



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 19, 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.

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**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 19, 2017**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Carol Laslett
<i>Lector</i>	Julie Bauming
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Violinist</i>	Elina Singh
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Anointers</i>	Arvid Vimb Karen Duddy John Morley Karen Kerfoot
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Felix Opoku Jean Ndiokubwayo Alex Wilson Deanna Wilson
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ruby Carson Melody Carson
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Esther Ling Michael Ray
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jackie Cleroux Patricia Manu Jordan Manu
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Tong Wong Frank Filippelli

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 19, 2017
SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

PRELUDE

*Preludio
Sanctus*

Antonio Vivaldi
Charles Gounod

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of stillness,

**You draw us into the quietness of the desert so that we can encounter ourselves.
But we confess that all too often we stubbornly cling to false images
rather than face the necessity of change.**

God of Truth,

**You call us into the emptiness of the desert so that we can confront our desires.
But we confess that all too often we continue to choose our own comfort
rather than serving the needs of others.**

God of new ways,

**You call us into the desert so that we can engage with your Kingdom.
But we confess that all too often we prefer the smooth roads of safety
over the pathways of justice.**

God of new life,

**Forgive us, O God, wherever we have chosen to be, or do,
or dare less than you have asked of us; and as we walk on in the desert with you help us
watch and wrestle with these things, and lead us on in new ways.**

GATHERING HYMN

658 *"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"*

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. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

"God So Loved The World"

Thomas Keesecker

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

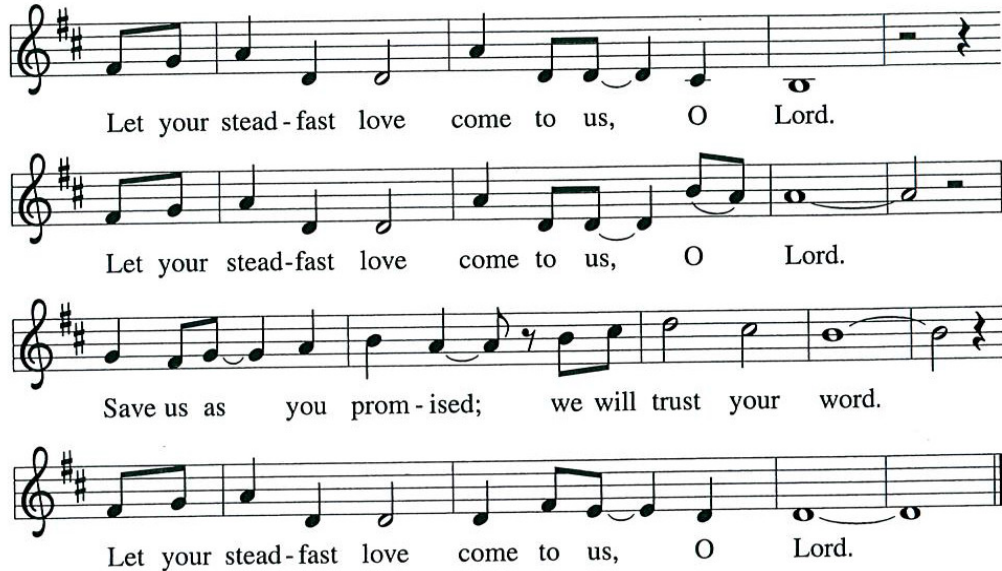
Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

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



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

Response after announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet." ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”
³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” ³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”
⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.”

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

HOMILY (*Silence for meditation follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

777 **“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**”*

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

Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen

Spiritual

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
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*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 # 329 **“As The Sun With Longer Journey”**
Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus Paul Manz

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 # 647 *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”*

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

POSTLUDE *Prelude in E Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

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

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

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your prayers, best wishes, cards, home visits and many other kindnesses. The operation went well. Now, with God's help, I'm on the mend.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers. May God continue to bless each one of you.

With Christian love, June (Heywood)

This Week

Today

Confirmation, 3-4:15 PM

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7:15 PM

Wednesday

Soup meal, 5:30 PM

Exploring Worship, 7 PM

Lenten Study at St. Thomas, 7:30-9 pm

New Westminster Ministerial

LENTEEN LECTURE SERIES, 7:30-9pm

Thursday

Joint Speech program, 7-8:30 PM

at St. Andrew's Wesley United Church

(see announcement elsewhere)

Choir, 7:30 PM

Next Sunday

Faith Study, 9:15 am

Lent 4, 10:30 am

**Calling Volunteers for Sat, April 1
10 am to noon at FLC**

Volunteers are needed for pre-Easter preparation, including polishing brass and silver, polishing the wood furnishings, altar cupboard sorting, cleaning and stashing, and votive candle stands clean-up. If you are interested in helping out or have questions, please contact church office or Marion Manz.

***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.

**Children's Worship 2017
10:45 am on Sundays**

April 2 May 7, 21

**Transforming Community Connections
Sunday, March 26th, after the service**

Do you want to find new ways to engage with the community around us? Come and share ideas and inspiration. Please talk to Elina for more details. Everyone welcome.

**Girl Guide Cookie Sale
April 2 & April 23**

\$5/box of chocolate or vanilla cookies

Confirmation Schedule 2017

3 - 4:15 PM on Sundays

April 2, 23 (Cancelled) May 7, 21

Joint Lenten Study

Passion: the death of a messiah

Led by Rev. Michael Batten

at St Thomas Anglican Church

7:30-9PM, Wednesdays in Lent

**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)

To RSVP and get tickets for the MVA assembly, please contact the MVA representative for your organization.

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: “God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**”*

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

O God, let your church on earth, justified and reconciled through Jesus Christ, be bold in its proclamation of the gospel. God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

In your hands are the depths of the earth and the sea which you made. Make us faithful inhabitants of this earth, caring for the waterways and their creatures. God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

Lead the nations of the world away from the wilderness of sin and evil, and toward the light of love and peace. God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

Lead this congregation in service to others. Embolden the faithful here with your promise and your presence. God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

To those who are thirsty for love, for justice, for peace, for belonging, give the water of life. For those who are suffering or in pain, bring healing balm and peace. We pray especially for . . . and for those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the witness and testimony of the saints who have gone before us into eternal life. Let us boast in the hope they have shared, a hope that does not disappoint us. We remember especially . . . and those whom we name aloud or silently in our heart. . . . God of Love: **Your mercy is great.**

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