



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 9, 2010

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Setting Eight

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

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. The risen Lord Jesus provides visions of peace that passes human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter, died 1760 — When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.

PRESERVICE MUSIC *Christ Thou Art Our Light and Day* George Bohm
 All My Hopes on God is Founded Michardt Burkhardt

EASTER ACCLAMATION Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed!** *(Repeat 3x)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN #815 *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

GREETING AND KYRIE *(cantor sings verses, all sing refrain)* p. 184

“THIS IS THE FEAST” p. 187

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**FREE LECTURES WITH
DR. BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR**

What's the Matter with Preaching Today?
Sunday, May 9, 2010
7:00 pm

Biblical Narrative in the Age of Twitter
Tuesday, May 11, 2010
12:30 pm

Both lectures will be held at VST's
Chapel of the Epiphany.

First Lutheran Church is a member of the *British Columbia Synod* (one of five regions) which make up the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)* which in turn belongs to the *Lutheran World Federation* which represents the 80 million Lutherans around the world. For more information on the ministries of the ELCIC (office in Winnipeg, Manitoba), visit its website at www.elcic.ca. For similar information on the BC synod, visit its office in New Westminster or its website at www.bcsynod.org.

Financial support of our congregation's life and mission is provided by the donations of our members given in thankful response to the generosity shown by God in the gifts given to us. Offerings of any amount are gratefully accepted and joyfully spent in our service to Christ and to others.

Have you remembered First Lutheran in your will? Consider how a bequest or gift might continue supporting our mission and ministry.

BC SYNOD CONVENTION

The BC synod Convention will be held this week, **May 13-16**, at the Church of the Cross in Victoria. Please include in your prayers our delegates, **Elina S., Fikre T. and Pr. Peter Fischer**, as they discern the spirits leading for the BC Synod, particularly as we elect a new Bishop.

Thanks to **Pr. Sylvia Schmidt** who will lead us in our worship next Sunday.

Iconography, Imperial Concord, Imperial Wives and Ecclesial Harmony in the Pastoral Epistles

A lecture by Professor Harry O. Maier of Vancouver School of Theology

Redeemer Lutheran Church
1499 Laurier Avenue, Vancouver, BC

**Wednesday
May 26, 2010, 7:30 PM**

STATEMENT ON HUMAN SEXUALITY

Several copies of the "First Draft of a Proposed ELCIC Social Statement on Human Sexuality" are on the shelf below the narthex bulletin board. Please feel free to read the draft statement and send your feedback by August 31, 2010. For those who have access to internet, the draft statement and a link to the online feedback form is also available at: www;elcic.ca/human-sexuality.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WRAP UP

Many thanks to those who assisted with teaching this year and who shared their talents and donated craft supplies and our new cupboard.

Many thanks to everyone (especially Mikhail) for gladly moving around us when we seemed to be in the middle of everywhere. This Easter season the children are learning about the early church and have been enriched by hearing the stories of some of our current members.

On **Sunday, May 23** (the long weekend) we will have a party after church rather than a lesson before.

Love from the children, Dawna, Donna, Cheryl, Ursula

RETIREMENT GIFT

Bishop Gerhard Preibisch is retiring this summer after many years of faithful ministry and the BC Synod Council Executive and the Bishop's Mutual Ministry Committee are inviting pastors and congregational members to contribute to a retirement gift for Bishop Gerhard and his wife Winn which will be given at the Saturday night banquet on May 15th.

Please send your financial contribution and personal letters to the synod office, payable to Gene Blishen, at 80 East 10th Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3L 4R5. On the envelope, mark it "Attention: Robert Hampel." Inside the letter, please clearly indicate that it is for the Bishop's Retirement Gift. **Again, please make the cheque payable to Gene Blishen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9–15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Response after the reading: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTRHEM

"I Must Tell Jesus"

Mary McDonald

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplant sun and moon.

¹⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations.

²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more

night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Sing Alleluia verse before and after reading*) p. 188

GOSPEL: John 14:23–29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

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

²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

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

STATEMENT OF FAITH BY CONFIRMANDS

HYMN OF THE DAY #735 *“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”*

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

At the conclusion of the hymn of the day, those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font. They may be joined by others from the assembly. The presiding minister may note briefly the occasion for this affirmation.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly with these or similar words.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these people*, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of *their* baptism.

A sponsor or another representative of the congregation presents those making affirmation.

I present (*name/s*), who *desire* to make public affirmation of *their* baptism.

Announcements

This Week

Thursday
Choir rehearsal, 7:00 pm

Next Sunday
Sunday School, 9:15 am
Worship, 10:30 am

The Lutheran Campus Ministry at UBC is holding a fundraiser and have asked for your help in advertising!

On **May 23rd**, sopranos **Lorraine Reinhardt and Stephanie Olson** will give a recital at West Point Grey United Church (4595 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver). Admission by donation. All proceeds will go towards Lutheran Campus Ministry, UBC. Concert begins at **3:00pm**.

Happy Mothers Day to All Our Wonderful Mothers

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

Phone: 604 228-4676
Email: peterfischer@shaw.ca

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM



This morning we rejoice with the following who are affirming their baptism (also known as "Confirmation") in which they take on their adult responsibility for their life in Christ.

Congratulations also to them and their parents for their work and support on the two-year programme of study and faith formation. Special thanks go to **Linda E.** and **Caroline W.** for their extra work on preparing these children for today's special occasion.

Felix Yaw O.
Andrew Edward E.
Caitlin Alisha M.
Caleigh Trisha M.
Benjamin Andrew K.
Nicole Rachel Caroline W.

Please join us downstairs after the service this morning for cake, coffee and conversation.

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 thine is 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.**

“LAMB OF GOD”

p. 191



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

#793 “Be Thou My Vision”

Ave Verum

W.A. Mozart

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*All rise*)

SENDING

BLESSING OF THE DELEGATES TO BC SYNOD CONVENTION

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN **#543 “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”**

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

POSTLUDE *Cwm Rhondda*

Paul Manz

The presiding minister may continue with prayer.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for *these sisters and brothers*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called *them* to yourself, enlightened *them* with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished *them* in the community of faith. Uphold your *servants* in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may stand and join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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 presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support *these sisters and brothers* and pray for *them* in their life in Christ? **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

PARENTAL BLESSING

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Those making Affirmation come forward one at a time to kneel, with parents and godparents standing behind them. All may lay both hands on the head of the person as the presiding minister says:

Stir up in (*name*) the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

PARISH BLESSING AND GIFT

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

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, our temple, we pray for the whole church and all its leaders; for the denominations with which we are in full communion, and for those from whom we are estranged. This morning we pray for the BC Synod of the ELCIC as we meet in convention this week in Victoria. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our water of life, we pray for this fragile earth; for all creatures that creep or run, that fly or swim; for all places that need to be made well. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our advocate, we pray for nations broken by violence *especially*.., world leaders, those in the military, peacemakers, and for all who daily live in fear. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our tree of life, we pray for all who hunger for your fruit; for adults and children who are starving; for all who feel spiritually empty; for all producers and preparers of food. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our healer, we pray for our congregation and our neighbourhood; for individuals who are lonely; for families that wish for peace at home; for travelers in our midst; for all who hurt *especially*... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our light in the darkness, we remember with thanksgiving today (*Nicholaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter, and*) all those who have guided us in the faith, especially our mothers, and those who have been like mothers to us. 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 *Entrance of the Queen of Sheba* G. F. Handel

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All Rise*)

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 190

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Prayer over the gifts)

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again...

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

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