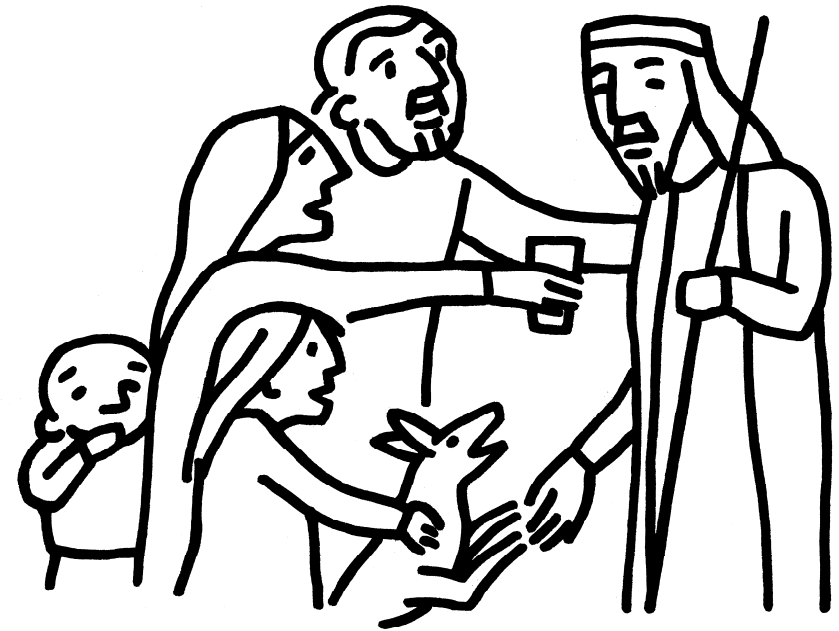




FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

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“Setting 8”

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

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

*Andante (Violin Concerto)
Abide Dearest Jesus*

Johann Krebs
Sigfrid Karg-Elert

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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GATHERING HYMN

#878 “Soli Deo Gloria” (v. 3 - women, v. 4 - men; all sing last line)

GREETING/KYRIE

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HYMN OF PRAISE *“This is the Feast”*

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Esther 7:1–6, 9–10; 9:20–22

This book tells the story of Queen Esther, who saves her people, the Jews, from the murderous schemes of Haman, advisor to the Persian king, her husband. Haman is hanged on the gallows he constructed for Esther's cousin Mordecai, and the Jews celebrate the feast of Purim to commemorate this victory over their enemies.

You Count in Renfrew-Collingwood

On October 14, 2009 volunteers in Vancouver's Renfrew-Collingwood neighbourhood will carry out a homeless count.

A number of concerned individuals, representing various groups and organizations in Renfrew-Collingwood, first met last May to discuss holding a homeless count in the neighbourhood. While Renfrew-Collingwood has a number of services that reach out to the homeless, resources for such services are always very limited. For example, since 2003 Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH) has offered a weekly shower-and-breakfast program for those who are homeless or living in poverty. At least 75 individuals visit the program each week and while most have roots in Renfrew-Collingwood --they were born here or have friends or family living here-- many find themselves existing in the Downtown Eastside. The program survives on volunteer efforts and donations of food, comfort kits (with personal hygiene materials such as toothbrushes and shampoo), clothing, towels and socks.

The committee felt that a count would provide baseline information, to help with planning for efficient and effective neighbourhood services and to strengthen local outreach. The committee also felt that the count could serve as a way to raise awareness about homelessness in the neighbourhood and to educate residents about homelessness prevention, supports and resource referral. It could also help to teach people how to engage appropriately with individuals who are homeless. Further, the committee hopes to create a map showing where there is potential housing stock locally, in order to improve the neighbourhood's ability to house those who are homeless or tentatively housed in Renfrew-Collingwood.

The long-term vision is to make the count an annual one. This initial count will take place on October 14, 2009 from 6-8 am in the area bordered by Broadway, Boundary Road, East 45th Avenue and Nanaimo Street. It will include those who are found living on the street and, where possible, those who spent the night with friends because they do not have anywhere to live. Fifty teams of at least two people per team will receive training during the previous week and then carry out a count and brief interviews with the homeless they encounter in their assigned section of Renfrew-Collingwood. After the count has been completed, the committee will produce a report, with recommendations, to share.

If you would like to participate in the count, please fill out the Volunteer Recruitment Form available in the narthex and return it as directed. For further information, please contact Jennifer Gray-Grant jgg1@shaw.ca or 604-451-9855.

Thanks for your interest.

Changes to the Coffee Hour

Because of our flooded basement and the 4-6 months needed for renovations, coffee hour after worship will follow a different procedure. All are invited to pick up coffee or tea at the narthex kitchenette and then go to the altar for the goodies. All may then remain in the sanctuary for conversation or return to the narthex where a few tables with chairs will be set up. We know that this is a major change from our usual way of doing things — and we recognize that some people may feel a bit uncomfortable using the altar as the gathering point/serving place.

However, it is important to spread folks out especially since hot drinks and little children with the “wiggles” don’t mix very well.

In addition, the table from which we serve “holy food” to the people of God in the liturgy can rightly and delightfully become the table around which the people of God gather to share food, conversation and connections after the liturgy. The goodness and generosity of God in supplying the food of life is thus experienced and demonstrated in liturgy and friendship.

Since we no longer have a dishwasher to clean up after the coffee hour, we will be using disposable cups or refillable travel mugs. So, if you have a cup that you can bring with you and take home with you, please put your name on it (in the event it is forgotten) and use it for the next while. It will help us make life easier for the fellowship hosts as well as make our coffee hour a bit “greener.”

Thank you for your understanding and your willingness to try new things and explore new ideas during this time of transition.

2009 HARVEST FAIR AT THE RENFREW RAVINE MOON FESTIVAL

Slocan Park (at 29th Ave. Skytrain Stn.)
Saturday, October 3, 4:00-7:00 pm

Come out to celebrate the full moon, local food and community. Enjoy live music and entertainment, fresh soup and bannock, make lantern and meet new neighbours.

For information:

<http://www.stillmoon.org>
foodsecurity@cnh.bc.ca
604 435-0323 ext. 237

Eat Good Do Good Cuisine

Eat Good Do Good meals are ideal if you're in a hurry, need a night off from cooking, or have limited mobility.

The students and the Chef Instructor of The North Shore Salvation Army's *New Hope Chef Training Program* prepare gourmet, home-made meals. Everyone is looking for a way to make a difference. By purchasing these meals, not only will you be helping yourself, you'll be helping others!

For more information please check the bulletin board in the Narthex or see Julie.

Chapter 8 So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." ³Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me — that is my petition — and the lives of my people — that is my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." ⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" ⁶Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. ⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." ¹⁰So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Chapter 9

²⁰Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²²as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Response after reading: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

Refrain: (Will be sung first by Cantor, then by all; Cantor then sings verse)



We have es-caped like a bird from the snare of the fowl - er

¹If the LORD had not been ¹on our side,
let Isra-¹el now say;

²**if the LORD had not been ¹on our side,**
when enemies rose ¹up against us,

³then would they have swallowed us ¹up alive
in their fierce ¹anger toward us;

⁴**then would the waters have ¹overwhelmed us**
and the torrent gone ¹over us; R

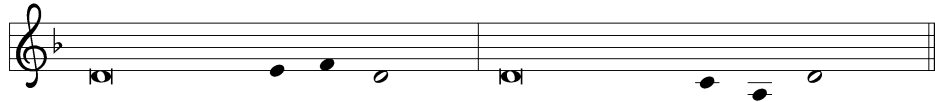
⁵then would the ¹raging waters
have gone right ¹over us.

⁶**Blessed ¹be the LORD**

who has not given us over to be a prey ¹for their teeth.

⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare ¹of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we ¹have escaped.

⁸**Our help is in the name ¹of the LORD,
the maker of heav- ¹en and earth. R**



SECOND READING: James 5:13–20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

CHOIR ANTHEM *“I Feel The Spirit”*

Nancy Price/Don Besig

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(sing verse before and after reading)*

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GOSPEL: Mark 9:38–50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN #856 *“How Great Thou Art”* (v. 2 - women; v. 3 - men; all sing refrain)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *Toccata*

Gordon Young

Announcements

This Week

Today

Vida Jaugelis ordination/installation, 4 pm

Monday

Confirmation, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Adult ed event, 7:00 pm

Thursday

Choir rehearsal, 7:30 pm

Next Sunday

Sunday School, 9:15 am
(at St. Thomas Anglican)
Worship, 10:30 am

Just to let everyone know that **Jackie** is now accepting orders of tourtierres. Anyone interested can see Jackie or give her a call.

You are cordially invited to the ordination and installation of

Vida Jaugelis

as the new pastor of Oakridge Lutheran

**Today at 2009
4:00 pm**

Oakridge Lutheran Church
585 West 41st Ave., Vancouver
(41st and Cambie)

Refreshments to follow.

Please note that once again we are asking for coffee donations for our Fellowship Hours on Sundays since our supply is getting low.



For this family of faith, nourished in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, that we welcome all to your table, rejoicing in the gifts strangers and guests bring to the fellowship. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your love, *especially...* that we live in joyful expectation of our promised resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of creation, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Impromptu, No. 2*

Franz Schubert

OFFERTORY PRAYER

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER

FRACTION

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

“LAMB OF GOD”

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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

#466 “*In the Singing*”
Be Thou My Vision

Paul Manz

³⁸John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Response to conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Bring Forth the Kingdom*” (See insert)

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord of creation, with confidence in your abiding care, we are bold to pray for the world, the church, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

For the church, given peace with God through Christ, that we never tire in our efforts to fill this world with that peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For our care of this one earth, that we make wise and sustainable use of its bounty, learning to share its riches in ways that bring abundance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those who govern, that they exercise compassion for the least and the smallest in their societies, their decisions guided by your wisdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those imprisoned for placing their trust openly in you, for those unjustly oppressed because of race or clan, that you raise up strong advocates who work tirelessly for justice and freedom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those who are ill, lonely, grieving, depressed or wounded, *especially...* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**