



*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2017 September 3

Pentecost 13



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.

Prelude: *Adagio ma non tanto & Allegro* (Sonata in e-, BWV 1034), J. S. Bach  
Matthew McGuigan, flute & Tammy-Jo Mortensen, harpsichord

## Embracing Our Spirit

### Call to Worship:

In a land far away, and long ago, there was a  
pair of women with no special powers...except...  
One was a hostess with the “mostest.”

**The other was a listener and learner beyond compare.**

When they had the courage to work together:

**Mary and Martha were superheroes.**

In a land far away, in a universe called “DC”, there was a  
pair of men with no special powers...except...

One has courage beyond compare.

**The other was a mentor and teacher beyond compare.**

When they had the courage to work together:

**Bruce Wayne and Alfred were superheroes.**

### Prayer of Approach:

God of heroes, Source of Courage, help us listen anew today to the  
stories of heroes. Infuse us with mature enough faith that we too  
may act in courage, in faith and in team.

**God of heroes, Source of Courage, thank you for your gifts of  
superpowers, the fruits of the Spirit! Amen.**

Opening Hymn: *Dance With the Spirit*

*More Voices 156*

*(Using a different word for each verse: Dance, Move, Grow, Run)*

Coming Into God’s Presence

Rev. Leigh Sinclair

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## God’s Holy Word

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Scriptures:

John Fleming

Psalm 37 – read and sung responsively

*Voices United*

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Ephesians 4:7-16 • Grow up, into Christ

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 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 Israel

**Thanks be to God our loving Creator.**

Sermon: *Who is Tying your Shoes?*

Rev. Leigh Sinclair

Hymn: *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

**Voices United 644**

Pastoral Prayers

Rev. Leigh Sinclair

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

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*Grateful Response*

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Offering: *Andante* (Sonata in e-, BWV 1034), J. S. Bach Matthew McGuigan, flute

Offertory Hymn: *Spiderman* Theme, words adapted from *Voices United* 540

**Grant us God, grace to give  
with a spirit large and free  
that ourselves and our lives,  
may be offered faithfully  
Praise be, thanks be to God, Amen.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Closing Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision*

**Voices United 642**

Commissioning:

Jesus said: I am the Cup of Living Water.

**A cup of Living Water never runs dry.**

So raise a cup, a cup of Living Water, a cup of Christ's Courage!

**We go full of the Spirit's superpowers -**

wisdom and service, imagination and courage -

**to tell the Good News.**

Remember: God's power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine!

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Allegro* (Sonata in e-, BWV 1034), J. S. Bach

Matthew McGuigan, flute & Tammy-Jo Mortensen, harpsichord

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

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## Music Notes

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Thank you so much to Matthew McGuigan for sharing his talents this morning in service. All the instrumental movements we are playing this morning are from one flute sonata by J. S. Bach. This sonata was composed in 1724, and certainly maybe have been conceived during Bach's Cöthen period (1717–23), when he was employed as Capellmeister for Prince Leopold of Cöthen, the only period in his life he was not in full time church employment. It was written for flute (or recorder?) and continuo. It can be accompanied by any keyboard instrument. Bach would have likely used harpsichord or organ (it was before the piano was “invented”) and usually there would be a cello, gamba or bassoon playing the bass line along with the left hand of the keyboard player. While the keyboardist is an accompanist for the slow movements, they also act as a second melody line in the fast movements, creating a canon between the flute and accompanists left hand.

One of the hymns that we sing this morning is a favourite for some for its storytelling and its “love song” approach – to quote from the hymnologist Michael Hawn - a love song between God and the singer. He says: “Many hymns address God from the human perspective, but few address humanity from God’s point of view. The spirit of “Borning Cry” is one of a God who loved us from the beginning of time and continues to love us throughout the seasons of our life.” Composer John Ylvisaker wrote it when he was working for the communication division of the American Lutheran Church and was asked to make a video on baptism.

Next week, we welcome back the Choir of Robertson-Wesley after their summer break!

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## Cover Image

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Cover images: This picture was taken by Leigh Sinclair.

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Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair  
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges (on sabbatical)

Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen  
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiller  
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## **R-W REPORT September 3, 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**

**September 10, 2017, 10:30 am**

**Children & Youth:** Children begin in the sanctuary, then go to their Kids' Church program. Youth meet in the youth room at the beginning of the service.

#### **Scripture:**

Genesis 1:1- 2:4a; John 1:1-5

#### **Sermon: *God Promises Blessings and Beginnings***

Today's service will include a blessing of backpacks and briefcases, purses and lunch kits to help us move into the "new year" of school and Kids' Church! We will have registration for Kids' Church as well as exploring the beginnings of the universe and God's declaration: It Is Good!

**Music:** Choir of Robertson-Wesley; 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:**

***Garden Patch & Kids' Church-*** Grandparents, parents, youth and adults are encouraged to volunteer Sunday mornings on a regular rotational basis. More details are on the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall. Sign up today!

#### **Staff**

Brad Campbell will be on vacation and returns Sept 5.

Rev. Karen Bridges is on sabbatical Aug 1 to Oct 31.

## R-W News & Notes



Blessing  
of the Backpacks

### **GET BLESSED- September 10, 2017**

#### **Blessing of the backpacks, briefcases and purses!**

Robertson-Wesley United Church invites the Oliver and surrounding community to join us for worship at 10:30 AM to have your backpacks blessed for the coming school/program year.

### **KIDS' CHURCH AND YOUTH GROUP; Begins September 10**

Fall start up begins with registration on Sept 10 with programming for Children ages 2 – Grade 6 and youth Grades 7-12. The first youth group event of the year is Sept 16, 2017 with our season opener, games and sundaes from 7-10 pm. Your friends are welcome to join us.

### **R-W MEN'S GROUP: a reminder of the first R-W Men's Group**

Meeting will be held **September 13, 2017**, in Memorial Hall at 9:30 am. The agenda will be to review the Groups schedule of activities for the coming year. Looking forward to some 'creative' ideas.

### **PRAYER SERVICE**

The Spiritual Pod is excited to host three worship experiences this fall to help us all experience different forms of prayer. They will be 30 minute services, held the third Sundays of each month at 9 AM in the Chapel. Each service we will learn about a way of engaging in prayer and then experience it together.

**Dates: September 17, October 15, November 19**

Time and Place: 9:00-9:30 am in the Chapel

### **RIBBON CUTTING AND FREE BBQ AT NOON**

**On Sunday September 24, 2017**, MLA David Shepherd will be joining us for the ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of our new elevator at Robertson-Wesley United Church which was made possible because of the Provincial CFEP (Community Facility Enhancement Program) Grant that we received.

Join us for a free BBQ in celebration where we will be serving smokies and lemonade to the community.

### **UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

**Tuesday, September 12 at 1:15 pm**

Everyone is welcome to join us for the first UCW meeting of the season with guest speaker Rev. Catherine Christie.

Catherine is overseas personnel returning from global partnership work in Korea and will share some of her Mission and Service experience with us.

## MESSY WEDNESDAYS

Starting on **September 27, 2017**, in Memorial Hall on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 5pm – 7pm**, families with children gather for dinner, activities and discussion. The families gather to eat a meal together at no cost to the family, which is served around 5:45pm. We have a couple of volunteers who do the cooking for us, so it is night off for parents! This is part of our outreach ministry and a way to welcome all families to gather together for a time of fellowship. There are activities for the children before and after dinner and adults take the opportunity engage in conversation during the evening. Don't worry if you can't make it right at 5pm. Families are invited to help with clean up and children's activities. Grandparents are welcome to join us! This is a wonderful way to get to know other families in the church and the neighbourhood. It is a messy and fun time for all!

### FREE YOGA CLASSES AT ROBERTSON-WESLEY

Everyone is invited to join the gentle hatha yoga class in Memorial Hall on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:05, **beginning September 5**. No previous yoga experience is necessary – this class will help you to gradually stretch and strengthen your body, still your mind, and open your heart. Yoga mats are available if you don't have your own. **Please come early to the first class to register.**

### BOOK BUDDIES- *Earth's Blanket*

Do you like to read, then talk about what you have read? If so, you are a Book Buddy! The next Book Buddies' selection is Nancy J. Turner's *Earth's Blanket*. Discussion takes place on Saturday **September 23 at 9:30 am**. Copies are available for sale from the church office or after Sunday service in Memorial Hall. Price is \$25.

### FLOWER DONATION DURING THE SUMMER

We invite you to take part in offering flowers to our sanctuary. Anyone can donate flowers to be displayed for Sunday morning worship. Flowers can be donated to celebrate any season or to mark an important day, anniversary or in memory of someone.

**To donate:** just bring your bouquet on Sunday morning and give it to an usher!

**Remember:** take it home with you or gift it to someone to take home with them.

**At this time:** the Church office *can* mark the occasion in the bulletin if you let them know by Wednesday at noon, before the Sunday you choose. The Church office *cannot* receive donations of flowers on your behalf. With deep gratitude for the ministry of the Flower Group over the years, this is how we will receive flowers during the transition as we explore new ways to continue this ministry.

## R-W IS ACCEPTING ARTWORK!

**Art Sale: November 18, 2017, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

R-W will be holding its annual Art Sale in November and we are accepting art donations. Art is "in the eyes of the beholder" - so we accept art of everything kind - oils, drawings, wood working, pottery, and jewelry, etc.. **You will receive a tax receipt for the actual cost of the article at the sale.** If you have any art or wish information, please contact Sheila or Pat at 780-481-0056 or leave a message at the Church Office. All the money from the Art Sale stays within the church for future community projects and activities.

## REV. KAREN BRIDGES GOES ON SABBATICAL

**August 1 – October 31, 2017**

In The United Church of Canada ministers are eligible to go on a three-month Sabbatical after working in a congregation for 5 years. As this is my 7th year here at Robertson-Wesley, it is time to engage a spiritual practice of Sabbath. The term sabbatical actually is derived from the biblical word Sabbath ... periods of rest and rejuvenation in a lifetime. A sabbatical is simply getting an extended leave from work to pursue a break from one's regular duties.

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Tue Sep 05	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	DEAP Pod– Club Room	5:00 pm
Wed Sep 06	Choir of R-W– Off site	7:30 pm
Thu Sep 07	R-W Ringers– Club Room	7:00 pm
Sat Sep 09	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm

### ON THE HORIZON

Sun Sep 10	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Tue Sep 12	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
Wed Sep 13	Men's Group– Memorial Hall	9:30 am
Fri Sep 15	Women's Weekend– offsite	
Sat Sat 16	R-W Youth Group– all of church	7:00 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.