meeting, 6:30 PM

Next Sunday

Pentecost 7, 10:30 AM
Table Talk during coffee hour

The Altar Guild needs more volunteers. There is a lot that goes on before and after a worship service! Would you like to learn how to set up the altar for communion? We will teach you! Or you could choose to be on the clean up crew, and learn how to wash and store the communion vessels after worship is finished. Know that you are welcome to join the team! If you are interested, please contact Janet Schreiber (janetmts0108@gmail.com)

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

TBA - 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

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

Internet Log-in:
User name: FLC Staff
Password: FLC53HER

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world.
A brief silence.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your living word that goes out and does not return empty. Make your church a partner in accomplishing what you desire.
Unite us in faith, witness, and mission. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For land, creatures, and people suffering from drought, that gentle rain bring life and hope. For mountains, hills, and the trees of the field, that all creation clap for joy.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For nations suffering the violence and hunger of war. For exiles and refugees.
Lead them home in peace and bless them with your fullness. We remember *especially*...
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For this congregation and its leaders; through our shared work, let your word prosper among us and bring life to the community beyond our doors.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For victims and perpetrators of race-based crime. For all who suffer sorrow, illness, or injury. Bring them justice, healing, and new life by the power of your Spirit.
We pray *especially for...and* for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . .
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In thanksgiving for all who have died recently, for strangers and dear ones who have blessed our lives and sparked our hope. Give comfort and confidence to all who mourn.
We remember *especially* ... and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . .Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord. **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.