

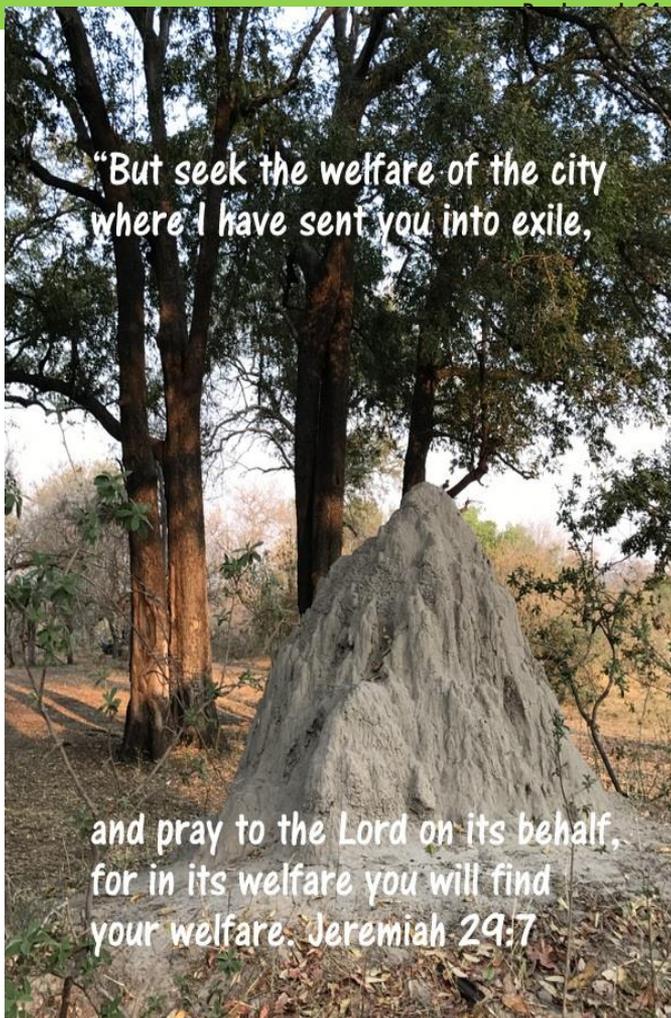


*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2017 Nov 19

## 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.



*"But seek the welfare of the city  
where I have sent you into exile,*

*and pray to the Lord on its behalf,  
for in its welfare you will find  
your welfare. Jeremiah 29:7*

Prelude: *Variations on the hymn "Sharon"*, Robin King

Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Opening Prayer:

**Beloved Creator, help us not to fear, or worry. You have promised us your words and your presence at times when anxiety and fear seem to dominate our world. You are our trust and our salvation. Teach us to stand firm and to live for you always. Amen.**<sup>1</sup>

Processional Hymn: *Know That God Is Good*

**More Voices 104**

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

---

God's Holy Word

---

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.**

Solo: *For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth & The People that Walked in Darkness* (Messiah), G. F. Handel

Matthew McGuigan, bass

Scripture:

Jane Chesebrough

Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-14 • Letter to the exiles

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons and give daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen

---

<sup>1</sup> Written by Joanna Williams, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2, 2016, p. 38. Used with permission.

to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you serach for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile."<sup>2</sup>

This is the witness of Israel.

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

Anthem: *For Unto Us a Child is Born*, (Messiah), G. F. Handel

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *Remember to Trust in God*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *Come to My Heart*

**Voices United 661**

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

---

### *Grateful Response*

---

Offering: *Dona Nobis Pacem*, arr. Kimberly Braswell

R-W Ringlets Trio

Offertory Hymn:

**Voices United 541**

**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

Recessional Hymn: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* **Voices United 664**

Commissioning:

Go from this place with daring insight.

**We go to reach out to others heart to heart.**

Go from this place with courageous trust.

**We go to build relationships one by one.**

Go from this place with growing faith.

**We go to live that faith in love.<sup>3</sup>**

Postlude: *Hallelujah* (Messiah), Handel arr., John W. Schaum

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

---

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

<sup>3</sup> Written by Gord Dunbar, Pentecost 2, 2013, p. 36. Used with permission.

---

## Music Notes

---

Thanks to Matthew McGuigan for the recitativo and aria from Handel's Messiah, and to the R-W Ringlets, who are a trio instead of a quartet this morning! They are Linda Stockl, Wendy Hoskin and Cathy Koski.

The prelude is by former R-W Music Director Robin King, and he wrote this set of variations for a mutual friend and colleague, Sharon Beckstead, who for many years was the Music Director at Highlands United Church in Edmonton. She has been working for the last many years at Leaside United Church in Toronto. This hymn tune "Sharon" was written by the English composer William Boyce in the 1700's. Although it's not a tune in very common use anymore, it still is in a few modern hymnbooks. Robin does a great job of these variations with different key areas, different time signatures, and differing moods that represent Sharon Beckstead's personality very well!

Matthew and the choir share three wonderful pieces from Handel's Messiah.

This is a timeless oratorio, still so well-loved today that tells the story of Jesus from the prophets of the Old Testament to his birth, death and resurrection.

Today the reading foreshadows the darkness of the world, the hope of the shining light and that the Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God shall be always with us. You get a head start on the reading for next week with these musical pieces, as somehow the music director got the weeks mixed up, but still wanted to do this wonderful music. So, enjoy, and memorize for next week!

The Ringlets are playing one piece this morning and contributing some sparkle on some other things. The offering is a really lovely arrangement of Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace), echoing the words of the choir last week!

---

## Cover Image

---

Cover image: This picture was taken by Rev. Karen Bridges in Botswana, Sept 2017. This is a picture of a termite hill. When the termites leave the hill other animals, like aardvarks, use it for their den, similar to being in exile and building a new home in a place that is not their own, just like the Israelites.

---

Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair  
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges  
Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen  
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiller  
Facilities Manager: Brad Campbell

---

10209 – 123 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1N3  
Phone (780) 482-1587 · Fax (780) 482-1580  
mail@rwuc.org · [www.rwuc.org](http://www.rwuc.org)

---



## R-W REPORT NOVEMBER 19, 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 26, 2017, 10:30 am**

**Pentecost 25, Children's Sunday,**

**Whole Family Worship, Mission & Service Bucket**

**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:** Isaiah 9: 1-7 The Coming of a King

**Sermon:** *Remember to look to the future*

The prophet Isaiah shares his vision of the future where God's everlasting Kingdom is reached. The future is bright and on us light has shined. We will explore God's world through the eyes of children who are present here and now! What have we the people of faith forgotten? What have we lost sight of? Let us remember and be united in God's love.

**Music:** Cantilon Children's Choir, Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

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

---

#### Volunteer Opportunities:

**Community Dinner Leadership-** We are seeking several individuals who would like to be part of the leadership team that will coordinate our monthly Community Dinner. Full details are on page 2.

**Wanted: Magic Pantry Coordinator-** We are seeking an individual to coordinate our weekly bag lunch program. Bag lunches are given out over the noon hour on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. We have

volunteers that sign up to do this. The coordinator would ensure that there are supplies to make the lunches and would coordinate Sandwich making parties when needed. The coordinator will also help to train and orient volunteers. If you would like to know more about this program please contact Rev. Karen Bridges.

**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.

### Staff News

Rev. Leigh Sinclair is on holiday from Nov 13-Nov 26

### R-W News & Notes

#### **CANADA 150 YOUTH TRIP- with Abdul Al Masoud After service today 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 today. 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.

#### **KOINONIA POTLUCK AND WORSHIP**

**Please join us for a Remembrance Service on tonight, Nov. 19.**

This time the service will take a special spin in which we will not only remember people lost and wounded in wars, but also focus on indigenous people from around the world making peace with others and the earth. We will watch the stirring, award-winning DVD, Bridgewalkers. We meet at 5:30 pm in the Memorial Hall for dinner followed by a service at 7:00 pm. If you are able, please bring a salad, main course item or dessert to share.

#### **COMMUNITY DINNER LEADERSHIP CONVERSATION Sunday November 26, 12:00 pm**

We are seeking several individuals who would like to be part of the leadership team that will coordinate our monthly Community Dinner, which happens on the 2nd Saturday of every month with the exception of December which falls on the first Saturday of the month. We are going through a leadership shift in this program and are seeking people who are good at organizing events and working with an amazing group of volunteers. We will be meeting with interested people on Sunday November 26th at 12:00 PM in Room 11. You are welcome to attend and see what it is all about, and to discern if this is a leadership role for you! The community dinner is a free meal that serves approximately 100 – 300 people from the community each

month. If you have questions feel free to talk with Dawn Allan, or Rev. Karen Bridges

### **SPEAKERS/READERS WORKSHOP**

For scripture readers, announcement makers, minute or second speakers and anyone else who wants to feel confident in delivering text!

**Saturday, Nov. 25** from 10:00 am -12:30 pm. Sign up in Memorial Hall.

### **ALL IS BRIGHT FESTIVAL**

The businesses of 124 Street and High Street invite you to the annual light up festival on **Saturday, November 25** from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This is a unique event that celebrates the coming of the winter season in Edmonton and lighting up the night through illumination, fun, and live entertainment. The festival is free to attend and everyone is welcome!

**R-W is also taking part of this neighbourhood festival! From 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm in memorial Hall there will be a pop up studio AND we will decorate (and eat) cookies.**

Full details and map are can be found at [www.124street.ca/all-is-bright/](http://www.124street.ca/all-is-bright/)

### **MISSION AND SERVICE CELEBRATIONS**

About every three months we have a Mission and Service (M & S) Celebration in worship, when we invite those who have had a special event in their lives recently (e.g., a birthday, a birth, a move, a new job) to put a special donation into the bucket for the Mission and Service Fund. The next celebration is November 26.

### **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.

### **OBSERVER RENEWAL**

It's time to renew your Observer subscription. New subscriptions are also welcome! The Observer is a great resource for spiritual development as well as a way to keep up with what is happening in the United Church. The cost is \$25.00 for one year (11 issues, July and August is combined). Renewals and subscriptions can be handed in to the church office or the offertory plate on Sundays. Please make your cheques payable to Robertson-Wesley United Church with Observer noted in the memo section of the cheque. Subscription deadline is **Dec 15**. Email or phone the church office if you have any questions.

## ADVENT RECITAL SERIES

Thursdays from 12:10 pm to 12:50 pm

Robertson-Wesley is hosting a noon-hour concert series again this Advent, for three Thursdays beginning December 7.

Dec 7 – Jim Findlay, guitar & Mingmei Xu, violin

Dec 14 – Nansee Hughes, soprano & Spencer Kryzanowski, piano

Dec 21 – Matthew McGuigan, flute & Tammy-Jo Mortensen, keyboards

## GROCERY CARDS

Please consider purchasing grocery cards from Robertson-Wesley in Memorial Hall after Sunday Worship. Any grocery cards that Robertson-Wesley purchases from Superstore in November & December and Safeway/Sobeys from October to December are subject to an additional discount for the church. Specifically, the church gets 5 per cent from each Superstore grocery card you purchase and 8 per cent from each Safeway/Sobeys grocery card you purchase. Save On Foods provides a 6 percent discount all year long. Grocery cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100. Cash and cheques are accepted.

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Nov 19	Prayer Service– Chapel	9:00 am
	Koinonia– Memorial Hall	5:30 pm
Mon Nov 20	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Nov 21	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Board– Room 11	7:00 pm
Wed Nov 22	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Choir of R-W– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Nov 23	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:00 pm
	R-W Ringers– offsite	6:00 pm
Sat Nov 25	Readers Workshop– Sanctuary	10:00 am
	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	All is Bright/Pop Up Studio– Memorial Hall	4:00 pm

## ON THE HORIZON

Sun Nov 26	Community Dinner conversation– Room 11	12:00 pm
Mon Nov 27	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
	Spirited Arts; Gendered?– Room 11	7:00 pm
Tue Nov 28	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
Sat Dec 02	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	5:00 pm
	R-W Youth Group– Lower Hall	4:00 pm

---