

Announcements

This Week

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Worship, 10:30 am

The Pathfinders are here at First Lutheran today to sell Girl Guide cookies (chocolate and vanilla sandwich crème) after the service for \$4/box.



HELP NEEDED

The BC Synod Office is looking for 4 volunteers to help out with putting the Convention Bulletin of Reports together on **Monday, April 12, at the Synod office, probably from about 10am to sometime in the afternoon.** Please email Ashley Russell at arussell@elcic.ca or call the Synod office at 604 524-1318 if you can help.

Congratulations to Prs. Paul and Sylvia on the birth of their grandson, **Lucas Gregory**, whose parents are Sean and Lisa F..



AUGUSTANA CHOIR presents
a Benefit Concert for LUMS
Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 pm
Christ Church Cathedral
(690 Burrard St. , Vancouver)

The Augustana Choir of the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose, AB, will embark on their "Due West 2010 Spring tour" at the end of April. The choir will perform benefit concerts for local causes at a number of churches and schools in Calgary, Nelson, Vancouver and Victoria. The Augustana Choir, with director Dr. Ardelle Ries and pianist Dr. Roger Admiral, will sing a **benefit concert for the Lutheran Urban Mission Society (LUMS)** at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 pm with featured works by composers Brahms, Bruckner, Chatman, Haydn, Schafer, Tate and Willan. Admission is by free will donation. (The Augustana Campus of the U of A is formerly known as Camrose Lutheran College.)



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 11, 2010

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APRIL 11, 2010
“Spoken Service”

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 spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God has given to all nations the repentance that leads to life. Let us come with repentant hearts to the God who makes all things new. Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, we confess to you all the ways in which we dismiss the resurrection news. We are slow of heart to believe. We turn from others and retreat in fear. Come into our locked rooms and breathe into us your forgiving Spirit. Reawaken our trust and strengthen our hope, that we may be witnesses to your saving power. Amen.

Peace be with you, sisters and brothers. In baptism you have received a spirit of adoption; you are God's beloved children. In the name of Christ your sins are forgiven. Rejoice, and welcome this freedom as a gift. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *#389 “Christ Is Alive”*



It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God's family — and all our guests — 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. After receiving the bread into the open, upraised palm, all may drink from the first (common) cup or, if desired, have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

#592 “Just As I Am”

BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *#881 “Let All Things Now Living”*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to bear Christ's love to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU

We would like to thank **Prs. Sylvia and Paul Schmidt** for leading our worship this morning. We are blessed, indeed, to have them in our community and by their sharing of their pastoral gifts with us. Also, thanks to **Catherine Mountain** for filling in for Jeanette who is away for a much needed rest. Jeanette will be back next Sunday.

**Pr. Peter Fischer's
Contact Information:**

Phone: 604 228-4676

Email: peterfischer@shaw.ca

We give you thanks for all the saints who have gone before us *especially...* and who taught us to believe. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

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 right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (Prayer over the gifts)

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
and 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27–32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Response after reading: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4–8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

Response after reading: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 20:19–31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

Response after announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY #378 "Awake My Heart of Gladness"

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Rejoicing in the glory of the resurrection dawn, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

O God of life, we pray for the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, and especially for all the newly baptized. By your Spirit, empower us to be witnesses to the empty tomb. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for rainforests and deserts, mountains and tundra, rivers and grasslands, and all creatures that call this planet home. Breathe healing on our earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all the nations, especially those torn by violence and oppression. Send wisdom to all state and local leaders. Teach peace to our war-weary world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the homeless and hungry, the sick and the dying, the abused and the neglected *especially....* Comfort all who suffer, and calm our fears. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our community and our congregation, the old and the young. Renew us this Easter season, and send us out to be bread for a hungry world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**