

### Picnic Lunches



Commencing this week we will be having our picnic lunches on Tuesdays

**only.** If you would like to help in this important outreach, you are invited to contact Jeanette—she will provide you with the details. Thank you.

### Afternoon of Music

Any and all are invited to an afternoon of Japanese Traditional Songs, Jazz and More with the Maeda Family and special guests.

**Monday, August 3, 2009,  
3:00 pm  
Mt. Olivet Lutheran  
Church**  
1700 Mountain Highway,  
North Vancouver

Admission by Donation

On Saturday, August 15, we will have a special "Picnic on the Patio" event to mark the 18th birthday of Dmitri. Some info to note about the evening:

Everybody attending is asked to bring their own food and drinks. . .plus a little extra to share with others who may have forgotten to bring something or who show up at the last minute empty-handed. **And to be more specific, please bring some kind of chicken: BBQ'd, roast, fried, broiled, spicy buffalo wings, etc.** We can then put out all the extra pieces of chicken so folks can sample a bit of this and that.

To keep from having to wash dishes afterward, everyone is asked to take their own dishes home dirty. I mean, really, your mother doesn't live here so you'll have to wash your own dishes. And to prevent those who worked so hard to set up, serve and cleanup after the July 17 BBQ, we need a batch of new volunteers to help with some of the set-up and ALL of the clean-up. So, please don't come expecting someone else to do clean up after you. (As mentioned above, your mother doesn't live here).

A sign-up sheet (and the exact start and finish time) will be ready for next Sunday. However, if you are planning to attend and willing to help with things, you are invited to phone the church office and leave a message with that information. Thanks much.



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 26, 2009**

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*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**

*Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.*

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

*Sarabande  
Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier*

Young  
arr. Reuss

**GATHERING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sisters and brothers, bear with one another in love, maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.  
**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy and gracious God, **we confess that we have not led a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not acted according to your will. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us. Forgive us according to the riches of your grace. Make us holy and blameless before you in love, so that we might live to the praise of your glory. Amen.**

**SENDING**



**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING HYMN**

**#547 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

**DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE**

*Koraal*

Peeters

# Announcements

Dear Friends and colleagues in Christ,

After completing 30 years of ministry in our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Pastor Adolf Manz is retiring on the 1st of August, 2009. He served the congregations of: Zion Lutheran in Winnipeg, Peace Lutheran in Abbotsford, Martin Luther in Vancouver, and Oakridge in Vancouver. His last service at Oakridge Lutheran will be July 26 at 9:30am. Our thanks to Pastor Manz for his years of service and our best wishes are with him and his family as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

Our thanks to Pastor Ken for proclaiming a liberating word of grace this morning. First Lutheran is fortunate, indeed, to have gifted retired clergy in our midst who are able and willing to share their talents with us. Our worship and ministry are enriched (and the added bonus, is that we get to hear someone besides Pr. Hergy preach).

On Sunday, August 16, we will celebrate the birthdays of those born in August. This particular day will be a special one because a clown will be performing during the coffee hour. So, all children are invited to join in the festivities (even if your birthday isn't in August).

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*Draw Me Nearer* arr. Schraeder

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, you open the doors of heaven, giving us every generous and perfect gift from above. Lift our eyes from the food that perishes, and nourish us now with the food that endures for eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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## MEAL

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### 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.**

**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

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.*

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

**#515 "Break Now the Bread of Life"**

*Come Thou Fount*

Manz

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have rained down the true bread from heaven, the body and blood of your beloved Son. So by his promise bring us to abide in him, and he in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

**#689 "Praise and Thanksgiving"**

### SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 11:1–15

*King David takes Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, then eventually has her husband murdered. The king, who should be at the battle but stays home, is contrasted in this story with the loyal and upright soldier Uriah.*

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. <sup>3</sup>David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." <sup>4</sup>So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. <sup>5</sup>The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

<sup>6</sup>So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. <sup>7</sup>When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going.

<sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. <sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. <sup>10</sup>When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" <sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." <sup>12</sup>Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, <sup>13</sup>David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup>In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

#### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14–21**

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

#### **LESSON HYMN #479 "We Come to the Hungry Feast"**

#### **GOSPEL: John 6:1–21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

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

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." <sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. <sup>16</sup>When evening

came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

#### **HOMILY**

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY #469 "By Your Hand"**

#### **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.*

Righteous God, you teach your people the way of life. Inspire your church, that all Christian people may be doers of your word. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You breathe life into all creation. Infuse this earth with newness of life, especially where it has been devastated and polluted. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You promise justice and peace. Enable understanding among people, bring an end to religious violence, and soften hearts, hardened by hate. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your compassion supply care to all who suffer from disaster, war, or abuse; from persecution or imprisonment; from depression, illness, and grief *especially...* God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With your tenderness attend to the ailments of our community. Strengthen our neighbourhoods, schools, and workplaces, that they may be places of caring and support. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now rest in your love *especially...* Keep us faithful in our journey and confident that nothing can separate us from your love. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, you are near to us when we cry out to you. Into your embrace we commend all for whom we pray, through Christ and by the power of your Spirit. **Amen.**