

Welcome to Robertson-Wesley

Please know that in the eyes of God you already belong here and you are welcome to participate in any of the activities of the congregation.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground for Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 4, of mixed Indigenous & European heritage.

ACCESSIBILITY

There is an elevator located inside the building with the glass door entrance. Access ramps can be found: inside leading from the lobby to the sanctuary and outside at the rear of the building, leading from the parking lot.

There are accessible washrooms on each floor located near the elevator.



For hearing assistance download the Listen Everywhere app on your cell phone and connect to the R-W network by scanning this QR code. Please bring your own headphones to listen on. Classic hearing assists headsets are available from the ushers.

Large print worship bulletins, and hymn books are available from the ushers.

Service animals are welcome, except where food is prepared.

We commit to make R-W a comfortable space for people with cognitive impairment. If you require accommodations related to cognitive functioning please contact the office.

There is a sensory-friendly worship space in the Club Room every Sunday, where the service is live streamed into the room with reduced lighting and volume.

BABY/ CHILDREN'S AMENITIES

People can breastfeed anywhere in the building, should you want more privacy there is designated nursing space in the Millson room, located by the grand piano. Baby changing tables are installed in all washrooms. If you wish to use it, a children's activity centre is set up in the Chapel. There are also activity books available for children. Please ask an usher.

INFORMATION

The ushers located at the entrances are here to help should you have any questions. More information about the church and church activities can be found in the pamphlet racks outside Memorial Hall.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please do not leave valuables unattended anywhere in the church.



10209 123 St, Edmonton T5N 1N3 780-482-1587
mail@rwuc.org www.rwuc.org

Friends in Christ

Announcements at 10:15 AM

Prelude: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*, arr. by Judy Endean

Robertson-Wesley Ringers

Embracing Our Spirit

Introit: *This Joyful Eastertide*, Trad. Dutch Melody arr. by Malcolm Archer

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Call to Worship:

When we are seeking,

God points out the path.

When others are searching,

God points out the path.

Our lives are often signposts:

people together on the Way.

Our words are waypoints:

people together on the Way.

Where Christ's story and our stories meet:

people together on the Way.

Let us walk, roll, run, dance, hop and live!

People—together on the Way!¹

Hymn: *Open Our Hearts*

More Voices 21

Open our hearts, open our minds.

Open our lives to you O loving God.

Oeuvre nos cœurs, oeuvre nos pensées;

Ouvre nos vies à toi, O Dieu d'amour.

Open our hearts, open our minds.

Open our lives to you O loving God.

Life Passages

Sacrament of Baptism:

Prayer for the Holy Spirit (*in unison*)

Pour out, O God,

Your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water,

That this fount may become

Your womb of new birth,

Our fount of blessing and source of grace. Amen.

¹ Written by **Richard Bott**, Grace United Church, Burlington, Ont., **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2024, p. 43. Used with permission.

Congregation's Promise (*standing*)

We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Jesus Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in God's work.

Recommitment: *A New Creed*

Voices United 918

Please note that the last line of the creed (omitted in some of the hymn books) is:

We are not alone.

We live in God's world.

We believe in God who has created and is creating,

Who has come in Jesus the word made flesh,

To reconcile and make new.

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church;

To celebrate God's presence

To live with respect in creation

To love and serve others

To seek justice and resist evil

To proclaim Jesus crucified and risen

Our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death

God is with us,

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing: (*sung*)

Voices United 454

May God who creates you give you light;

May God who sustains you make you wise;

May God who protects you give you joy;

May God who surrounds you give you peace.

God's Holy Word

Prayer of Illumination:

Creator God, today, as we receive the words of scripture, may we be empowered to share your truth through the Holy Spirit. Thank you for opening our hearts and minds to how the story of Jesus has been shared since the very beginning. May we be grounded and rooted in love and witness your love today and every day. **Amen.**²

² Written by **Julie Hutton**, Minnedosa, United Church, Minnedosa, Man., **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2024, p. 47. Used with permission.

Scripture:

Raydene Koch

Thessalonians 1:1-10 • The Thessalonians' Faith and Example.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of Thessalonians in God the Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Creator your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, siblings beloved by God, that God has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you become imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for God's Son from heaven, whom was God raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Meditation: *Lagrime* (A Prayer), by Francisco Tarrega arr. Kevin McChesney

Nova Bells and Robertson-Wesley Ringers

Sermon: *What was that?*

Rev. Dirk Jessen

Hymn: *In Loving Partnership We Come*

Voices United 603

**In loving partnership we come,
seeking, O God, your will to do.
Our prayers and actions now receive;
we freely offer them to you.**

**We are the hands and feet of Christ,
serving by grace each other's need.
We dare to risk and sacrifice
with truthful word and faithful deed.**

**Loving community we seek;
your hope and strength within us move.
The poor and rich, the strong and weak
are brought together in your love.**

**In loving partnership, O God,
help us your future to proclaim.
Justice and peace be our desire,
we humbly pray in Jesus' name.**

Grateful Response

Pastoral Prayers

Rev. Karen Bridges

Lord's Prayer:

Voices United p. 921

**Our Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kin-dom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kin-dom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Offering:

Your donations today support R-W Church programs and operations, as well as outreach projects and programs in the city and around the world. You can donate by e-transfer to pay@rwuc.org, cheque, debit/credit by speaking to an usher, pre-authorized remittance, or PayPal by scanning the QR code. Tax receipts are issued at the end of the year for donations over \$20 if your name and address are provided.



Offertory: *The Risen Christ*

Voices United 168 v. 4

**May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.**

Offering Prayer:

Eternal One, we offer our gifts, reaching out from the familiarity of our community to the unknown aspects of life and living. May the Spirit encourage our sharing and our servicing. Bless these gifts, O God, in Christ's name. Amen.³

Hymn: *As Comes the Breath of Spring*

Voices United 373

**As comes the breath of spring
with light and mirth and song,
so does your Spirit bring
new days brave, free, and strong.
You come with thrill of life
to chase hence winter's breath,
to hush to peace the strife
of sin that ends in death.**

³ Written by **Wanda Burse**, Rural United P.C., Thamesville, Ont., **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2022, p. 49. Used with permission.

**You come like dawning day
with flaming truth and love,
to chase all glooms away,
to brace our wills to prove
how wise, how good to choose
the truth and its brave fight,
to prize it, win or lose,
and live on your delight.**

**You come like songs at morn
that fill the earth with joy,
till we, in Christ, newborn,
new strength in praise employ.
You come to rouse the heart
from drifting to despair,
through high hopes to impart
life with an ampler air.**

**You breathe and there is health;
you move and there is power;
you whisper, there is wealth
of love, your richest dower.
Your presence is to us
like summer in the soul;
your joy shines forth and then
life blossoms to its goal.**

Commissioning:

With thankful hearts, we leave this space.

May God, our protector, bless our journey.

May Jesus, the Risen One, call us to live the Gospel word, respect
creation and love our neighbours,

**And may the the Holy Spirit inspire us to be Christ's presence in
the world.**

Go now to do God's work and live Christ's love.

We are being called to live in peace with one another. Amen.⁴

Postlude: *Trusting Jesus, That Is All*, by Ira Sankey arr. by Cathy Stemegna
Trisha Lee Wasmund, clarinet; Margery Wright, flute; Dr.Allan Bevan, piano

Questions for Reflection:

In thinking about how you live your faith in the world, what do you
offer others? Healing? Teaching? Compassion? Prayer? Shelter? Food?
Wisdom? A listening ear?

⁴ Written by **Anne Matthewson**, St. David's Trinity U.C., Saskatoon, Sask., **Gathering**,
Lent/Easter 2023, p. 51. Used with permission.

R-W Report

Next Sunday

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Easter 5

Discipleship Sunday

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

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:4-18 • Divisions in the Church.

Sermon: Grateful for the revealed abundance at Robertson-Wesley.

Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, is writing to both affirm and challenge how they are living out their faith in the world. As an apostle, Paul feels it is his role to inspire communities to live according to Jesus' teaching. Paul uses this letter to address some of the divisions while reminding the people of our common purpose. As people of The United Church of Canada we feel that we are called by God "to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, love and serve others and seek justice and resist evil." On Discipleship Sunday we will hear how R-W is answering God's call in the world today. We will join together to do the work of the church while giving thanks for all that God has given.

Music: Dr. Allan Bevan, organist; Robertson-Wesley Choir

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun April 21	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
	Fundraising Meeting - Room 11	12:00 pm
	Wild Church - Away	1:00 pm
Mon April 22	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tues April 23	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
	R-W Board Meeting - Room 11	7:00 pm
Wed April 24	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs April 25	Not Falling for You Registration- Mem. Hall	10:00 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun April 28	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
	Koinonia - Memorial Hall	5:00 pm
Mon April 29	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tues April 30	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
Wed May 1	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs May 2	Not Falling for You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am

	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat May 4	Labyrinth Walk - Memorial Hall	12:00 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY LUNCH

We are seeking a coordinator for the yearly ICPM lunch. You would learn from Lois Field, who has been coordinating these lunches for many years. This yearly coordinator role includes communicating with the ICPM, procuring supplies, and organizing volunteers. This year's lunch will be held at Bissell after the ICPM service there on **May 5**. Please contact the office if you are interested in this position, and or interested in helping with the lunch.

R-W News & Notes

WILD CHURCH

Wild Church will congregate **today** at 1:00 pm; in acknowledgment of Earth Day, our theme will be Earth and Our "Geobiographies." Join us at Emily Murphy Park (look for the Wild Church sign), bring your furry friends, and pack a mug for a provided warm drink! Cancelled below -15C with windchill. All ages and faith traditions are welcome. Follow us online - Instagram @wildchurchegeg, website: wildchurchegeg.org

FUNDRAISING MEETING

Today at 12:00 pm in Room 11. We invite everyone to come and be a part of the fundraising meeting. Anyone who has an idea for an event for the 2024 fundraising year, or is planning a future event is requested to be present at this gathering.

BETWEEN THE AISLES

Ever wanted to be published? A consensus was reached that we should keep publishing BTA, so we need your brilliant help to keep it up. Send us your poems, favourite recipes, book reviews, pictures or even factual information you have on things. The next edition is all about spring and renewal. If you don't have anything that fits the theme...send it anyway! We can fit it into another edition. Submissions for the next issue are due **April 28** and articles can be sent to news@rwuc.org, Thanks and Happy Springtime!

WORLD LABYRINTH DAY

May 4, 2024 at 1:00 pm in Memorial Hall. Join a prayerful wave of energy for PEACE rolling from timezone to timezone around the globe at 1:00 pm local time. No previous Labyrinth walking experience required.

MINISTER(S) SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

We have spent time reviewing the skills and gifts of a number of applicants, have established our interview process, and have decided to go ahead with our first round of interviews. Stay tuned, as there is more to come. In the meantime, please pray for the interviewees that they will come prepared and confident—and for us, that we are able to provide a safe and welcoming environment in which each interviewee feels able to shine. - The Robertson-Wesley Search Committee

KOINONIA

Koinonia for April will take place on Sunday, **April 28**. Starting with our potluck at 5:30 pm. We will be making the coming of spring. All are welcome.

GREEN BITES

Canada's grassroots National Farmers' Union, or NFU, has produced forty films under the overall title of Depth of Field, to educate the public about farming. Some of the many topics featured include soil health, livestock movement, cooperative farming, and supply management. Every week new films are released for viewing on YouTube. Google Depth of Field films and enjoy learning about sustainable farming in Canada today.

BOOK SALE: DONATIONS WANTED

With two great book sales last summer we are going to do the same this summer - one in June and the second in August. If you have any children's and/or adult books as well as magazines please donate them to the church. You can drop books off at your convenience or if you need us to pick up the books please give Pat or Sheila a call at 780-481-0056.

MEN'S GROUP SPEAKER: DOUGLAS ROCHE

Chris Gowers as been able to arrange a presentation from Douglas Roche, a retired Canadian Parliamentarian and Diplomat, who was involved with the United Nations Association in Canada, founding president of Parliamentarians for Global Action, chairman of the Canadian Pugwash Group which is dedicated to peace and security issues, as well as as nuclear disarmament. **May 9** at 10:00 am, in Memorial Hall. This is promising to be a major occasion at R-W, everyone is welcome.

In the Community

CHALMERS-CASTLE DOWNS RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Chalmers-Castle Downs United Church is having a Rummage and Bake sale on Saturday, **April 27** from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Come down and find some treasures and treats! Chalmers-Castle Downs United Church. 12315-132 Avenue, Edmonton.

EDMONTON GRANDMOTHERS: FABULOUS FABRIC FRENZY

Looking for unique fabric, yarn, notions and craft supplies at rock bottom prices? If so, plan to attend the once a year sale for a HUGE selection of one of a kind items. Fabric as low as \$2/metre!!! Saturday, **April 27**, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Strathearn United Church 8510 95 Avenue Edmonton

\$2 admission (cash only) Payment for purchases by cash, credit or debit.

All profits support the Grandmothers campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation www.grandmotherscampaign.org. This campaign supports grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa who are raising their grandchildren due to the AIDS epidemic. For more info contact Judy at

jhayman@shaw.ca or visit the Facebook page at facebook.com/EdmGrans

WAIT - IS THIS RACIST?

Co-creating Anti-Racist Communities of Faith

This six-session series is offered between April 2024 and May 2025 will engage an online community of people who are exploring anti-racist practices, in their churches. The online sessions are designed for congregational teams (ideally three–four people from each congregation) to be able to gather with other congregations to deepen anti-racist awareness together. It will be an opportunity to engage in self-examination, explore practical ways to deepen your anti-racist work, and accompany one another on your journeys of learning and change. You can read the full description on churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=140. Contact the church office or speak to Lorna Berlinguette if you are interested.

Worship Notes

We have moved into the season of Easter which lasts for 7 weeks. The season of Easter prepares us for receiving the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. In the season of Easter we explore the stories of the various encounters with Jesus after he had risen from the tomb. In this season we are transformed for sacred friendship with Christ and one another in community. We will spend the season exploring how God is making all things new. May we see the holy in new ways and in all places and people.

Cover Image

The cover image is a wordcloud from wordclouds.com, using words from Scripture Reflections on April 16. The shape is an Ichthys, also known as a Jesus fish. The first appearances of the ichthys in Christian art and literature dates to the 2nd century.

Minister of Faith Development and Intergenerational Ministry: Vacant

Minister of Social Justice and Outreach: Vacant

Lead Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges

Bridging Minister: Rev. Dirk Jessen

Music Director: Dr. Allan Bevan

Office Administrator: Elyse Munro

Facilities Manager: Brad Campbell

Welcome to Robertson-Wesley

If you would like you can fill out this page, tear it off, and place it in the offering plates at the exits. This form is also available to fill out online at rwuc.org/infocard

Today's Date: _____

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Preferred gender pronouns: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____

I would like to subscribe to the email newsletter

Yes No

I am new in the community

I am a visitor

I am interested in speaking with a minister

I am considering making this my church

Please put in the offering plate. Thank you

