



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



ASH SUNDAY
MARCH 5, 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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**ASH SUNDAY
MARCH 5, 2017**

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Michael Rodgers
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Lector</i>	Heather Robbie
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Lorna Hau
<i>Flutist</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Trumpeter</i>	Karl Maier
<i>Violinist</i>	Elina Singh
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Lanny Harris Ernie Neumann
<i>Anointers</i>	John Morley Julie Bauming Karen Kerfoot Pr. Sylvia Schmidt
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Pr. Adolf Manz Ernie Neumann Lanny Harris Karen Duddy
<i>Tray Holders</i>	Ashlee Van Spronsen Stephanie Van Spronsen
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Jack Kuyer Diana Kuyer
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Laslett Christine Neumann Soriya
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Ernie Neumann Betty Wong

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

ASH SUNDAY
MARCH 5, 2017
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	<i>Prelude in D Minor</i>	Antonio Vivaldi
	<i>Have Mercy on Me, O Lord</i>	J. S. Bach

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING DIALOGUE

Jesus, by your example you challenge us to make this season a journey of discovery;

**As we leave comforting landmarks behind to inhabit
and explore our own uncharted places,
help us to discern who we are and embrace what we might become.**

Jesus, by your words and actions you show us how to watch and wait and wrestle;

Help us to recognize where we are and envisage where we need to move to.

Jesus, you offer us your company in the known and the unknown places;

**Help us to better understand the threads of our lives
and see how to weave them with yours into the patterns of God's Kingdom.**

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 # 326 “Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

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

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray. Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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—by Denise Pawliuk

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent’s promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the

garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

PSALM 32 (*congregation reads the bold*)

Translated by Eugene Peterson

Count yourself lucky, how happy you must be—
you get a fresh start, your slate's wiped clean.
Count yourself lucky—
GOD holds nothing against you and you're holding nothing back from him.

**When I kept it all inside, my bones turned to powder,
my words became daylong groans.
The pressure never let up; all the juices of my life dried up.
Then I let it all out; I said, "I'll make a clean breast of my failures to GOD."
Suddenly the pressure was gone—my guilt dissolved, my sin disappeared.**

These things add up. Every one of us needs to pray;
when all hell breaks loose and the dam bursts
we'll be on high ground, untouched.

**GOD'S my island hideaway, keeps danger far from the shore,
throws garlands of hosannas around my neck.**

Let me give you some good advice;
I'm looking you in the eye and giving it to you straight:
"Don't be ornery like a horse or mule that needs bit and bridle to stay on track."
God-defiers are always in trouble;
God-affirmers find themselves loved every time they turn around.

**Celebrate GOD.
Sing together—everyone! All you honest hearts, raise the roof!**

CHOIR ANTHEM

"God So Loved the World"

Thomas Keesecker

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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.

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

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

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

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”
⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” ⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

HOMILY (*Silence for meditation follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY (*please rise*) # 325 **“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”**

INVITATION TO LENT

Lent is time of preparation, as we mindfully journey throughout forty days, and affirm our own baptismal covenant. This is a journey of renewal, as we listen to God’s call in our hearts and lives. This is a season where we intentionally reflect, and take the time to be still in the presence of God’s embracing love. This is a season when we are assured that God’s grace is working in us and in our lives, bringing life-giving change and liberating us to live our lives anew.

HYMN DURING IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*please be seated*)

Nada Te Turbe (*see last page*)

Led by Exploring Worship Team

IMPOSITION OF ASHES **“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”**

All desiring a cross of ashes to be marked upon their foreheads are invited to come forward to receive the sign of mortality and penitence, the sign that in Christ, our sin is put to death, and the sign that in all life is the breath of God.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER *(please rise)*

Show us your mercy, O God,
Give us the joy of your saving help again,
Give peace in all the world;
Keep the nations under your care,
Let your way be known upon earth;
Let not the needy be forgotten,
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
Lord, hear our prayer, and let our cry come before you.
Renew us with your everlasting love. Amen.

**and grant us your salvation.
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.
for only in you can we live in safety.
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.
your saving health among all nations.
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.**

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 *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* arr. Jack Schrader

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.

COMMUNION NARRATIVE AND THANKSGIVING

Before going out into the wilderness,
Jesus sat down to eat and drink with his friends.
To show them the challenge of the way ahead,
and offer them gifts for that journey,
he took bread – sustaining and wholesome – and poured wine
– earthy and warming – sharing these
as signs of his continuing presence with them throughout time to come.

**And now, remembering that moment,
and recognizing that its promise is also for us in this time and place,
we too break bread and pour wine to share with one another.
And in that action, we recognize and affirm with joy
that Christ is present with us now, and throughout time to come;
and we join our voices with those of all creation in the unending song of praise:**

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

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GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is good and right to give our thanks and praise.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

God of new life, send down upon us now,
and on these gifts of bread and wine,
that same Spirit who called Jesus into the desert,
that we too may be strengthened by your Presence
and refreshed and renewed through your love.

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”

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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 **# 808 “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”**
Watch and Pray J. S. Bach

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

Go into the world with eyes open to the transforming light of Christ, hands open to serve those you meet, ears open to the call of the Spirit, hearts open to the bountiful love of God, and lives open to follow Christ to the cross. The God who opened for us the way of everlasting life + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN # 618 “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

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

POSTLUDE *Rockingham* Healey Willan

A PLACE FOR INQUIRY, A PLACE FOR FAITH

*Are you new to the Christian faith?
Are you continuing with your faith journey?
Looking for a safe space to ask questions?
Interested in learning more about the Lutheran tradition?*

**Join us for 6 Sundays before Easter
March 5-April 9, 9:30am-10:15am**

This small group will be an open and safe space for prayer and inquiry, to experience our faith tradition, and to be supported by a faith sponsor.

Content for each group session will come out of our experience with Daniel Erlander’s book: “Baptized, We Live.”

Books are provided for the study.

Onsite childcare will be provided for all sessions.

*Please contact Pr Lori-Anne if you are interested in joining the study
or sign up in the narthex.*

This Week

Monday

Centering Prayer, 7:15 PM

Wednesday

Soup meal, 5:30 PM

Council, 6 PM

Exploring worship, 7 PM

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

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 PM

Saturday

Friends InDeed Gathering, 2-4 PM

Installation service, 2 PM

(for Rev. Brenda Nestegaard Paul)

Next Sunday

Faith Study, 9:15 am

Lent 2, 10:30 am

Confirmation, 3-4:15 PM

Friends InDeed Gathering

Come and celebrate Friends InDeed ministry! **On Saturday, March 11th, 2 - 4 pm**, we will celebrate and give thanks for everything that's happened in Friends InDeed over the past few years. Please talk to Elina or sign up in the narthex.

Children's Worship 2017

10:45 am on Sundays

April 2 May 7, 21

Confirmation Schedule 2017

3 - 4:15 PM on Sundays

March 12, 19 April 2, 23

May 7, 21 (last class)

Joint Lenten Study

Passion: the death of a messiah

Led by Rev. Michael Batten
at St Thomas Anglican Church

**Wednesday evenings in Lent
7:30-9PM, beginning March 8**

Our thanks to Pr. Michael Rodgers for leading the Ash Sunday worship this morning while Pr. Lori-Anne is on study leave. She will return to the office on Wednesday. Please contact Pr. Nathan Fong for any pastoral emergency.

You are cordially invited to the
Installation/ Induction of

**Rev. Brenda Nestegaard Paul
2:00pm, Saturday, March 11, 2017
Trinity (Lutheran/Anglican) Church
4766 Angus St., Port Alberni, BC**

Clergy are invited to process and vest.
The liturgical colour of the day is red.

**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

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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
John Morley
Ernie Neumann
Jen Langerud
Sylvia Harris
Wayne Wong
Betty Wong
Debbie Powell
Francis Antobre
Felix Opoku
Shannon Ingersoll
Karen Duddy
Russell Collins
Heather Robbie

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

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te: Quien a Dios
 Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en. Those who seek

tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
 God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

na - da te es - pan - te: So - lo Dios bas - ta.
 noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

Chords: Am, Dm7, G, CM7, F, Dm6, E, Am, Am, Dm7, G, Em/C, F, Dm6, E, Am