

Robertson - Wesley

UNITED CHURCH *Spirited*

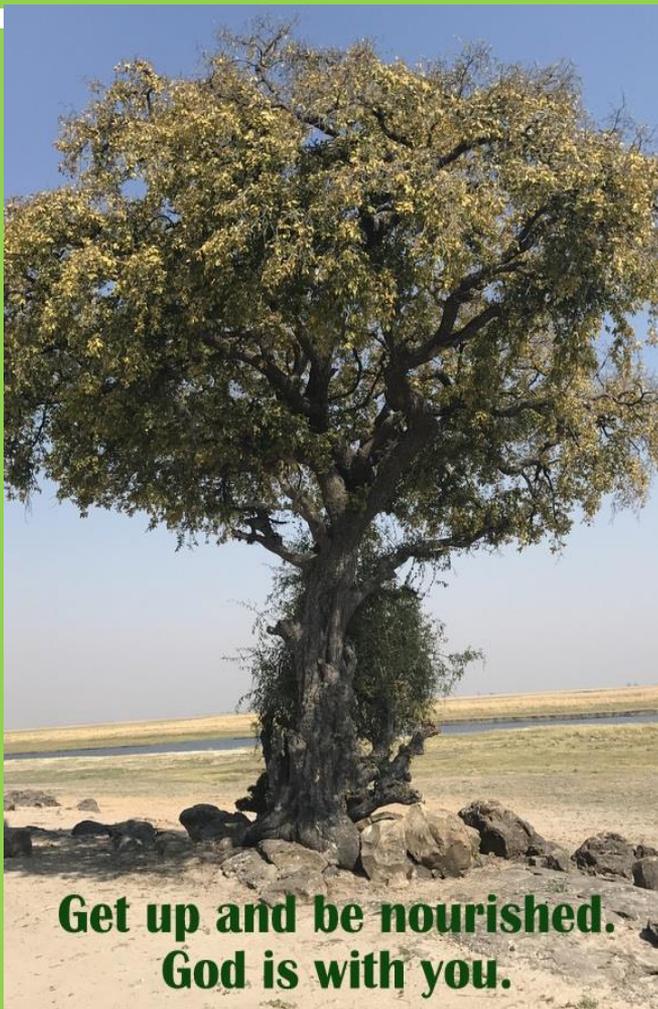
An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2017 Nov 5

Communion

Pentecost 22

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



**Get up and be nourished.
God is with you.**

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

Embracing Our Spirit

Call to Worship:

Come, all those weary from the crowd and bustle of the week:

God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with delight for the abundance of everyday treasures:

God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those made restless by acquiescence to injustice:

God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those who search for glimpses of quiet transcendence:

God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with spirits frayed from the pull of unforeseen difficulties:

God's steadfast love awaits you.

Come, all those with open hearts ready to listen for the mystery:

God's steadfast love awaits you.¹

Processional Hymn: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

Voices United 575

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

Prayer of Examen

God has given us a complete week.

It began on Monday and it is now Sunday.

Let us recall all that was accomplished this week, and give thanks to God. (silence)

Let us recall our fears and sadness, our joys and contentment and pray for God's love. (silence)

May our hearts be ever mindful of others and quick to do good,

Through Jesus Christ our Friend and Helper. Amen.

God's Holy Word

Scripture:

Julie Golosky

1 Kings 19: 1-18 • Elijah meets God at Horeb

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. But he

¹ Written by Keri K. Wehlender, **Circles of Grace; Worship and Prayer in the Everyday.** (Etobicoke: United Church Publishing House, 1998), p. 6-7.

himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

Choir: *For God alone I wait in Silence*, Eleanor Daley Choir of R-W

When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."²

This is the witness of Israel.

Thanks be to God our loving Creator.

Anthem: *Eatnemen Vuelie (Song of the Earth)*, Frode Fjellheim, arr. Crocker
Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *Remember you are not alone* Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *Bread of Life, Feed My Soul* **More Voices 194**

Pastoral Prayers Rev. Leigh Sinclair
The Lord's Prayer (*Voices United* p. 921)

Grateful Response

Minute for Mission Sylvia Duffus

Offering: *Pastorale on Psalm 23*, Jacobus Kloppers

Offertory Hymn: **Voices United 541**

² *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version*. (1991, Oxford University Press)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Sacrament of Holy Communion

All who worship with us today, regardless of age or church membership, are invited and welcome to partake in this sacrament. Gluten-free bread is available on request and the “wine” is non-alcoholic grape juice.

Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we fear no evil, for God is with us.

God prepares a table before us; the oil of gladness is poured out, our cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life.

The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks.

We offer joyful thanks to God.

For the gifts of mercy and new life. Through the waters of the Red Sea you delivered us from suffering and servitude; at the foot of your sacred mountain you called us to truth and holiness; in the words of your holy prophets you called us to justice and compassion; through the lives of your blessed saints and martyrs you taught us wisdom and faithfulness. And so it is that we join to sing your praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*sung*):

(*Voices United*, p. 932-933, Haugen)

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

As we gather at this table, we remember that on the night before he died, Jesus had supper with his friends. He took a loaf of bread, thanked you as we have thanked you, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: “Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.” Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying: “Drink. This cup is the promise of God, made in my blood. Each time you drink from this cup, remember me.”

O God, Redeemer of all things, with grateful thanks we offer this bread and wine, fruits of your earth and of our labour, signs of your redemptive purpose for our lives and for all your creation.

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*):

(*Voices United*, p. 933, Haugen)

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come, come again.

Holy God, pour your Spirit on us, that we may know Christ in the breaking of bread, and that in word and deed, we may be channels of your love, peace, and justice in the world.

Praise be to God, the Source of Love!

Praise be to Christ, Love incarnate!

Praise be to the Spirit, Love's power!

Praise be to God!

Great Amen (*sung*): **Amen!**

(*Voices United*, p. 933, Haugen)

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion:

Gracious God, may your gifts of love transform and enliven us that we may live lives of thanksgiving. May your presence among us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace, and your love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Recessional Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* *Voices United* 651

Commissioning:

Go forth from here, taking with you God's home within your hearts, God's home within God's heart.

Take God's love with you, knowing that you will never be alone, make neighbours of all you meet.³

We leave now nourished and ready to share God's love in the world. We are not alone.

Postlude: *Celebration*, Allan Gilliland

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

Music Notes

Some music from Canada and Norway today. The Prelude is from a giant in Canadian music, Healey Willan. He was known as the "Dean" of Canadian composers, as he influenced so many through his work at the Royal

³ Written by Fern Gibbard, **Gathering** Pentecost 2 2017, p. 39. Used with permission.

Conservatory, the University of Toronto, and his long tenure at St. Mary Magdalene in Toronto. The choir shares a very short prayer/introit – also by a Toronto composer – Eleanor Daley. Amongst other things, she is the Music Director at Fairlawn United Church in Toronto. The postlude is by a well-known Edmonton composer, Allan Gilliland. Allan wrote this piece for me in 2005 for the 25th anniversary of Sundays at 3 organ recital series. We had a big gala concert to celebrate and commissioned six new pieces by six Edmonton composers. The pieces were later published in the “Edmonton Organ Book.” This piece is known by a couple of titles, Spring Celebration, or Celebration or “Rockin’ the ‘Spear” because Gilliland was inspired and influenced by progressive rock groups from the 1960’s and 70’s. Therefore it has interesting time elements and a definite “groove”. The “Rockin’ the ‘Spear” title comes from the fact that it was given it’s world premiere on the Winspear Organ! The choir anthem comes from Frode Fjellheim (b. 1959) who is a Norwegian composer, yoiker and keyboard player. He is of South Sami origin, the indigeneous people of the northern parts of Scandinavia. This piece has a “yoik” in it – which is a traditional form of song of the Sami. It is a short melodic phrase (first sung by the basses) that repeats endlessly with small variations. A yoik represents a person, animal, place, or emotion. It has no specific linguistic meaning, but here Fjellheim has used the yoik to represent the earth. Above the yoik, he has placed a Norwegian hymn tune/text which may be familiar to you, “Fairest Lord Jesus”. This whole piece might sound a bit familiar, as it was used by Disney in “Frozen” to help create the “northern” background in the opening credits of the film, but originally it was intended as a sacred piece.

Cover Image

Cover image: This picture was taken by Rev. Karen Bridges, in Botswana Sept. 2017.

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R-W REPORT NOVEMBER 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

November 12, 2017, 10:30 am

Pentecost 23

Remembrance Sunday

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: Amos 1: 1-2, 5:14-15, 21-24 Let justice roll like a river

Sermon: *Remember to seek justice*

The prophet Amos is not one to mince words. His message is clear – justice and righteousness are essential elements of a faithful life. Have we been too focused on our rituals and worship that we have forgotten that God's love is expressed and experienced through love and concern for those who are oppressed, lost and alone? We need to remember whom we belong and who we are called to serve. We are called to seek justice and resist evil. How will we live this out?

Music: Robin Doyon, Trumpet, 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.

Volunteer Opportunities:

All is Bright- Annual festival is back in the neighbourhood! Various positions and times available. Sign-up sheet is posted in Memorial Hall.

Magic Pantry- R-W provides a free bag lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. This outreach program relies on volunteers to be available at the door from 12 pm to 1 pm to hand out lunches.

R-W News & Notes

BETWEEN THE AISLES

The deadline for the next edition (Nov 26) is today - November 5.

Article submissions: rwucnews@gmail.com. For guidelines and submission details see: <http://rwuc.org/publications.html>

COVENANTING SERVICE WITH REV. LEIGH SINCLAIR

Tonight! Nov 5 at 7:00 pm with guest preacher Don Mayne

We will be holding a covenanting service with Edmonton Presbytery and the Rev. Leigh Sinclair followed by a reception in Memorial Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and pledge their support.

COMMUNITY DINNER

A sign-up sheet is posted in Memorial Hall for people wishing to bring in some goodies for the Christmas Dinner on Dec 2. The team is requesting squares, cookies, mandarin oranges and Christmas cakes.

PARKING PASSES

Parking passes will be sold today after service and on into the next couple of months. We are advised by Impark that they do patrol the lot at MEC's former location and parking passes will be necessary.

SPEAK OUR WORDS – EXPLORE THROUGH POETRY

Artful Justice Responses Workshop- Friday, Nov 10, from 7 - 9 pm

People from the community are welcome to participate in a justice focused artful response. This art-based workshop is dedicated to community building within our current political climate. Artful responses will allow you to reflect on current injustices in our society. **There is no cost, please register online:** www.rwuc.org/sam.html

CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES

Nov 12, 2017 Remembrance theme – remember loved ones, remember companions and pets, remember those who came before. Are you seeking an escape from the world, an oasis in your crazy life? Are you seeking some quiet? Are you seeking time for yourself or inspiration? Then we invite you to engage in **contemplative practices** at R-W in Memorial Hall. When you enter Memorial Hall you will find pockets of inspiration that will clear your mind, open your heart, and bring your spirit into connection with the sacred and the world. Throughout Memorial Hall there will be different spaces with different contemplative practices that invite you to meditate, pray, while engaging in some artistic exercises. Drop by anytime between 7-8:30 pm.

SPEAKERS/READERS WORKSHOP

For scripture readers, announcement makers, minute or second speakers and anyone else who wants to feel confident in delivering text! Sat. Nov. 25 from 10-12:30. Sign up in Memorial Hall.

**CANADA 150 YOUTH TRIP- with Abdul Al Masoud
Sunday, Nov 19 in Memorial Hall**

Abdul Al Masoud from our Syrian refugee family will tell about his experiences with the Canada 150 Youth group last summer during fellowship hour after church on November 19. Be sure to come and hear about his unique trip up north with many other youth accompanied by Governor General Johnson. A light lunch will be served.

**CREATIVE SELF CARE WORKSHOP; Remembering Self
Saturday, November 18, 10 am – 2:30 pm**

People from the community are welcome to participate in a healing-focused artistic workshop at no cost to you. November is a month for remembering...but as this season gets busy we can often forget self. Instead we need to be intentional in remembering self. In this workshop, we will explore mindful creative arts practices, as ways to manage stress and find greater self-compassion.

This will be the first of three workshops offered at Robertson-Wesley. Register online through the Spirited Arts Movement web page.

R-W IS ACCEPTING ARTWORK!

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

R-W's annual Art Sale needs your art donations. Art is "in the eyes of the beholder" - so we accept art of every 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.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

We need donations for male and females of all ages (about 350 total) of NEW (purchased, re-gifted, or handmade): **Hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and socks.** These will be stored, then placed around a tree in the chapel, and offered as gifts to Dec. 2nd Christmas Community Dinner guests.

NOTE: This is NOT affiliated with White Gift Sunday which is the unwrapped gift donations that will be located in the main sanctuary.

ART STUDIO

Facilitated by Laura David Foster

Mondays, 7:00–8:30 pm and Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm

The studio is a place for people to explore art and connect with each other in an informal creative environment. People are welcome to drop in any time and try out these different art-making processes. Some people like to work on their own ongoing projects, and this is encouraged as well. The studio's purpose is to bring people together, to enjoy art, and

be in community. Regular attendance is not required but registration via email is recommended to stay informed with studio For more information, please contact Laura at spiritedartstudio@rwuc.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WOMEN EDUCATORS OF R-W; you are invited

Tuesday, November 7, 6:45 pm with Delta Kappa Gamma

Whether you are an educator in a school or in another educational role in your profession or voluntary position, we invite you to DKG, a women educators group in Room 11. The topic is decluttering. The speaker is Daina Benson from her company, “Keep it Neat.”

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Nov 05	Covenanting Service– Sanctuary & Hall	7:00 pm
Mon Nov 06	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Nov 07	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	DEAP Pod– Club Room	5:00 pm
	Men’s Group– offsite	9:30 am
Wed Nov 08	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Choir of R-W– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
Thu Nov 09	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
	Artful Responses, Spirited Arts– Room 11	7:00 pm
Fri Nov 10	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	R-W Youth Group– offsite	6:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun Nov 12	Contemplative Exercises– Memorial Hall	7:00 pm
	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Mon Nov 13	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Nov 14	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	United Church Women– Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
	Property cte– Room 11	7:00 pm
	Ministry & Personnel– Club Room	7:30 pm
Wed Nov 15	Art Sale– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
Sat Nov 18	Self-Care Workshop– Room 11	10:00 am
	R-W Youth Group– offsite	6:00 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.