



Robertson - Wesley  
UNITED CHURCH *Spirited*

*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2018 February 25

Whole Family Worship

Lent 2



### 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 injustice, alienation and oppression.

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*Friends in Christ*

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Prelude: *Introduction (Petite Suite)*, Gerald Bales Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Opening Hymn: *Jesus' Hands were Kind Hands* **Voices United 570**

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

Life is a cycle – but in all the change,  
from birth to death and beyond, the one constant is this:

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

We are not alone.

**Thanks be to God!**

Let us pray:

**Write your love on our hearts God of all.**

Place your call into the deepest depths of our souls,

**because we are your people, always,**

because you are our God, always.

**Let your Spirit move us, change us,**

drop us into earth, and then make us grow! <sup>1</sup>

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray these words,

**and we sing them today:**

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

**Voices United 960**

Coming Into God's Presence

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*God's Holy Word*

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Introit: *Mungu ni mwema*, Trad. Congo, arr. John Bell Cantilon Primary Choir

(Text: Know that God is Good.)

Scripture:

John 13: 1-17 • Jesus serves

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus

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<sup>1</sup> Written by Richard Bott, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018 p. 30. Used with permission.

said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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

Anthem: *We Will Sing for Joy*, arr. Helenclaire Lowe Cantilon Primary Choir

Reflections: Activities to give and receive prayer

Hymn: *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* **More Voices 147**

Pastoral Prayers

Prayer Response (sung) **Voices United 952**

***Through our lives and by our prayers your Kingdom come.***

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Grateful Response

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Offering: *Intermezzo (Petite Suite)*, Gerald Bales

*The work of the church relies on the generosity of your donations to maintain the beauty of this building and the ministry that it provides along with outreach programs such as the community dinner and the Spirited Arts Collective. Donations of over \$10, placed in the envelopes found in the pews, will receive a tax receipt. Thank you for your support.*

Offertory Hymn *God Give Us Life* (verses 2-3) **Voices United 704**

**God give us love in heart and hand**

**To hold the hurting one, to free the anger,**

**Meet the need and wait till waiting’s done.**

**God give us skill, insight and will to find,**

**where none are sure, new threads to mend the web of life,**

**new means to heal and cure.**

Prayer of Gratitude<sup>2</sup>

Candle of Connections

Closing Hymn: *Put Peace into Each Others’ Hands* **More Voices 173**

Commissioning

The season of Lent continues, we go now following Jesus.

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<sup>2</sup> Written by Karen Boivin, *Gatherings*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 34. Used with permission.

**Jesus is one who served and also received care.**

Let us go and serve. Let us go and also ask for help,  
**for it is in our relationships that the Spirit heals.**

Choir: *Bright and Beautiful*, arr. Mark Hayes

Cantilon Primary Choir & Soloist Julianna Tinga

Postlude: *Finale (Petite Suite)*, Gerald Bales

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

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### Music Notes

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Thanks to the Cantilon Primary Choir, their conductor Elaine Myhre and accompanist Megan Crane. They have some beautiful additions to our liturgy today. They begin by praising God with a short refrain from the Congo, which is used in many places around the world, and arranged by many people, including this one by the Iona Community's John Bell. We also have an arrangement in *More Voices* (104) that has Swahili, English, French, and Luganda.

Just before the postlude is a medley of "Praise Him all Ye Little Children" and "All Things Bright and Beautiful". Mark Hayes is an amazing arranger of folk songs, spirituals and hymns.

The organ music is by Canadian Gerald Bales (1919-2002). This piece was most certainly influenced by the American composer Paul Hindemith, whose first sonata I will play next week. The *Petite Suite* is full of harmonies and melodies based on the interval of a 4<sup>th</sup>, rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> like most classical music. Bales influenced many students and composers in Canada. His performing career was cut short when he was attacked in a church one evening while practicing and received serious injuries. But, he persevered in music, continuing to teach and compose.

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### Cover Image

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Cover image is from a Maundy Thursday service.

Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair

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**R-W REPORT FEBRUARY 25, 2018**  
**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**

**March 4, 2018, 10:30 am**

**Lent Three**

**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:** John 18: 12-27 The trial for Jesus

**Sermon:** *Will you claim who you are?*

Denial and bargaining are defense mechanisms that help us to deal with our feelings of shock, fear, loss, helplessness and vulnerability. Every human will react differently in a crisis situation. For Peter, a disciple of Jesus, he is not ready to deal with the fact that Jesus has chosen to die, and so he denies his own identity, denies knowing the person he loves. Jesus on the other hand is open and honest about who he is, and instead acts as judge at his own trial. As followers of Jesus, where will we find strength and courage in times of uncertainty?

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

**Ushers/greeters** needed for the upcoming **Easter services**. Sign up sheet is posted in Memorial Hall. Greeting is a great way to meet the community!

## Staff

Rev. Karen Bridges will be in Vancouver attending and offering workshops at the Inspire Conference Feb 21-26, 2018.

## R-W News & Notes

### **INCOME TAX RECEIPTS**

Tax receipts are ready for pick up in Memorial Hall. Please pick your up so the church saves on mailing costs.

### **KOINONIA WORSHIP THIS EVENING**

Tonight's theme is: "Let's Focus on Peace". From the tragedies of war, starvation, dwindling water supplies, homelessness, weather disasters, shootings, and all manner of violence, here in Canada and around the world we will be looking and hopefully discovering some ways, we can help put peace into each other's hands. "God, give us peace". Plan to join this group in the Memorial Hall at 5:30 for Potluck supper (if you are able, please bring something to share such as a main dish, salad, or dessert). Worship will begin approximately 7:00 pm for about an hour of singing, reading the Scriptures, discussion and Circle Prayer. Hope to see you!

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT GENDER: CREATIVE INQUIRY!**

**Feb 26, 2018: 7-9pm with Brooke Leifso**

Every other month you are invited to come and meet other people to create art together as a n instrument to talk about share our thoughts and feelings, and questions and gender.

### **PHOTO DIRECTORY**

There are a lot of new faces around the church (as well as familiar faces who missed previous photo sessions). If you'd like to have your photo included in the updated edition, please drop into the Club Room before or after the Sunday service on **Sunday, March 4**. The photo directory is produced right here at R-W – no cost to you, no photos to purchase.

### **LENT NOON HOUR CONCERTS**

**Thursdays, 12:10 pm to 12:50 pm**

The R-W Music Society is hosting a noon-hour concert series again this Lent, Thursdays from 12:10-12:50. Come and enjoy some tranquil, reflective music for the season and find an oasis in the middle of your busy day. The concerts will be **March 1 Tammy-Jo, March 8 Mingmei Xu, violin & Jim Findlay, guitar, March 15 Vaughan String Quartet and March 22 Christine Hanson, cello & Keri Lynn Zwicker, harp**. Admission is by freewill offering.

**Tammy-Jo** is also playing a noon-hour concert on Wed. Feb. 28 at Holy Trinity Anglican (10037 84th Avenue NW). Freewill offering.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

On the first Friday in March, Christians of different denominations and from 170 different countries gather for World Day of Prayer. The World Day of Prayer service this year was written by the women of Suriname, with the theme "All Creation is Very Good". Robertson-Wesley is hosting the service for the central part of Edmonton. It will be held on **Friday, March 2, at 1:00 pm in the chapel**, with a coffee time to follow. All are welcome (and encouraged) to attend.

### **ROBERTSON-WESLEY PRESENTS; Brueggemann webinar**

Dr. Walter Brueggemann is one of North America's leading theologians. His name is known to members of Robertson-Wesley because of last year's Book Study on the Sabbath. Join other Brueggemann fans on **March 21 at 11:30 am** for introduction, followed by an hour-long **webinar** in Room 11. This Webinar is made available through the EDGE Ministry of the United Church of Canada.

### **CREATIVE SELF-CARE WORKSHOP: FINDING BALANCE**

**Saturday, March 3, 10:00 am -2:30 pm with Laura David Foster**

In this workshop we will find ways to integrate mindfulness and creative arts, as we shift the focus to daily intentions. As we continue to be conscious of the importance of self-care, how do we find balance and room for these practices in daily life? Though there are differences weaving through our life circumstances, a common thread is the challenge to find work/life balance and maintain self-compassion and wellness. No Cost. Please register at [www.rwuc.org/sacregister.html](http://www.rwuc.org/sacregister.html) or contact Rev. Karen Bridges. **Must register by Monday Feb 26<sup>th</sup>.**

### **R-W FUNDRAISING PLANNING MEETING**

**Sunday, March 4 at 11:30 am, Room 11**

The Board of R-W would like to invite you to a Fundraising Planning meeting on March 4 which will be held immediately following the worship service in Room 11. We invite everyone in our congregation to come and be part of the fundraising initiatives, and help us with the plans we have for 2018 and 2019. Anyone who has an idea for an event, or is planning a future event or has planned a fundraising event for the 2017-2018 program year is requested to be present at this session. We gather each year so that we can coordinate the various events and not compete with each other. We look forward to having you fill room 11 on this day with the energy R-W is well known for....thank you.

## HYDRANGEAS- Honour Those we Love

On Easter Sunday, we love to celebrate the resurrection of Christ with flowers in the sanctuary that honour those we love. You can give in memory of loved one who has died, or like many, give to honour of an amazing friend or spouse - order a beautiful hydrangea and have your chosen loved one's name in a special bulletin on Sunday April 1!

Following the service on Sunday **March 4, March 11** and **March 18** we will be taking orders for Easter hydrangeas. The cost is \$25.00.

### **BREAKFAST WITH CASEY; Between Passion & Obligation Saturday, April 7 at 10:00 am at Robertson-Wesley United**

Come for breakfast and be inspired by Casey Edmunds, an active community member in and around Edmonton. He will explore What is the purpose of volunteerism and community engagement? What are the reasons YOU decide to get involved and do something in your community? Casey will draw on his personal experiences with volunteerism to make ties with why he continues to be involved. Tickets \$20 – buy online at [EVENT.BRITE.CA](http://EVENT.BRITE.CA). This is open to the community at large, bring a friend, bring a neighbor, all are welcome. Proceeds from this event will go to General Revenue at R-W, and is hosted by the Stewardship Committee.

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Feb 25	Koinonia– Memorial Hall	5:30 pm
Mon Feb 26	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
	Spirited Arts, Gendered?–Room 11	7:00 pm
Tue Feb 27	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
Wed Feb 28	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Membership Class– Club Room	7:00 pm
	R-W Choir rehearsal– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Mar 01	Lenten Concert Series– Sanctuary	12:10 pm
	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Fri Mar 02	World Day of Prayer– Chapel	1:00 pm
Sat Mar 03	Spirited Art Movement- Finding Balance	10:00 am
	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:30 am

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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.



