



*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2017 Feb 5

Epiphany 5



### Welcome and Inclusion

We open our hearts and our church family to all people in our community regardless of age, gender, differing abilities, ethnicity, economic circumstance, or sexual orientation. Many people's lives continue to be devastated by hatred, prejudice, and inequality, therefore we stand with those who are adversely affected by

*The flowers in the sanctuary are in loving memory of my family, and are placed here by Doreen Losie.*

Prelude: *What a Wonderful World*, George W. Weiss & Bob Thiele

Embracing Our Spirit

Call to Worship:

We are a people of convictions, seeking to make a difference.

**And some days we grow weary.**

We are a passionate people, working for the ways of justice.

**And some days we grow weary.**

We are a people of vision, seeing the shape of how our world could be.

**And some days we grow weary.**

We are a people of faith, searching to journey with God.

**And some days we grow weary. May we remember this day to rely on you, O God, our source of Life.<sup>1</sup>**

Processional Hymn: *Your Will Be Done (Mayenziwe)* *More Voices*  
**151**

Coming Into God's Presence

Introit: *Ubi Caritas*, Maurice Duruflé Choir of Robertson-Wesley

(Text: Where charity and love are, God is there.

Christ's love has gathered us into one.

Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God.

May we love each other with a sincere heart.

Where charity and love are, God is there. Amen.)

Prayer of Confession:

Hidden Wholeness, we seek your completeness in our lives.

**We come into your presence acknowledging the shallow places of our faith, but seeking completeness in you. In our hearts our resolve is to be more faithful. Our desire is to be filled more with hope and love. Hear our prayer for new beginnings that comes from our very soul. May our newness make us the instruments of your peace. Amen.<sup>2</sup>**

Sung words of Assurance: *Voices United 626*

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I freely give the living water;  
thirsty one, stoop down and drink, and live."**

**I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

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<sup>1</sup> Keri K. Wehlander, *Joy is our Banquet: Resources for Everyday Worship*. (Etobicoke: The United Church Publishing House, 1996), page 3. Used with permission.

<sup>2</sup> Written by Beth W Johnston, *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2015-2016, page 42. Used with permission.

Scriptures:

Betty Squair

Psalm 20

**Voices United 742**

Matthew 6: 7-21 • Lord's Prayer, treasure in heaven

“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”<sup>3</sup>

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God for Christ, the word made flesh.**

Anthem: *Notre Père*, Maurice Duruflé  
(Text: The Lord's Prayer.)

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *At the heart of the matter.*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Recommitment: *A New Creed*

**Voices United 918**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Come to My Heart*

**Voices United 661**

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

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Grateful Response

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Seconds for Stewardship

Jill Lambie & Maria Smyth

Offering: *Finale-Andante (Sonata No. 6)*, Felix Mendelssohn

Prayer of Gratitude:

**Most blessed God, we come before you this day and offer the treasures of our lives. We place here our resources, our work, our hopes for this church, our dreams for this world. May your light shine upon these gifts and upon all of us who offer them,**

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<sup>3</sup> *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version.* (1991, Oxford University Press)

**empowering us to be wise and generous and open to new understandings. Amen.<sup>4</sup>**

Recessional Hymn: *When Pain of the World*

*Voices United 598*

Commissioning:

**May our hands be strengthened for the work to come,  
May our hearts become fiercely patient,  
May our eyes see the promise of justice,  
May our ears hear the invitation of rest and renewal,  
May our feet dance in the light of God. Amen.<sup>5</sup>**

Postlude: *Allegro molto (Sonata No. 6)*, Felix Mendelssohn

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

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### Music Notes

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We have many pieces this morning based on the Lord's Prayer. The choir sings a setting by the French 20<sup>th</sup> century composer Maurice Duruflé, and the introit is his setting of the plainchant melody "Ubi Caritas". The Mendelssohn 6<sup>th</sup> sonata for organ is based on the choral melody "Vater Unser", which is the tune used for the German setting of the Lord's Prayer. For the sermon film series, I am trying to choose some music each week that is from the film or is related in some way. What a Wonderful World was made famous by Louis Armstrong in 1967, so a few years after the setting of "Hidden Figures", and is a little nod to Black History month.

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### Cover Image

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Cover image: This picture was taken by Tammy-Jo Mortensen on River Valley Rd. Nov 10, 2016. The path was "heart bombed" by RISE (Reconciliation in Solidarity Edmonton).

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Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Vacant  
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges  
Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen  
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiller  
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<sup>4</sup> Written by Nora Vedress, **Gathering**, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2016-2017, page 47. Used with permission.

<sup>5</sup> Keri K. Welander, **Joy is our Banquet**, page 6. Used with permission.

**R-W REPORT FEBRUARY 5, 2017**  
**Robertson-Wesley United Church**

**A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE**

Washrooms are located by the elevator.

Baby changing facilities are available in washrooms.

If you wish to use it, a children's activity centre is set up in the Chapel with nursing space in adjacent room (Millson Room).

Activity kits for children are available from the ushers.

Large print bulletins, large print hymnbooks,  
and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

Please do not leave valuables unattended anywhere in the church.

**Next Week**

**February 12, 2016, 10:30 am**

**Epiphany 6, Communion, Minute for Mission**

**Scripture:**

- Psalm 95
- Matt 14: 13-33 Feeding of the 5000, walking on the sea

**Sermon: *Radical hospitality leads to wholeness***

In the month of February we will be using best picture Oscar Nominees to explore theology and scripture. Manchester by the Sea is a film that leads an uncle to choose an alternate world, and to extend hospitality without expectation or reward. Like the people who followed Jesus to a deserted place seeking healing and wholeness and nourishment for their bodies, minds and spirits, the main characters of this film find reconciliation and wholeness through the act of compassion. How will we be inspired to extend hospitality and compassion to others?

**Music:** Choir of Robertson-Wesley; Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

**After Worship:** All are invited to gather in the Memorial Hall for the Annual Congregation Meeting.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

***A Challenge from Your Nominating Committee***-We are seeking **Incoming Chair of the Board, 2 Presbytery Reps, Treasurer and Chair of the Worship committee.**

Please let the committee know if you are interested in any of these positions or have a suggestion of someone in our midst who you think has the skills and gifts to be part of the leadership team. Job descriptions can be found on the website for more information about what is

involved. Your Nominating committee includes Garnet Thomas, Ted Blezard, John Fleming, Ron Soans.

### R-W News & Notes

#### **TAX RECEIPTS ARE READY FOR PICK UP!**

The 2016 tax receipts can be picked up in the hall after the service today. Receipts will be available throughout the first 3 weeks of February after service on Sunday or during the week through the office. Receipts that are not picked up will be mailed by February 23, 2017.

#### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A **Budget Information Session** will be held **TODAY**.

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Robertson-Wesley congregation will take place in Memorial Hall after the service on **February 12, 2017**.

#### **JOINT SEARCH UPDATE**

Our search for a Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development continues, and the congregation will be hearing next from the Joint Search Committee when it is ready to bring its recommendation to a congregational meeting. Standard notice of the meeting will be provided in writing and verbally at worship.

#### **ARTS COLLECTIVE**

##### **EN ROOT: ACTING AUTHENTIC, GROUNDED IN PLACE**

**Facilitated by Tonya Rae Chrystian**

**Mondays, 6:00–9:00 pm, January 9 – March 20, 2017**

Place, roots, spiritual belonging. This collective will give you the opportunity to try acting in a supportive and fun environment; all experience levels are welcome! Together we will play with basic acting techniques and how acting can connect us with community, spirituality and place.

You can still register! <https://rwarts.wufoo.com/forms/q1nl493e18xk4kb/>

#### **BOOK BUDDIES**

**Monday, February 27 at 7:00 pm, Club Room**

Book Buddies starts the year with Walter Brueggemann's *Sabbath as Resistance; Saying No to the Culture of Now*.

Brueggemann is an Old Testament scholar of international renown, and the author of one hundred books! *Sabbath as Resistance* is a little book with a gigantic message for us. Available in the church office and in Memorial Hall in February.

#### **39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

**February 28, 2017 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.**

Bring your family and friends to a pancake supper at Robertson-Wesley.

Adults: \$8.00. Children under 12: \$5.00 and family of 4 is \$18.00

Tickets will be available soon!

## **TRANSPORATION & PARKING SURVEY**

The R-W Board and Property Committee are looking at the future of Robertson-Wesley in the midst of a rapidly changing neighbourhood. Your feedback is greatly appreciated, and your voice will help shape how the church develops within the community.

The survey can be found in the brochure racks and now online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K96Z6X6>. The link is also posted on our front page at [rwuc.org](http://rwuc.org).

## **RUMMAGE SALE SURVEY**

The Rummage Sale is an event that draws in hundreds of people and the funds benefit the church and community. We created a survey online for those wishing to fill one out. Thank you in advance for your feedback.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SXB3WXM>. The link is posted on our front page at [rwuc.org](http://rwuc.org).

## **GROCERY CARDS**

Everyone buys groceries! Pay for your groceries with grocery cards purchased through Robertson-Wesley United Church and the church will receive between 4% - 8% of the proceeds.

Gift cards are available in various denominations. Buy a \$100 gift card and you will get \$100 worth of groceries! We have a limited supply of gift cards available for sale after worship in Memorial Hall.

## **KOINONIA WORSHIP**

A friendly group that meets for potluck supper, followed by worship, usually the 4th Sunday evening. The worship services are planned and conducted by members of the group in a less formal, more casual style. Themes are varied and can include anything from examining our faith through group discussion, discovering what is meant by 'holy ground', to Sunday Sundaes Sing! Come give us a try! Check the announcements in the Sunday bulletin and eNews. We look forward to seeing you – you're sure to get a warm welcome!! Next service is **Sunday, Feb 22**.

## **MISSION AND SERVICE FUND OF THE UNITED CHURCH**

**Reminder-** Communion and presentation of our special gifts for the Mission and Service Fund are planned for next Sunday. Our Mission and Service Dollars:

- Provide theological education for ministry
- Provide grants to congregations
- Finance the Conference offices
- Ensure our Canadian and global partners have the funding to do their work
- Enable restorative justice work with the Aboriginal Ministries Circle

- Support the mission of our congregations
- Develop resources for congregational stewardship

Robertson-Wesley, along with other congregations, is committed to financially supporting the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada. Our congregation does this in various ways: through pledges and special fund-raising activities. On each Sunday when Communion is served we highlight some aspect of the work and mission of our National Church. At this time we also take up a special collection designated for Mission and Service. Blue envelopes are provided for this purpose in the bulletin on that Sunday.



### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Feb 5	Meditation– Room 11	10:00 am
	Annual Budget Information Session– M. Hall	11:45 am
Mon Feb 6	Arts Collective; En Root– Room 11	6:00 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue Feb 7	DEAP Pod– Club Room	10:00 am
	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Stewardship Meeting– Room 11	1:30 pm
Wed Feb 8	Men’s Group– Memorial Hall	9:30 am
	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	R-W Choir rehearsal– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Feb 9	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat Feb 11	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm

### ON THE HORIZON

Sun Feb 12	Meditation– Room 11	10:00 am
	Annual Congregational Meeting– M. Hall	11:45 am
	SoulOUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Mon Feb 13	Arts Collective; En Root– Room 11	6:00 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue Feb 14	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	United Church Women– Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
	Property ctte– Room 11	7:00 pm

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