



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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MARCH 5, 2023

**WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOUNDED IN 1890**

**5745 Wales Street  
Vancouver BC V5R 3N3**

**PH: 604.435.6020**

**info@firstlutheranvancouver.com**

**www.firstlutheranvancouver.com**

**YouTube: youtube.com/firstlutheranvancouver**

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.

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. We have proudly served as a Reconciled in Christ Congregation since 2000.

We acknowledge that we gather, worship, work, and play on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Watuth nations. We are committed to learning and raising awareness of our country's historical relationship with First Peoples and continue to work toward true Reconciliation.

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

Masks are no longer required while attending worship. As a sign of our care and love for one another, all those wishing to wear masks for their own and others' safety are welcome to do so. We strongly encourage all worshipers age 5 and up to be fully vaccinated.

Worship attendees will be greeted at the 42nd Avenue entrance off of the narthex when doors open at 10am. All are welcome to join us for conversation and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall downstairs after the service.

If you feel unwell for any reason or cannot follow our COVID restrictions, please remain at home and participate online. We will continue to stream our services via YouTube.

([www.youtube.com/firstlutheranchurchvancouver](http://www.youtube.com/firstlutheranchurchvancouver))

For your convenience, there is an elevator in the southwest corner of the building. Accessible, gender neutral washrooms are on the main floor in the northwest corner. There are additionally two washrooms down the stairs at the east end of the lower level. A wheelchair accessible entrance (also our office entrance) is located near the parking lot on the 42nd street side.





**THOSE SERVING THE SERVANTS TODAY**

Presiding Minister	David Lefsrud	Usher	Drew Nicholson
Assisting Minister	Linda Collins	Coffee Hour Hosts	Donna Dufresne Ingrid Tymm
Minister of Music	Rachel Alflatt	Livestream Tech	Emmanuel Manu
Cantor	Arvid Vimb	Communion Set-Up	Heidi A
Lector	Marly Zell	Communion Server	Aria& Heidi

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**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**MARCH 5, 2023**  
**SETTING ONE – HOLY COMMUNION**

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**PRELUDE**

*They Who Suffer God to Guide Them*  
*My Heart Is Filled with Longing*

*Johann Sebastian Bach*  
*Johannes Brahms*

**WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

It is with a heart for reconciliation that First Lutheran Church acknowledges that we meet and work and worship on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands of the Coast Salish peoples — the Musqueam, the Squamish, and the Tseil-Waututh nations.





## GATHERING

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God's mercy.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess to you our faults and failings.**  
**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**  
**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**  
**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**  
**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**  
**we choose fear over compassion.**  
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**  
**as we seek to follow in your way of life.**  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life.  
This promise is for you!  
God embraces you with divine mercy,  
forgives you in Christ's name,  
and revives you in the Spirit's power.  
**Amen.**





## **GATHERING SONG— Wash O God Our Sons and Daughters (ELW 445)**

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **KYRIE**

P. 98

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: GENESIS 12:1-4A**

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.





## PSALM 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the LORD. (Ps. 121:1, 2)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The LORD will not let your <sup>l</sup> foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.**

## Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the





scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null, and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P. 103

### **Gospel: John 3:1-17**

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from





above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe; how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

**SERMON—Rev. David Lefsrud**

**HYMN OF THE DAY — God Loved The World (ELW 323)**







## **APOSTLES CREED**

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

**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.**

**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.**

## **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends with the words, "Merciful God". You are invited to respond "Receive our prayer".*





## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(You may share a sign of peace to those around you.)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

## MEAL

### DIALOG

P. 107

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.**

### PREFACE

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

P. 108

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE





## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Mother, 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.**

## **LAMB OF GOD**

P. 112

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.  
*(As a sign of abundant kindness & care for you, all those serving you  
communion will wear masks.)*

## **COMMUNION HYMN — Here Is Bread (ELW 483)**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.  
Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With  
the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the  
needs of our neighbors, and touch the world with your love.  
**Amen**





## SENDING

### **BLESSING**

God, the giver of love,  
Christ, the resurrection and the life,  
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth  
bless you in this Lenten journey.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN — Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth (ELW 735)**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux*

*Louis-Nicolas Clérambault*





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HAPPY March BIRTHDAY TO:*

Sylvia S.

Alex W.

Linda C.

Jessica S.

Ernie N.

Les S.

## UPCOMING AT FIRST LUTHERAN

*Sunday, March 12th*

Third Sunday of Lent, 10:30am (Sanctuary / YouTube)

Coffee and Conversation, 11:30am (Social Hall)

## UPCOMING AT FIRST LUTHERAN

*Sunday, March 19th*

Fourth Sunday of Lent, 10:30am (Sanctuary / YouTube)

Coffee and Conversation, 11:30am (Social Hall)





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *New Call for Pr. Rebekah*

Pr. Rebekah has been working in the synod office for the past few months. She has now accepted a position in the Metro New York Synod and will be making a long distance move across the country next week. Please pray for her and Phil as they prepare to move and take up this new calling with the congregation in the Metro New York Synod.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Saturday, April 1, 2023*

*9:30 am Church Clean-up Day*

There will be an inside/outside church clean-up day. Just show up when you can!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW FLC CONCIL

Marly Zell	Council Chair
Joel Westereng	Vice Chair + Education Committee
Emmanuel Manu	Secretary + Property Committee
Carol Laslett	Music & Worship Committee
Harry Mickelson	Constitution + HR Committee
Julie Bauming	Member at Large

# DIRECTORY

Ministers	God's People
Interim Pastor	Pr. David Lefsrud
Office Administrator	Farzan
Caretaker	Peter Dela Torre
Altar Guild Coordinator	Carol Laslett
Chancel Care	Linda Collins
Envelope Secretary	Gloria Tymm
Privacy Officer	Joel Westereng ( <a href="mailto:privacy@firstlutheranvancouver.com">privacy@firstlutheranvancouver.com</a> )

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Marly Zell	Council Chair
Joel Westereng	Vice Chair + Education Committee
Emmanuel Manu	Secretary + Property Committee
Carol Laslett	Music & Worship Committee
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