



*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2017 June 11

Celebration of Faith

### Welcome and Inclusion

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



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## Friends in Christ

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*The flowers in the sanctuary are in loving memory of Fred & Marguerite Seymour,  
a gift from their family.*

Prelude: *Prelude and Fughetta*, Healey Willan Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Call to Worship:

Come into this time of worship knowing that God has called each one of us here.

**We are here because Jesus gathered us.**

Come, knowing that Christ is here beside each and every one of us.

**We are here because Jesus gathered us.**

Come, to be set free to respond to the Spirit's work in the world.

**We are here ready to serve.**

Come, let us worship God.

**Let's worship God. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**

Processional Hymn: *Make a Joyful Noise*

**Voices United 820**

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

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## God's Holy Word

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Introit: *Like as the Hart (Psalm 42: 1-2)*, Healey Willan Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Scripture:

Ben Warkentin

Ephesians 4:1-16 • Unity in Christ

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." When it says, "he ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every

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<sup>1</sup> Written by Catherine Tovell, **Gathering, Pentecost 1 2017**, p. 28. Used with permission.

way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is the witness of the Church.

**Thanks be to God for the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Anthem: *Psalm 150*, Violet Archer

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Reflection/Exploration: *Jesus Gathers* Rev. Karen Bridges, children and youth

Hymn: *One More Step Along the World I Go*

**Voices United 639**

Pastoral Prayers

Rev. Leigh Sinclair

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

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### Grateful Response

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Offering: *Celebration*, Martha Graham

Offertory Hymn:

*More Voices* 187 v 1, 2

**We give our thanks to God, we give our thanks to God,  
We give our thanks to God, we give our thanks to God,  
We give our thanks to God.**

**We give our hands to you, (3x)  
Because you reached for us.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Recessional Hymn: *O God beyond All Praising*

**Voices United 256**

Commissioning:

Go back into the world with a broad smile and an open heart,  
Inviting all who would come in to enter freely,  
And love your neighbour as yourself, for Christ's sake.

**We go open and ready to serve the world as God has called us to.<sup>2</sup>**

Postlude: *I Vow to thee, my country* (Jupiter, The Planets), G. Holst, arr. Thiman

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

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### Music Notes

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More Canadian music for this morning! Willan, the "Dean" of Canadian composers, brought a British Cathedral approach to church music when he came to Canada. This setting of Ps. 42 is really simple and elegant. The setting of Psalm 150 by Violet Archer (1913-2000) really portrays the text. Born and raised in Montreal and first trained at McGill, she went on to study with Bartok in New York and Hindemith at

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<sup>2</sup> Written by George Allan, **Gathering** Pentecost 1 2016, p. 43. Used with permission.

Yale where she received a masters. You can really hear the influence of Hindemith in this piece, as many times two of the parts sing in intervals of 4ths rather than 3rds or 5ths. She was very active in the music scene in Edmonton and came to the University of Alberta in 1962. She had notable students here in Edmonton, including Allan Gordon Bell and Allan Gilliland. She attended Knox-Metropolitan United in Edmonton, and there is a park named after her at 109 Street and 70 Avenue. The offertory hymn that we will use for the next while is from Botswana. It's got an interesting "swing" to it. We will always sing two verses, but they will change from week to week depending on the theme of the day!

Our recessional hymn is one of the most famous melodies from Holst's "The Planets", from "Jupiter". It is such a wonderful tune, that no wonder it was taken in 1921 by Holst, set to a poem by Sir Cecil Spring Rice, and became a British patriotic song. Now there are many sets of words to this tune which has become known by the name "Thaxted", which was the village Holst lived in most of his life.

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### *Cover Image*

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Cover image: This is a picture of the body of Christ as made by the children in Kids' Church at RWUC in 2017. Picture taken by Rhonda Black.

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Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair  
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges  
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**R-W REPORT June 11, 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**

**June 18, 2017, 10:30 am**

**Pentecost 2**

**Children & Youth:** Children start in the sanctuary, then go to Kids' Church; Youth meet in the youth room. This is the last week of programming till September.

**Scripture:**

- Ephesians 2:1-10

**Sermon:** *Jesus Heals*

Jesus was known by his amazing deeds of healing. He healed by word and touch and at time seems to say he did not heal anyone but that the healed brought it about by their faith. How do we deepen the gift of faith so as to heal our relationships and our world? How is the eternal Christ healing today?

**Music:** Choir of R-W; Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

**After Worship:** After worship all are invited to gather in the Memorial Hall for fellowship and refreshments.

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**Volunteer Opportunities:**

**Community Dinner Cook:** We are looking for a volunteer cook to prepare the community dinners. A group of volunteers get together to plan and prepare a nutritious meal for the needy in the community. This meal is prepared once a month on the second Saturday of every month of the year. The Christmas meal in December is held on the first week of the month. Numbers vary from 125 people to over 200 people for the

Christmas meal. This program has been in operation for over 20 years and is self-sustaining. A trust fund was provided by a wonderful person to look after the costs these meals.

We meet new friends and have a lot of fun preparing these meals.

If you are interested, you may contact Robertson-Wesley at [mail@rwuc.org](mailto:mail@rwuc.org). We are looking forward to meeting you.

**Communion Servers:** Our next Communion, by Intinction, is **Sunday, July 9**. Servers are needed for this Communion. If you are able to serve please sign up on the sheet in Memorial Hall.

**Scripture Readers:** A new list is posted in Memorial Hall. All people are welcome to read on Sunday. This is a popular list, so please sign up for one Sunday only, this is to give other people a fair chance to sign up and participate.

**Elevator:** As you know the elevator is being taken out. Our church is required to lower the floor at the base of the elevator shaft. **We are having a work party on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week (June 12,13 and 14)** to do the work. We'll start a 9 am. We need people to break the concrete, carry the debris outside and then mix a replace the new floor. We will have all the equipment there and supply beverage and lunch for participants. Please wear appropriate work clothes and gloves. The more the merrier and the quicker we will get the job done. This will save the congregation several thousand dollars. Hope to see you there!

### Staff

Rev. Karen Bridges will be on holidays June 14-19, 2017.

### R-W News & Notes

#### **CELEBRATION OF FAITH**

#### **Today! Sunday, June 11**

The Celebration of Faith is a time where we celebrate all that we have learned together since September as followers of Christ. On this Sunday the children and youth share a few things they have done over the year, we welcome children from Grade 6 into the youth group, we acknowledge any youth who will be finishing High School, and we find ways to share our stories of faith with one another. This is truly a morning to celebrate! We hope that everyone will join us for this colourful and playful morning, and join us to decorate your own cupcakes after the service in fellowship.

## **THE UNITED VOICES OF EDMONTON AND R-W RINGERS ARE ON TOUR!!!**

The United Voices of Edmonton (combined choirs of United on Whyte and Choir of Robertson-Wesley), and the R-W Ringers have been on tour this weekend! As we continue in the work of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, we are thrilled to have Cree singer/songwriter Karen Donaldson Shepherd collaborating with us in healing and harmony. We received a Canada 150 community grant to do five concerts in four days in the Edmonton region including all four surrounding counties. We have been performing all Canadian music.

The final three shows are:

- Sunday June 11, 2:30 pm – St. Vital Catholic Church  
4905 50 Street, Beaumont
- Sunday June 11, 7:30 pm – Morinville United Church  
9610 Morinville Drive, Morinville
- Monday June 12, 7:30 pm – Robertson-Wesley United Church

### **UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

#### **Year-End Luncheon on Tuesday, June 13 at 12:15 pm**

**Program:** Luncheon catered by Food for Thought as usual, \$8:00.

**Agenda:** Social. A few items of business. Discussion of future plans for UCW. Please let Janet M Clark know if you plan on attending for food ordering. (clarkwinchesters@shaw.ca; 780 483-4261)

### **R-W MEN'S GROUP**

The Robertson Wesley Men's Group monthly meeting will be held **Wednesday, June 14th** in Grant Harlton's garage, at 9:00 am in the morning. Contact Grant at 780-481-1570 for details. There will be no Men's Group meetings in the months of July and August. The first fall meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, at 9:30 am, in Memorial Hall.

### **SANCTUARY LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

**On Tuesday, June 13 at 5:00 pm** we would like to gather a group of people who are interested in creating sacred environments for the different liturgical seasons. We want to explore symbols and come up with some ideas for how the sanctuary could be set up for the coming year based on our themes, to help deepen our experience of worship during the different liturgical seasons. In the past we have done this through candles, fabric, the communion cloths/paraments, flowers, stars, mirrors, rocks, words, etc. No special skill is required. At this first gathering we will explore all the different bits of what can be done, and do some dreaming of what we might need to create. And then we will see if there are people willing to take on creating some of this.

## MISSION AND OUTREACH POD

Guest speaker Paula Kirman

**Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 12:00 noon in the Club Room.**

At this gathering our guest speaker will be Paula Kirman. Paula is the marketing project co-ordinator with Mill Woods United Church. She is also the e-mail list manager and social media co-ordinator for the group *Moving Forward with Reconciliation*, which includes members from the United Churches throughout Edmonton. She will share with us the progress to date of the many actions that are taking place in moving forward to healing and reconciliation. Everyone who is interested is invited to be part of this gathering.

### UPCOMING IMPROVEMENTS AT ROBERTSON-WESLEY

Two projects will be completed at Robertson-Wesley this year, likely by the end of July. Those projects are:

1. Replace the present elevator. No elevator June 5-July 31
2. Upgrade the basement washrooms to make them accessible. (June 22-July 31)

Bear with us during these renovations as the lack of an elevator will inconvenience some people. The east entrance with the ramp will be used by those who can't manage the stairs.

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun June 11	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Mon June 12	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
	United Voices Concert– Sanctuary	7:30 pm
	Ministry & Personnel– Club Room	7:00 pm
Tue June 13	Yoga Dance– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Chapel	12:10 pm
	United Church Women– Memorial Hall	12:15 pm
	Property Committee– offsite	7:00 pm

### ON THE HORIZON

Sun June 18	Mission & Outreach Pod– Club Room	12:00 pm
Mon June 19	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue June 20	Scripture Reflection Group– Chapel	12:10 pm
	Stewardship– Room 11	1:30 pm

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Office hours: Tues. – Fri. 8:30 am to noon & 1 pm – 4:30 pm

We wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory and a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples.