



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 29, 2022

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

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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

As a sign of our care and love for one another, we are requiring everyone over the age of 3 to wear a properly fitted mask covering both nose and mouth while inside the church building. (Masks can be briefly lowered for communion as noted below and for Fellowship Hour while eating). We strongly encourage all worshippers age 5 and up to be fully vaccinated.

Worship attendees will be greeted at the 42nd street 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.

Communion will be with wafers only today. Please be respectful of social distancing as you move forward. There is a sanitizing station located along the center aisle, please sanitize your hands before proceeding forward and keep your mask up while collecting your wafer. If you need a gluten free wafer, please let the presider know. We ask that you return to your seat using the side aisles before consuming your wafer.

Congregants with mobility needs can receive communion at their seats as usual. If you do not wish to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would prefer a blessing from the presider.

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)



Those Serving the Servants Today

Presider/Preacher	Pr. Rebekah Swanson	Livestream Tech	Kevin Li
Cantor	Heidi Ackermann	Coffee Hour Hosts	Heather Robbie Drew Nicholson
Lector	Heather Robbie	Church Admin	Norita Dobyns
Flute	Anne Johnson		
Usher	Drew Nicholson		

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTER MAY 29, 2022 SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRELUDE—Anne Johnson

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 Tsleil-Waututh nations.

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. You are invited to stand.)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!





In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.
Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

Amen.





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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. *(You may be seated)*

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 16:16-34

A reading from Acts.

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods.



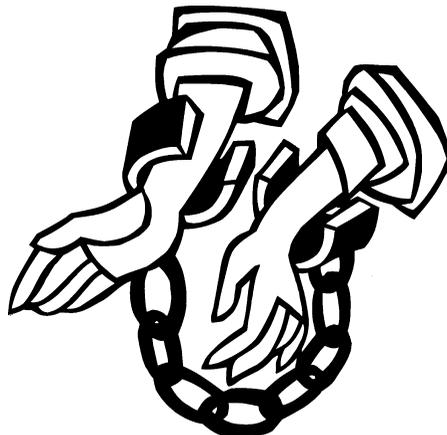


After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 97 *(The Psalm will be read responsively. The congregation will read the second portion, the lector will read the first and third.)*

The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
Clouds and darkness surround the Lord,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.
Fire goes before the Lord,
burning up enemies on every side.
Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.

**The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.
The heavens declare your righteousness, O Lord,
and all the peoples see your glory.
Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the Lord, all you gods.
Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O Lord.**

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
You who love the Lord, hate evil!
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of
the wicked.
Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.





SECOND READING: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

A reading from Revelation.

“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 17:20-26

The Holy Gospel, according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,



I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. (*You may be seated*)

SERMON—Pastor Rebekah Swanson

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**





**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. (*A brief silence*).

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guided by the British Columbia Synod Prayer Cycle we pray; for our bishops Susan and Kathy, for Grace Lutheran in Victoria, for Peace Lutheran in Abbotsford - Rev. Dean Andersen, for Emmaus Lutheran in Burnaby - Rev. Timo Saarinen. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayers Cycle, we join voices all over the world in praying for the following countries & territories this week; for Angola and Mozambique. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For Ukraine and all those in war-torn lands. Guide global leaders toward peace and justice. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**





Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. *(You may share a visual sign of peace to those around you but please do not leave your seat.) (You may be seated)*

OFFERTORY MUSIC—Anne Johnson

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(You are invited to stand)*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, **everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

MEAL

DIALOG

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.





EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread,





so that we and all who share in the body of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son † , and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen, amen, amen.

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. *(You may be seated)*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, come.

(Please come forward to receive communion in a manner that respects social distancing. Please keep your mask up while receiving your wafer.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION—Anne Johnson

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION *(You are invited to stand)*

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body strengthen,
keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger is no more.

Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God bless and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious.

May God look on us with favour and ☩ give us peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE—Anne Johnson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY TO:

Mattias K. Sylvia H. Linda D. Irene M.
Janet R. Barbara M. Felicia Q. Irina L.
Diane L. Sandi S.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER CHURCH TODAY

Please join us after church in the fellowship hall for coffee, light snacks, and fellowship! If you are interested in hosting an upcoming coffee hour, please call Donna Dufresne.

COMMUNION IN BOTH KINDS RETURNS JUNE 5TH

We will be returning to communion in both kinds during next week's Pentecost service on June 5th. This will look and feel much like communion during Advent.

ETERNITY FOR TODAY

The newest Eternity for Today devotional booklet is now available in the narthex under the bulletin board.

CHARITY NOMINATION FORMS

The FLC Council has decided how to tithe Selma's gift. Thanks to her generosity, our congregation has \$20,000 to donate to registered charities. At our last Council meeting, the Council decided to donate 1/4 of that amount (\$5,000) to charities offering humanitarian relief and support to the people of Ukraine. We have chosen to give \$2500 each to:

1) CLWR Ukraine Crisis Response (Canadian Lutheran World Relief)

CLWR provides emergency assistance to the over 4 million refugees who have fled Ukraine and the 6.5 million people who are internally displaced. CLWR partners in the ACT Alliance are responding in Ukraine and the region to meet immediate humanitarian needs such as food, shelter, emergency supplies, and trauma support. CLWR's response will also support the vital coordinating work of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

Website: <https://www.clwr.org/ukraine-response>

2) HART (Humanitarian Aid Response Team)

HART supports an extensive network of churches throughout Ukraine. It serves refugees fleeing from war zones. Churches are being used as Aid Centres for sleeping, eating, and medical aid supplies. Truckloads of supplies are delivered to a distribution center near Lviv, in western Ukraine, and volunteers distribute the supplies further by small vans to other areas. Orphans have been evacuated. Medical aid and ambulances have been sent to the front lines. All donations go directly to aid. Administration costs are covered by a separate donor. Website: <https://hart.ca/>

FLC's Outreach Committee is asking members of the congregation to nominate registered charities where we could donate the remaining \$15,000. Charity Nomination Forms will be available on Sunday mornings in the narthex, starting on May 29. Only registered charities will be considered.



UPCOMING AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Sunday, May 29

Seventh Sunday of Easter, Holy Communion, 10:30a (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Fellowship Hour, 11:30a (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday School, 11:30a (Study Room)
Confirmation, 11:30a (Loft Room)

Sunday, June 5

Pentecost, Holy Communion, 10:30a (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Fellowship Hour, 11:30a (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday School, 11:30a (Study Room)
Confirmation, 11:30a (Loft Room)

Sunday, June 12

The Holy Trinity, Holy Communion, 10:30a (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Fellowship Hour, 11:30a (Fellowship Hall)
Confirmation Make Up Class, 11:30a (Sanctuary)

Sunday, June 19

2nd Sunday in Pentecost, Holy Communion, 10:30a (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Fellowship Hour, 11:30a (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday School, 11:30a (Study Room)
Confirmation, 11:30a (Loft Room)

Sunday, June 26

3rd Sunday in Pentecost, Holy Communion, 10:30a (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Fellowship Hour, 11:30a (Fellowship Hall)

CHRIST IS RISEN
alleluia!



DIRECTORY

Ministers

Pastor

Music Coordinator

Office Administrator

Caretaker

Altar Guild Coordinator

Chancel Care

Envelope Secretary

God's People

Rev. Rebekah Swanson (778.222.5115)

Ben Dobyns

Norita Dobyns (604.435.6020)

[Sunday 8-1, Mon-Thurs 9-2, Fridays Closed]

Peter Dela Torre

TBD

Linda C. & Marion M. & Beverley F.

Gloria Tymm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Janet Schreiber

Heather Robbie

Heidi Ackermann

Sylvia Harris

Carol Laslett

Emmanuel Manu

Joel Westereng

Karl van Spronsen

Kirsten Jensen

Chairperson + Outreach Committee

Vice-Chairperson + Hospitality Committee

Secretary + Visioning Committee

Treasurer + Stewardship & Finance Committee

Music & Worship Committee

Property Committee

Education Committee

COVID Task Force Coordinator

Human Resources + Constitution Committee

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Heidi Ackermann, Russell Collins, and Marly Zell

You can find First Lutheran on:

Twitter: FirstLutheranVan

Instagram: first.lutheran.vancouver

For pastoral emergencies, please call Pr. Rebekah at 778-222-5115.

For non-emergency matters, please contact the office at
info@firstlutheranvancouver.com or ph: 604-435-6020.