



An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2018 March 4

Lent 3

Welcome and
Inclusion

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



Sometimes we
are not
ready to be seen...

or known.

Friends in Christ

Prelude: *Mässig schnell* (*Sonata 1*), Paul Hindemith Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Processional Hymn: *There Is a Balm in Gilead* **Voices United 612**

Opening Prayer:

God, we like the idea of walking with Jesus. It feels good to step alongside someone we love and admire. But this Lenten journey demands more than admiration. While we walk with Jesus, we must ask him – and ourselves – some important questions. What does Lent mean to our faith? Are we strong enough to stay with Jesus when we come to the unbearably painful parts of the story? Holy One, bless our Lenten path and ignite our imaginations, so that we might make this a season of questions, a season of reflection, a season of discovery.¹

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 Rev. Karen Bridges

God's Holy Word

Introit: *Kyrie Eleison*, Antonio Lotti Choir of Robertson-Wesley
(Text: Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.)

Scripture: Caroline De Grave

John 18: 12-27 • The trial for Jesus

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing

¹ Written by Susan Ivany, **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2018 p. 31. Used with permission.

and warming himself. They asked him, “You are not also one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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

Anthem: *Non Nobis Domine*, Patrick Doyle, arr. Graham Preskett Choir of R-W
(Text: Not to us, O Lord, but to your name be the glory!)

Sermon: *Will you claim who you are?* Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son* **Voices United 119**

Pastoral Prayers Rev. Leigh Sinclair

Choral Refrain (sung) **Voices United 952**

Through our lives and by our prayers your Kingdom come.

Grateful Response

Offering: *Sehr langsam*, (*Sonata 1*), Paul Hindemith

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

Candle of Truth-telling

Recessional Hymn: *O God, How We Have Wandered* **Voices United 112**

Commissioning

During the season of Lent, we are called to ponder: ponder our call to a life of love, ponder our call to follow self-giving in Jesus, ponder who we are and whose we are in faith, and ponder how we need to turn back to God – first in confession and then in repentance. Only then can we fully embrace God’s unconditional forgiveness. During the season of Lent, we are called to ponder.

Let us go from this place, continuing to ponder what it means to live as a disciple of Jesus and continuing to live the Way of Jesus each day. Amen.²

² Written by Gord Dunbar, **Gathering** Lent/Easter 2018, p. 34. Used with permission.

Postlude: *Phantasie, frei (Sonata 1)*, Paul Hindemith

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

Music Notes

The Kyrie that the choir sings this morning is by Italian Baroque composer Lotti. The Baroque composers really knew how to use dissonance and release in order to create wonderful tension to portray text.

The Patrick Doyle anthem “Non Nobis” was purchased for us several years ago by Carmen Emmott. Doyle has written a lot of music for Shakespeare films, and this piece is from Henry V, with Kenneth Branagh.

All the organ music is by Paul Hindemith, an American composer. He writes using a lot of intervals of 4ths instead of the usual classical 3rds and 5ths, and he was one of the composer who inspired Canadian composer Gerald Bales, who I played last week. He also was a major influence on Edmonton’s own, Violet Archer, as she studied with Hindemith at Yale.

This sonata, written in 1937, is broken up into 2 movements, which, like today I often break up into three movements – fast/slow/fast. Translations of the German titles are: *Mässig schnell* = moderately fast; *Sehr langsam* = very slow; and *Phantasie, frei* = like a fantasia or toccata where it is played in a more free style instead of strict rhythmic style.

Cover Image

Cover image: This photo was taken by Rev. Karen Bridges, of a baby bird that had fallen out of a tree. I was about to mow the grass when I saw this little bird. I tried to get it to move, but it was too afraid, and stayed very still, in hopes that I would not notice. June 2017.

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 March 4, 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 11, 2018, 10:30 am

Lent Four

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 18:28-40 Jesus before Pilate

Sermon: *Awaken from your shock in time!*

Today we continue to ponder the grief and suffering that are central parts of Jesus' ministry, his disciples' lives and our lives as his followers.

Grief often begins with numbness and shock. They can be either gifts or thieves. Why do we need time in shock? How do we return ourselves to awareness and awaken again to Jesus' call to serve others and care for ourselves?

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.

Thank you- Winn Edworthy was absolutely thrilled to get the book with all the R-W wishes for her 100th birthday. We spent an hour on the phone going through them all, her matching names to faces in our church directory, and me telling her the present news of every person. She had a huge celebration with all her family members attending. Unfortunately, she fell about 3 weeks ago. She broke her hip and wrist, and hurt her shoulder badly. She is receiving daily physio. She's now walking some. You can write her at her home address as he daughter Trisha picks up mail regularly. --Lorna Berlinguette.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Staff News

Tammy-Jo is away from Tuesday, March 6 to Saturday, March 10. As the Royal Canadian College of Organists Travelling Clinician she was requested to present a recital, masterclass, lead a round-table discussion and perform a children's concert in Chatham and Windsor, ON.

R-W News & Notes

PHOTO DIRECTORY- TODAY!

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. The photo directory is produced right here at R-W – no cost to you, no photos to purchase.

R-W FUNDRAISING PLANNING SESSION

TODAY at 11:45 am, Room 11

The Board of R-W would like to invite you to a Fundraising Planning session on March 4 which will be held 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.

LENT NOON HOUR CONCERTS

Thursdays, 12:10 pm to 12:50 pm. Admission is by freewill offering. 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 8 Mingmei Xu, violin & Jim Findlay, guitar, March 15 Vaughan String Quartet and March 22 Christine Hanson, cello & Keri Lynn Zwicker, harp.**

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.

R-W LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION

Sunday March 18 at noon in Room 11

You are invited to learn how we lead! We have lots of committees, teams, groups here at Robertson-Wesley. We have some formal structures like UCW, others are events or programs that only happen once a year (Rummage Sale) and yet others are committees represented at the Board. Each one has a leader who **connects** to wider church via at meetings but each one also works **independently** to book events, promote them and communicate about the work we are doing. **Learn how to do this - whether you are in a leadership role now or considering one in the future.** This afternoon includes a tour of the building and where to find things. This is a great opportunity to learn about how we work and ask any questions you might have. Everyone is welcome even if you are not presently in a leadership role.

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.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Are you seeking an escape from the world, an oasis of some quiet, a time for yourself or inspiration? Then we invite you to engage in contemplative practices at Robertson-Wesley in Memorial Hall.

When you enter the 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. 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 the hours of 7-8:30 pm. This is a self-directed program with instructions throughout the room to give you some guidance on your journey. Invite your friends, family and neighbours to enter this oasis and emerge inspired, enlightened, grounded and feeling nourished.

Theme: Caring for each other and the care giver.

SAYING YES, SAYING NO

Spirited Saturday for March has **MOVED!** (In both time and day!

We will gather, all are welcome, at **6 pm** on **Thursday, March 29**. We

willponder Jesus' use of boundaries in his final week (saying yes, saying no) and then participate in the MaundyThursday evening service together. This service includes hand washing and communion rituals and very special music and starts at 7 pm. Hope you can join us and invite others too!

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Mar 04	Fundraising planning– Room 11	11:30 am
Mon Mar 05	Mom and Dad’s Group– Club Room	9:30 am
	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue Mar 06	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Stewardship– Club Room	1:30 pm
	DEAP– Club Room	5:00 pm
Wed Mar 07	Canterbury Service– offsite	10:30 am
	Membership Class– Club Room	7:00 pm
	R-W Choir rehearsal– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Mar 08	Lenten Concert Series– Sanctuary	12:10 pm
	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat Mar 10	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:30 am
	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	5:00 pm
	R-W Youth Group– offsite	7:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun Mar 11	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Mon Mar 12	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue Mar 13	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 ctte– Room 11	1:00 pm
Wed Mar 14	Men’s Group– Memorial Hall	9:30 am
	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Membership Class– Club Room	7:00 pm
	Community Dinner meeting– Library	7:00 pm
Thu Mar 15	Lenten Concert Series– Sanctuary	12:10 pm
Fri Mar 16	Artful Responses– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
Sat Mar 17	St. Patrick’s Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:30 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.