



An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2018 April 1

Easter Sunday



Welcome and Inclusion

We open our hearts and our church family to all people in our community regardless of ethnicity, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, age, gender, or differing abilities. 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.

Friends in Christ

Prelude: *La rejouissance* and *Minuet*, George F. Handel Pergolesi Brass
Embracing Our Spirit *Alleluia* **More Voices 54**
Processional Hymn: *Now the Green Blade Rises* **Voices United**

186

Call to Worship:

When Mary arrived and found the tomb empty, there was doubt, wondering, fear and questioning and that is when

Our hearts opened, for Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

When Jesus found Mary he dried her tears and she ran to tell others what she had seen and upon hearing this

Our hearts opened, for Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

We gather today as people of God, seeking hope, strength and encouragement and we enter this sacred space with

Our hearts opened, for Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

As we proclaim the good news, may we answer God's call to transform this world into a place that lives in peace and unconditional love, where all people are respected. We are here because

Our hearts opened, for Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

Scripture:

John 20: 1-10 • The Resurrection of Jesus

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciples, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciples set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple out ran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bend down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *If I Were a Butterfly*

Insert

God's Holy Word

Introit: *Exsultate Justi*, Ludovico da Viadana Pergolesi Brass & Choir of R-W

(Text: Let the just rejoice in the Lord: it is fitting for the upright to praise Him.

Sing to Him with the psaltery and the ten-stringed lute.

Make Him a new song: sing to him well with strong voice.)

John 20: 11-18 • Jesus appears to Mary

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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

Anthem: *Alleluia*, Randall Thompson

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *Tell Our Stories Boldly*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection* **Voices**

United 586

Pastoral Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Voices United 921

Grateful Response

Offering: *Alleluia* (Cantata 142), J. S. Bach, arr. Robert King

Pergolesi Brass

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 Movement. Donations of over \$20, placed in the envelopes found in the pews, will receive a tax receipt. Thank you for your support.

Offertory Hymn: *When at This Table*

More Voices 199 v 4

**If at this table I make dedication
to give my life in serving what is good,
then let my centre be where God invites me,
and show the words of Jesus understood.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Recessional Hymn: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* **Voices United 155**

Commissioning

Postlude: *The Rejoicing*, Charles Callahan

Pergolesi Brass

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

Music Notes

Thank you to the Pergolesi Brass for playing for the service this morning. They are: Gregory Moffat & Bob Tildesley, trumpets and Audrey Ochoa & Ken Read, trombones. They will add some sparkle to our hymns and other music today! The processional hymn is a medieval French carol which has been used with many different texts in different hymn books. Even though it's in a minor key it still has a sense of power and jubilation, very celebratory!

The introit is by the Italian Renaissance composer Viadana. Although not specifically an Easter text, this piece is full of praise and rejoicing.

The Thompson anthem has just two words, "Alleluia" and at the very end "Amen". It is hauntingly beautiful, like a slow sunrise at the beginning, and reaches a powerful climax only to return to the quiet calm of a sunset at the end. Although American composer Randall Thompson (1899-1984) wrote some string quartets, an opera, and three symphonies, he is most noted for his choral writing – of which this Alleluia is a stunning example.

The postlude is also by an American composer, Charles Callahan (b. 1951), and this is a transcription of his own work for organ solo. Callahan was honoured by the American Guild of Organists with its 2014 Distinguished Artist award, "for his illustrious career as composer, performer, teacher and consultant, and his lifelong service to the sacred music profession."

Cover Image

Cover image is a picture taken by Laura David Foster of the butterflies that were made by participants of the Spirited Art Studio and the Community Dinner. Feb-Mar 2018.

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

Financial Manager: Garth van Herwaarden

10209 – 123 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1N3

Phone (780) 482-1587 · Fax (780) 482-1580

mail@rwuc.org · www.rwuc.org



R-W REPORT April 1, 2018
Robertson-Wesley United Church

A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE

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.

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

April 8, 2018, 10:30 am

Easter 2- Life Passages

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

Scripture: John 20:19-31 Thomas' doubt

Movie: *Shape of Water*

Sermon: *Do you doubt Love Comes in all shapes and sizes?*

Is it odd that we would see the Gospel message in a "monster" movie? Come and ponder what a woman who speaks with her hands, a man whose love is illegal and a sea creature from the Amazon have to teach us about how big Love can make us! Jesus was willing to live, die, and was raised again to proclaim that God's love is bigger than even Guillermo del Toro's imagination!

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

Communion Servers: Our next Communion, by Intinction, is **Sunday, April 15**. Servers are needed for this Communion. If you are able to serve please sign up on the sheet in Memorial Hall.

Community Dinner- The team is looking for a few more volunteers on Saturday, April 14. Those position sare Art studio assistants, bathroom cleaners/garbage/floor washers and food preparation from 9 am to 12 pm. The sign up sheet is posted in Memorial hall.

Thank you- Thank you to the volunteers that helped with the Easter hydrangeas this year. Your support is greatly appreciated.

R-W News & Notes

OSCAR BEST PICTURE NOMINEE SERMON SERIES IS BACK!

We invite you to watch the following movies in preparation for the upcoming worship services in the Easter Season. Here is a list of which movies will be explored and when:

April 8: Shape of Water

April 15: Get Out and Call Me by My Name

April 29: 3 Billboards

May 6: Lady Bird

BREAKFAST WITH CASEY – Between Passion & Obligation

Sat. April 7 at 10AM 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. He is an active person in many communities and will offer insight to the various passions and obligations he takes part in! **Tickets \$20** – buy online at Eventbrite.com or through the church office. 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.

RUN FOR MUSIC

Once again, members of our choir are participating in the Run for Music as Team Robertson-Wesley. The Run for Music is a fundraising project sponsored by Choir Alberta, with some of the funds raised going to support participating choirs. Our share goes to support music programs here at Robertson-Wesley such as Choral Morphosis. We'd like to ask for your support again this year. Members of Team Robertson-Wesley will be accepting pledges following the service each Sunday from now until April 29. Pledges can also be made online at <http://raiseathon.ca/runformusic/profile/cyz0bos> (Team Robertson-Wesley). **Thank you again for your continuing support.**

ROBERTSON-WESLEY 2018 WOMEN'S WEEKEND

This year will be our 15th annual R-W Women's Weekend. How wonderful that we continue to celebrate our women and to continue to bring R-W women together to create this women's community of faith. This year our Women's Weekend will be **Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 16, 2018** at Strawberry Creek Lodge.

Before we can have our Weekend we do need a group of R-W women to share their ideas, talents, creativity to plan our program for our Women's Weekend. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Jill Lambie after worship on Sundays or by emailing jilllambie@shaw.ca before **April 10, 2017**.

SPIRITUAL POD FORMATION

Discussion: Living Gods hospitality through sharing flowers blessed by being used in Sunday worship.

Sunday, April 15 at 12:30 pm in the Club Room

MISSION AND OUTREACH POD GATHERING

A gathering of the Mission and Outreach Pod is called for **April 9 at 7:00 pm** in the Club Room. The M & O Pod is a gathering of members of the congregation to engage in conversation about our current and future directions for Mission and Outreach.

This gathering will focus on the question of how we will live out the spirit of justice and belonging (noted in our Anthem) in our community. In exploring this question we will consider needs that have not been met and discern where God is calling us to focus our energy *now*.

Everyone who is interested is invited to be a part of this conversation. *Your real relationships in your neighbourhood are the crucible for mutual flourishing. It is in the everyday stuff of life that love moves from the realm of spiritual ideas and becomes a costly gift, giving back more than it takes.*

Paul Sparks, Tim Soerens, and Dwight J. Friesen, *The New Parish* (2014)

BOOK BUDDIES!

Gregory Boyle is a Jesuit priest who works with gang members in Los Angeles. His book *Tattoos of the Heart* will bring readers to tears.

Join the discussion on Monday, April 16,* at 7 pm in Room 11.

Copies of the book are available in Memorial Hall after church on Sundays beginning March 25. *Note change of date from April 14 to April 16

ARTFUL RESPONSES: Assorted Box of Artful Responses

Friday April 20, 2018 7-9pm with Brooke Leifso

Artful responses has used voice, drumming, dancing and poetry to process and discuss our modern human condition. Facilitated by Brooke Leifso, April 20th will be an experiment of the last few sessions could

combine together, creating a multi-disciplinary, collective creation (or how we can drum, dance and speak together!) No Cost. Please register at www.rwuc.org/sacregister.html or contact Rev. Karen Bridges.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES

Earth Day Healing Creation - caring for the earth and all creation.

Sunday, April 29, 2018 Memorial Hall

We invite you to engage in Contemplative Practices at Robertson-Wesley United Church in Memorial Hall. Throughout Memorial Hall there will be different spaces with different contemplative practices that invite you to meditate, pray, while engaging in some artistic exercises.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Mon Apr 2	Church closed for Easter Monday	
Tue Apr 3	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	DEAP– Club Room	5:00 pm
Wed Apr 4	Canterbury Service– offsite	10:30 am
	R-W Choir rehearsal– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Apr 5	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat Apr 7	Stewardship Breakfast with Casey– Mem. Hall	10:00 am
	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:30 am
Sun Apr 8	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Mon Apr 9	Moms and Dads’ Group– Club Room	9:00 am
	Mission & Outreach Pod– Club Room	7:00 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue Apr 10	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Property meeting– Room 11	2:30 pm
Wed Apr 11	Men’s Group– Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
	Messy Wednesday– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
	Men’s Group– Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
Thu Apr 12	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
	Maundy Thursday– Sanctuary	7:00 pm
Sat Apr 14	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:30 am
	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	5:00 pm

10209 – 123 Street, Edmonton AB T5N 1N3

Phone: 780-482-1587 . Fax: 780-482-1580 . mail@rwuc.org . www.rwuc.org

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.