

On Wednesday **August 11th** Surrey Urban Mission, 13388 104 Ave., Surrey, welcomes Pr. Fran Schmidt to Surrey. Pr. Fran is a missionary in Peru and will be sharing her experiences and stories with us. On Tuesday **August 10th**, Pr. Fran will come to day camp and teach songs, crafts, stories and make some Peruvian food with the children!

Please join us on Wednesday from 7 pm until 8:30 pm to meet her and to hear about 'faith in action.' Refreshments will be served.

On Thursday **August 12th** at 7:30 pm Pr. Schmidt will be giving her presentation at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Richmond, 6340 # 4 Road, 604-270-0085.

If you have any questions please contact the Mission at 604 581-5172.



Lutheran Refugee and Immigrant Ministry have a beautiful desk to give away. If you are interested please call 604-435-9750.



Please sign up on the worship leaders sign up sheet for September and October posted in the narthex bulletin board.

Please consider signing up to be a **Fellowship Host**. The roster for July 4 - Oct. 31, 2010 is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Choose the date that would be best for you. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Hospitality Committee (Julie B. Karen K., or Ingrid B.).

FUNDRAISING

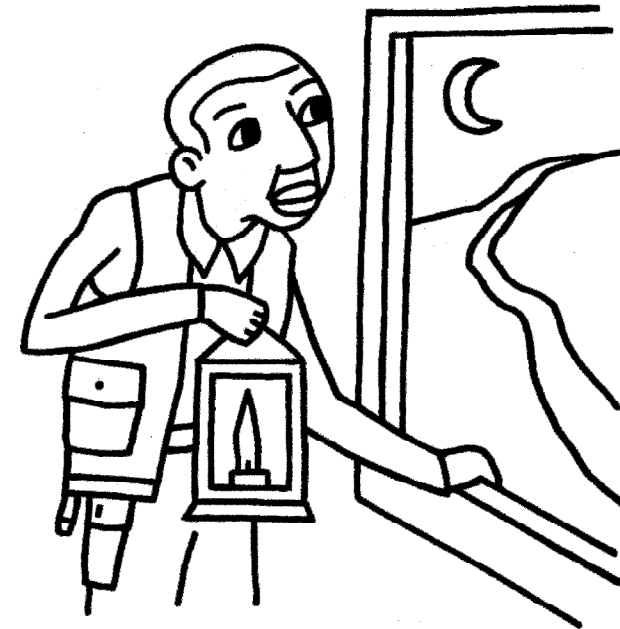
The BC Synod in convention has authorized a special fundraising appeal to address the current financial shortcoming of the synod.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Synod's "Season of Pentecost Synod Fund" using the BC Synod envelopes in the narthex.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 8, 2010

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 8, 2010
“Now the Feast and Celebration”

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

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

*Abide Dearest Jesus
Voluntary in A Minor*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert
William Boyce*

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

813 “Faith of Our Fathers”

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1–6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram,

Announcements

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

I greet you today for the last time as Bishop of the BC synod. This is officially my last day in office. As of tomorrow I will be retired. It has been a tremendous privilege to serve in the ordained ministry for the last 37 years. I still think it is the best job on earth! It has been an honour, these last nine years, to serve, first as Acting Bishop and then as Bishop of the BC Synod. I am grateful for your support and prayers during my tenure as bishop of our synod. With the apostle Paul,

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-6)

Over the years your personal expressions, telephone calls, letters, cards, and prayers of support have been a tremendous encouragement to me. I am confident that, with me, you will pray and support our new Bishop, The Rev Dr Greg Mohr.

I am looking forward to having more time to spend with my wife, Winn, our children, grandchildren and friends. Winn and I invite and encourage you to visit us in Chilliwack.

I pray that God will continue to bless you in the ministry to which God has called you.

Peace be with you

+ Gerhard

*Bishop Gerhard A. Preibisch
British Columbia Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*Acclamations 2 & 3*) p. 12-13 (Red Folders)

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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 (as the bread is broken)

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



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.

“LAMB OF GOD” p. 13 (Red Folders)

HYMN # 807 **“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**
It Is Well with My Soul Alice Jordan

“THANKS BE TO YOU” p. 14 (Red Folders)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*All rise*)

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN # 808 **“Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *Praise the Almighty* Flor Peeters

I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 7 (sing twice) (Red Folders)

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:32–40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

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

³²Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 878 "*Soli Deo Gloria*"

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried,

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need,

and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

For all whose vocation is to preach the gospel, that they may grow in the art of proclaiming the gospel with clarity and conviction.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who look toward heaven and count the stars: astronomers, astronauts, air traffic controllers, and meteorologists, that they may use their talents to improve life on earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For world leaders, that they may recognize war as a vain hope for peace and work toward justice for all peoples. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the lonely, the fearful, and the sick (*especially*), that they may experience your good pleasure and freedom from want.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this assembly, that we may place our hearts and trust in the true treasure of righteousness given through Christ, claiming our inheritance as children of God, as did Sarah and Abraham. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for those before us who lived by faith (*especially Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers, whom we commemorate today, and ...*), we pray that you will keep us steadfast in you until we join them in glory.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

O That I Had a Thousand Voices

Paul Manz

"AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT" (*All Rise*) p. 9

(Red Folders)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

p. 9

(Red Folders)

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 10

(Red Folders)