



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 6 , 2026

Prelude: Toccata Sexta - George Muffat

Words of welcome & Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

GATHERING

Call to worship

Pastor In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.
And God called them good.

All: *Come Holy Spirit and cleanse the waters.*

Pastor The prophet saw a river flowing from the Temple,
and wherever the river flowed, everything lived.

All: *Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the Earth.*

Pastor: Jesus cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...
Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.”

All: *Come, Holy Spirit and heal your people.*

Thanksgiving for the Waters

Confession and Forgiveness

AM: Creator God, we lament that we have neglected this gift,
and taken the waters for granted. *(pause)*

AM: We look upon your waters, O God, and we grieve:
Rivers run polluted. Oceans choke with plastic.





Marine life disappears from warming seas.
Coral reefs fade, and fisheries collapse.

All: *Ashamnu*

AM: The seas rise and swallow coasts. Storms grow stronger.
Floods destroy homes. Drought cracks the Earth, and children
thirst.

All: *Ashamnu*

AM: We confess that we have not guarded your waters.
We have consumed water without restraint.
We have polluted what you called good.
We have forgotten that the river of life flows from your throne.

All: *Forgive us, O God. (pause)*

(Absolution) (pastor)

Pastor: God's mercy flows like living water. The love of God,
incarnate in Jesus who spoke to troubled waters, forgives us
and calms our hearts so that justice may flow to all the dry
places in our lives. In the name of Christ +, may this grace free
us to follow and proclaim the good news of the healing of all
creation.

All: *Amen.*

Gathering Hymn- Beneath the Tree of Life (Tree of Life page 3 v 1, 3 &
5)

WORD

First reading: Exodus 12:1-14

Second reading: Romans 13:8-14

Gospel Acclamation (Tree of Life booklet page 10)

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Hymn of the Day- Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (ELW 802)





Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one,
the climate refugee - who loves and cares for this world and
suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to
death and all destructive forces.

Prayers of Intercession

Peace

Offering Hymn- Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (ELW 207)

Offering Prayer

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving (ELW page 107)

Thanksgiving at the Table (ELW page 65)

Sanctus (ELW page 108)

The Lord's Prayer (Tree of Life page 17)

Lamb of God (Tree of Life page 17)

Communion Hymn- By Your Hand (Tree of Life page 18)



Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Sending

Benediction

Sending Hymn- The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (ELW 538)

Dismissal

Postlude: Voluntary - Domenico Zipoli

Bible Study will take place in the Narthex during the coffee hour. Please join us.

Those Serving the Servants Today

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mei Sum Lai	Livestream Tech	Emmanuel Manu
Minister of Music	Christine Purvis	Usher	Harry Mikelson
Assisting Minister	Linda Collins	Communion Set-Up	Carol Laslett
Cantor	Lorna Hau	Communion Assist.	-
Lector	Heather Robbie	Coffee Hour Hosts	-