



An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2011 October 16

Sacrament of Baptism



Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

In response to God's call, we, the congregation of Robertson-Wesley United Church declare our commitment to opening our hearts and our church family to all people in our community, regardless of sexual orientation, age, gender, differing abilities, ethnicity, or economic circumstance. We recognize that many people's lives continue to be devastated by hatred, prejudice, and inequality, therefore, as a compassionate and caring spiritual community we will stand with those who are adversely affected by injustice, alienation and oppression.

Friends in Christ

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are in loving memory of
Grace Nicholson, Russell Johnson, Eva Matheson and Stuart Matheson,
and are a gift from their family.*

Prelude: *Variations on Cwm Rhondda*, Gerhard Krapf

Greeting

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Hymn: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Voices United 400

Sacrament of Baptism

*Membership Ctte: Susan Hutson
(Leader reads plain text; people read bold text)*

Taylor Patrick Lwanga

Son of Mandy & Ben Lwanga

Godparents: Emmanuel and Janet Chiwele

Kassandra Alexis Westerhof

Daughter of Jamie & Glen Westerhoff

Godparents: Steve and Nancy Defer

Prayer for the Holy Spirit (*in unison*)

**Eternal God, whose Son the Servant-Lord Jesus Christ has
commissioned us to make disciples of people of all nations
baptizing them in your name, bless these children, now to be
baptized according to your Word and in the power of Your Holy
Spirit. Amen.**

Congregation's Promise (*standing*)

In response to God's great love, do you, the members of Robertson-Wesley United Church, receive Kassandra and Taylor, as we have been received, and promise to support all children in your care with constant love, wholesome example, Christian teaching and faithful prayer?

Yes, we do, in the power of the Spirit.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*in unison*)

**God of our fathers and mothers and of our children, with joy we
praise you, we thank you, we honour you. For the gift of life
embodied in children, we thank you. For this sacrament by
which they are received into your family, we honour you.**

Gracious God, keep all children in truth as they grow in mind and body. Keep all parents in your love as they grow and guide their children in truth. Keep us all faithful to the Covenant of Life. Amen.

Blessing (*sung*)

(*Voices United* 454)

**May God who creates you give you light;
May God who sustains you make you wise;
May God who protects you give you joy;
May God who surrounds you give you peace.**

God's Holy Word

Introit: *Adiemus*, Keith Jenkins

Cantilon Chamber Choir

Scripture:

Glen Warren

Exodus 33:12–23 · Moses' intercession

This is the witness of Israel.

Thanks be to God, our loving Creator.

Matthew 9:35—10:4 · Harvest is plentiful

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Praise be to God for Christ, the Word made flesh.

Anthem: *Hosanna*, Knut Nystedt

Cantilon Chamber Choir

Dialogue: *We Are Not Alone*

Revs. Karen Bridges, Jim Allan

Silent Reflection

Hymn: *I Have Called You by Your Name*
(*Please feel free to sing in French or English*)

More Voices 161

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

Grateful Response

Offering: *Nigra Sum*, Pablo Cassals

Cantilon Chamber Choir

Offertory Hymn

(*Voices United* 518 vs 3)

**With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
not just to serve your cause,
but share your love with neighbours too.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

Please note that the last line of the creed (omitted in some of our hymn books) is:

Thanks be to God.

The Peace:

We greet the people near us with gestures of peace and words such as...

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Voices United 651

Benediction

Postlude: *Toccata in C*, Johann Pachelbel

Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

*Following worship, all are invited to the Memorial Hall
for fellowship and refreshments.*

Music Notes

Thank you to the Cantilon Chamber Choir, their director Heather Johnson and accompanist Shannon Hiebert for their special music today. We always enjoy having Cantilon choirs in our services!

I am playing some music by Gerhard Krapf for the prelude today as a tribute. He was born in 1924 and died in 2008. He was my teacher's teacher and in addition to teaching at the U of A he was a fine composer and wrote many volumes of pieces based on hymn tunes or German chorale tunes. In his memory, a portative organ (similar to the one in our chapel) was built by James Louder, a builder from Quebec who I know quite well, and it was delivered just this week. It will be a glorious addition to chamber music and choral music at the U of A.

Worship Thanks

Today's ushers are Jack and Connie Waters
Greeters: Arnold Maki, Rosemary Dunbar, Maxine Baker,
Margery Wright and Gayle Wright
Scripture Reader: Glen Warren

Minister of Spiritual Development: Rev. Jim Allan
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges
Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiller
Custodian: Brad Campbell

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