



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 27, 2011

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: You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex (lobby) and join us for coffee and conversation downstairs after worship.

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 races and cultures which enrich our life and ministry together.



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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 27, 2011

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Ken Harris
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Celly Manirakoze
<i>Lector</i>	June Schramm
<i>Acolytes</i>	Benie Gakiza Niyungeko Nelly Gateka
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organist/Pianist</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Flutists</i>	Anne Johnson
<i>Guitarist/Violinist</i>	Bruce McIver
<i>Guest Pianist</i>	Mikhail Lennikov
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Karen Kerfoot
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Jackie Cleroux Ernie Neumann Mikhail Lennikov Irina Lennikova
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Irina Lennikova Mikhail Lennikov
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jackie Cleroux Roselie McMahon Leilani McMahon
<i>Offering Counters</i>	John Morley John Dawson
<i>Anointers</i>	John Morley Christine Neumann Julie Bauming Karen Duddy

If you would like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Lori Hedin at 604.941.5803. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Julie Bauming at 604- 986-5389.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
A Liturgy of Word and Sacrament
MARCH 27, 2011

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 today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

PRELUDE

Andante (Viola Concerto)
I Will Arise and Go To Jesus

Antonio Vivaldi
Donald Hustad

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 the confession at the baptismal font..

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the well of eternal life, the light of the world,
the breath giving life to dry bones. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin
and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us new birth,
and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
God forgives us all our sins.
Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness
and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

666 *“What Wondrous Love Is This”*

GREETING

The free gift of grace in Jesus Christ, the reconciling love of God,
and the life and peace of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

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.

From 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.**

PSALM: Psalm 95

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (Ps. 95:1)

Refrain:



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

Tone:



Come, let us sing¹ to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of¹ our salvation.

²Let us come before God's presence¹ with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the¹ LORD with psalms.

³For you, LORD,¹ are a great God,
and a great ruler a-¹bove all gods.

⁴In your hand are the caverns¹ of the earth;
the heights of the hills are¹ also yours.

⁵The sea is yours,¹ for you made it,
and your hands have molded¹ the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship¹ and bow down,
let us kneel before the¹ LORD our maker. **R**

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep¹ of God's hand.
Oh, that today you would¹ hear God's voice!

⁸"Harden¹ not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah¹ in the desert.

⁹There your ancestors¹ tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had¹ seen my works.

¹⁰Forty years I loathed that gener-¹ation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not¹ know my ways.'

¹¹Indeed I swore¹ in my anger,
'They shall never come¹ to my rest.'" **R**

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.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ and 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.⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners

Christ died for us.⁹ Much more surely then, now that *we* have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.¹⁰ For 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.¹¹ But 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.**

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 to announcement of the Gospel: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob'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.)⁹ The 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.)¹⁰ Jesus 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."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but 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."¹⁵ The 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."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³ But 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.²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶ Jesus 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?"²⁸ Then the woman left

her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹Come 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: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY (*Silence for reflection follows*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 606 “*Our Father, We Have Wandered*”

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

As we return to the waters of baptism during this season of Lent, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the globe; for the Anglican Church of Canada with which we are in full communion; for our bishops, pastors, professors, deacons, musicians, and lay ministers; for all thirsty for your word. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for living water; for deep wells and safe sewer systems; for acid-free rain and oil-free oceans; for clean and abundant drinking water for every human being. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those nations who are now involved in civil strife, especially the people of Libya; for refugees fleeing violence, famine or religious persecution; for all who, because of natural disasters, suffer from heartbreaking loss and post-traumatic stress, especially the people of Japan; for international peacemakers and relief workers around the world. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are homeless and outcast; for those suffering from malaria or HIV/AIDS; for those with mental or physical disabilities; for those mourning, dying, ill, lonely, *especially*. . . God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those preparing for baptism at Easter; for members and friends who cannot be here today; for all who are quarrelling with one another and separated from one another. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You know everything we have ever done, and still you love us. We thank you for giving us hope in the communion of saints, *including*. . .who now drink from the rock that is Christ. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

"To A Wild Rose"

Edward MacDowell

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our 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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*Giving thanks over the gifts*)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

FRACTION (as the bread is broken)
The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ, broken and poured out for you.

SHARING OF THE BLESSED SUPPER



*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 a wafer into the open, upraised palm, all may drink
from the first (common) cup or, if desired, dip the wafer into the second (intinction)
cup. Those who desire prayer and anointing for the healing of any illness or brokenness
in mind, body or spirit are invited to receive these blessings after communion.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 335 “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”
God's Time Is Best Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (All rise)

Let us pray. Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days.
Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor,
pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure
in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessed, holy Trinity keep you in grace, lead you in light, and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN # 647 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

Our Lenten worship/adult study schedule:

March 30 - Vigil at Christ Church Cathedral, 12 - 1 pm

March 30 - Adult study at First Lutheran, 7 p.m.

Guest: Anglican Bishop Michael Ingham

April 3 - Lent IV, 10.30 a.m.

April 6 - Vigil at Commercial Drive & East Broadway, 12 - 1 pm

April 6 - Adult study at First Lutheran, 7 p.m.

Guest: Dr. Wendy Fletcher, Principal of VST

April 10 - Lent V, 10.30 a.m.

April 13 - Vigil at Cambie & West Broadway, 12 - 1 pm

April 13 - Adult study at First Lutheran, 7 p.m.

Guest: the Very Rev. Peter Elliott, Dean, Christ Church Cathedral

April 17 - Holy Week Begins with Palm/Passion Sunday

Gathering rite at St. Thomas Anglican at 10 a.m.

followed by a procession to First Lutheran for Eucharistic worship

April 21- Maundy Thursday at St. Thomas, 6.30 p.m. - meal; 7.30 p.m. - worship

First Lutheran attendees—bring salads

April 22 - Good Friday, 10.30 a.m. - Opening prayer at First Lutheran

followed by procession to St. Thomas for Eucharistic worship

“Way of Cross” procession at 360 Jackson Ave, 12:30 pm

April 24 - Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord

Breakfast at 8.30 a.m.

Festival Worship at 10.30 a.m.

Information about the noon hour vigils is elsewhere in the bulletin.

This Week

Wednesday

Vigil at Christ Church Cathedral, 12 - 1 pm
Adult Education Event , 7 pm

Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

Sunday School, 9:45 am
Worship, 10:30 am

Our thanks to Pr. Ken Harris for his worship leadership this morning. Pr. Hergy is the guest preacher at Peace Lutheran in Abbotsford where, after the morning worship, he will give a presentation on First Lutheran's experience with—and transformation by—the sponsorship of refugees. Pr. Hergy will also undergo a cornea transplant surgery on Tuesday, March 29. During the (hopefully) short recovery period, please contact Pr. Sylvia or Paul Schmidt for emergencies. They can be reached at 604-589-6014.

LENTEN VIGIL FOR THE SILENCED

Wednesdays 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM

We stand in solidarity with those whom Jesus identified: the poor, the homeless, the shunned, the aged, the sick, the foreigners/migrants, the criminal outcast
—**THE SILENCED**

Date & Locations of Vigils

- * March 30th at Christ Church Cathedral, corner Burrard & Georgia St.
- * April 6th at corner Commercial Drive & East Broadway
- * April 13th at Cambie & West Broadway
- * April 22nd Good Friday at Way of the Cross—beginning 12:30 pm at Lutheran Urban Ministry - 360 Jackson Ave

Joseph Nurani will be offering a simple lunch during coffee hour on April 3rd in memory of his late parents. Although Joseph is willing to do the cooking, setup and cleanup by himself, it would be helpful and appreciated to get a couple of extra hands available. Please let Joseph or Julie Bauming know if you are willing and available to assist that day.

The Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) has launched an appeal for the Japan earthquake relief. Those wishing to make your donations to CLWR through First Lutheran Church are asked to mark **Japan Earthquake relief** on your envelope. Thank-you for your consideration.

CLWR Issues Emergency Appeal for Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Victims

The biggest earthquake to hit Japan since records began 140 years ago struck the northeast coast on March 11, generating a 10 meter tsunami that swept away everything in its path and killed at least 10,000 people. 350,000 people are living in evacuation sites at the moment. The number of dead is expected to rise as the situation becomes clearer.

CLWR is issuing an appeal for funds to support the humanitarian aid being provided through ACT Alliance. ACT reports there are various gaps in basic needs such as water, food, blankets, electricity, health and sanitation kits that evacuation sites are facing, since most efforts at the moment focus on search and rescue and evacuation from radiation contaminated areas where explosions at nuclear power plants have taken place.

ACT Alliance is in the midst of a needs assessment from both land and air. ACT General Secretary, John Nduna said, "We are deeply concerned and we are monitoring the situation closely so that ACT Alliance can direct its resources to where they are most needed, as quickly as possible." Should ACT decide not to proceed with an aid program for Japan, CLWR will work through other partners to deliver effective and efficient humanitarian aid.

Donations to the appeal may be made through CLWR in the following ways:

1. AFTER MARCH 15 - Online at www.clwr.org/donate. In the process of completing the form, you will come to a pull-down menu that allows you to designate a specific project. Choose Japan Earthquake.
2. By calling our toll-free number: 1.800.661.2597 or locally at 204.694.5602.
3. By sending a cheque made payable to CLWR to CLWR, 302-393 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3H6. Please indicate in your correspondence that you wish to contribute to the 2011 Japan Earthquake Appeal.
4. Through your congregation by designating the donation to "CLWR 2011 Japan Earthquake".

For more information contact: Tom Brook, Community Relations Director
tbrook@clwr.mb.ca or 204-631-0115

CLWR carries out international development programming, emergency relief, and refugee resettlement on behalf of the two major Lutheran church bodies in Canada (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church—Canada) and Canadians of goodwill. As a registered not-for-profit agency, funding comes through donations and through agreements with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). CLWR is a member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, the Lutheran World Federation, and the ACT Alliance. The agency's head office is located in Winnipeg, with regional offices in Vancouver, Toronto, and Santa Cruz (Bolivia).