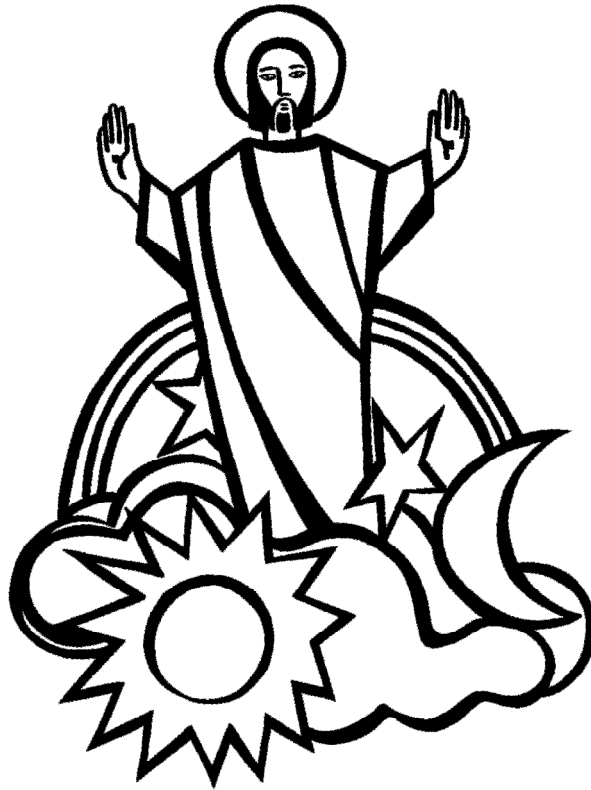




FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 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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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 27, 2011

Those Serving the Servants Today

<i>Presider/Homilist</i>	Pr. Hergy
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Linda Collins
<i>Lector</i>	Heather Robbie
<i>Acolytes</i>	Benie Gakiza Niyungeko Nelly Gateka
<i>Ministry of Music</i>	
<i>Organ/Piano</i>	Jeanette Price
<i>Cantor</i>	Arvid Vimb
<i>Flutists</i>	Amy Collins Anne Johnson
<i>Guitarist/Violinist</i>	Bruce McIver
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Communion Servers</i>	Eulalie Niyungeko Felicia Quayson (?) Ingrid Bielenberg Karen Kerfoot
<i>Anointers</i>	Julie Bauming Karen Duddy John Morley Janet Filippelli
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	Joseph Nurani Jackie Cleroux Christine Neumann
<i>Altar Guild</i>	June Schramm Dennis Reid Doreen Reid
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Amy Collins John Morley

If you would like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Iris Kong, our office administrator, at 604.435.6020. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Julie Bauming at 604 986-5389.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.**

³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray? R**

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself. R**

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you —

⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

CHOIR ANTHEM “One Small Child” Lloyd Larson

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Let Your Steadfast Love” (Sing before and after reading) p. 103

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24–37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

Response after announcement: **Glory to you, O God**

²⁴But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.

²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

HOMILY (*Silence follows for reflection*)

HYMN OF THE DAY # 261 “As the Dark Awaits the Dawn”

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: “Hear us, O God”, and all will respond by singing “Kindle a Flame”. (words and music below)

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "Kindle a Flame". It consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are for the vocal line, with the lyrics "Kin - dle a flame to light - en the dark and" written below. The next two staves are for the piano accompaniment, with the lyrics "take all fear a - way." written below. The music is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 2/2 time. The vocal line uses a soprano clef and the piano line uses a bass clef. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERTORY *Panis Angelicus*

Cesar Franck

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*All rise*)

p. 107

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(The three-fold exchange is sung unaccompanied)*

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(for Advent)* p. 110

LORD’S PRAYER

“LAMB OF GOD” p. 112

FRACTION 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. During Advent, the wafer is received in the open palm. All may drink from the first (common) cup or, instinct (dip) the wafer into the second (pouring) 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 # 466 “In the Singing”
Legend Peter Tschaikovsky

“NOW, LORD, YOU LET YOUR SERVANT” p. 113

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*

SENDING

BLESSING p. 114

SENDING HYMN # 259 **“Fling Wide the Door”** v. 3 - unaccompanied

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE *There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Calling* Hugh Bancroft

We recognize that it is not always possible for people to arrive on time for the beginning of our Sunday worship. We also recognize that people entering the sanctuary late can be distracting for those doing their best to focus on what is being said. As a result, we ask that latecomers remain in the narthex (lobby) until the Order for Confession and Forgiveness, or Prayer of the Day, or the First Lesson are finished. Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Announcements

This Week

Monday
Council, 6:15 pm

Wednesday
Noon-hour Vigil - St. Andrew’s Wesley
Advent Adult Education, 7 - 9 pm

Thursday
Confirmation, 4:30 - 6 pm
Choir, 7:30 pm

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

Friday, December 16, 2011 at 7:30 pm

“Evening of Chamber Music at First Lutheran”

W. A. Mozart, Piano Quartet in E-flat
Major, K. 493

F. J. Haydn, String Quartet in D Major,
opus 20, No. 4

Players:
Peter Rohloff, David Shih - Violins
Ian Gay - Viola,
Hui Hua Lei - Violoncello
Mikhail Lennikov - Piano

Admission by donation.

Proceeds to support the Lennikov family
and the Love Fund

Joseph Nurani would like to extend a warm invitation to our congregation members, their families and friends to a superb hearty fundraising lunch downstairs after the service today in the loving memory of his parents, Asma and Noordin Nurani. All proceeds go to the Love Fund.

Adult Ed Event

We will resume our adult education Wednesday evening sessions in Advent starting this Wednesday, November 30 at 7 p.m. After a brief time of worship, we will view one or two short videos followed by small group discussion. The videos will feature the Rev. Dr. Stanley Hauerwas, an Anglican priest and professor of Religious Studies, especially Theological Ethics at Duke University (Divinity School and School of Law) in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Hauerwas is a noted author, lecturer, and "critic" of the North American church's tendency to downplay or hide its identity as a community of disciples of Christ. . . no matter what that might mean or cost us as Christians. He is a provocative thinker and speaker and we expect the group discussion and responses to be spirited and very animated. So please consider joining us for the next three Wednesday evenings here at First Lutheran from 7 - 9 p.m.



Year B of the three-year lectionary cycle is sometimes called “the year of Mark.” In one way, of course, this name speaks the truth. Through the course of this liturgical year (from First Advent to next November’s Christ the King), almost all of the Gospel of Mark will be read. That fact gives the attentive congregation an occasion to extend its knowledge of the book most scholars consider to be the first (earliest) Gospel written.

On the other hand, the name can be misleading. Much more than Mark is read in this year. John appears in great strength, and Matthew and Luke also make appearances at important festivals. Large passages of at least six different New Testament letters are read in sequence. And a significant passage of the Hebrew Scriptures sets the tone, again and again, as the first reading for nearly every Sunday and festival. So, to call this all “the year of Mark” might be to miss the astonishing force and the symbolic power and mystery with which this combination of readings is endowed.

In Advent, the interacting of Mark and John are seen even further. Mark begins the year’s readings, setting the sense of Advent and the sense of the whole year with that passage from chapter 13, which urges us to keep awake for the day of God. The Marcan reader will need to know that that “day” actually comes in Chapters 14 and 15 with the arrest and killing of Jesus. Thus, Advent, like all the following year, will be a call to “keep awake” to see Christ’s presence in the places of darkness where we thought grace could not come. Advent, like all the church year, will be about the crucified and risen Christ in our time, not about us pretending to be back in some first century time.

With its blue colour (the colour of hope), Advent prepares us for the coming into the world of the Light of the World. To help us “count down” the weeks before that arrival, we light one candle on the Advent wreath on the first Sunday in Advent, two on the second, and so forth, until Christmas when all four blue candles and the white “Christ Candle” are lit—a practice that continues throughout the 12 Days of Christmas. The focus on Advent as preparation also helps keep us from jumping ahead too quickly into the more festive mood of Christmas by reminding us that Advent is to be a time of reflection, prayer, silence and looking inward. In addition, the more sombre (even melancholy) tone of Advent’s hymns (many in a minor key) and the omitting of the more festive parts of the liturgies encourage us to “participate in” the gradual (almost daily) increase in darkness we experience. . .and thereby make our joyfulness at the arrival/return of the light at Christmas even more pronounced.

May this four-week season of Advent (which means “to come or draw toward”) be a time of spiritual growth for each and all of us. . .as well as a helpful hedge or guard against getting too caught up in the rampant consumerism and spending so associated with Christmas.



8th Annual Advent Vigil

For the Silenced

The eighth annual, noon-hour, downtown, *Advent Vigil for the Silenced* will begin again next week. On the four Wednesdays in Advent, supporters will gather at four different locations in the downtown core from noon - 1 p.m. You are warmly invited to join us on Wednesday, November 30, in front of St. Andrew’s Wesley United (Burrard and Nelson) from where we will walk to the front of the Art Gallery; on December 7, in the Vancouver Public Library courtyard; on December 14 at the soon-to-be-shut-down Seniors Drop-in Centre at 411 Dunsmuir (near Holy Rosary Cathedral); and on December 21 on the steps of Christ Church Cathedral. All are welcome to stand in solidarity with the poor (especially children), the homeless, the seniors and disabled whose assistance programmes are being cut—all those whose voices are muted by government policies or drowned out by the noise of Christmas muzak and shoppers.

Congratulations to Rachel Neumann and Jason Markle on the birth of their new daughter, Isabelle, born on November 19. Congratulations also to Ernie and Christine Neumann on their first grandchild, and to Jackie Cleroux who celebrates the arrival of her first great-grandchild.



DIRECTORY

Ministers	God’s Baptized People
Pastor	Richard Hergesheimer 604.430.2536
Minister of Music	Jeanette Price 604.251.2656
Office Administrator	Iris Kong 604.456.0476
Caretaker	Peter dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Janet Schreiber
Liturgical Artist	June Schramm
Church Council	
	Russell Collins - <i>Chairperson</i>
	Sandi Strate - <i>Vice Chair & Human Resources</i>
	Ernie Neumann - <i>Treasurer</i>
	Sylvia Harris - <i>Envelope Secretary</i>
	Julie Bauming - <i>Secretary & Fellowship & Hospitality</i>
	Karen Kerfoot - <i>Fellowship & Hospitality</i>
	Ingrid Bielenberg - <i>Fellowship & Hospitality</i>
	Alex Wilson - <i>Property</i>
	Kim Hoath - <i>Property</i>
	Mikhail Lennikov - <i>Outreach</i>
	Karen Duddy - <i>Seniors & Outreach</i>
	June Heywood - <i>Education</i>