



An Affirming Congregation of The United Church of Canada

2024 May 12

Easter 7

Called to love and serve others!



Welcome and Inclusion

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

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.

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 please contact the office.

There is a sensory-friendly worship space in the Club Room every Sunday, 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: *Hyfrodol*, Rowland Pritchard arr. by Nigel Williams

Robin Doyon, trumpet; Dr. Allan Bevan, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Introit: *If We Believe*, by John Goss

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Call to Worship:

Families are strange things.

Different shapes, different sizes.

Made up of people.

Sometimes by birth, sometimes by choice.

At their best -

families are filled with love, ready to create a safe place, ready to invite others in.

At their worst -

families are filled with anger and hurt, frustration and sadness, indifference and fear.

We are Christ's family.

Siblings in Christ's love.

In this time. In all times.

Let us work to be the best family that family can be.

For Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia, amen.¹

Hymn: *You Are Holy*

More Voices 45

You are holy, you show us the way,

you are holy, you show us the way.

You are holy, you show us the way,

you are holy, you show us the way.

You show us, you show us, you show us the way,

you show us, you show us, you show us the way.

You show us, you show us, you show us the way,

you show us, you show us, you show us the way.

Hamba nathi Mkhululi wethu,

hamba nathi Mkhululi wethu.

Hamba nathi Mkhululi wethu,

hamba nathi Mkhululi wethu.

Mkhululi, Mkhululi, Mkhululi wethu,

Mkhululi, Mkhululi, Mkhululi wethu,

Mkhululi, Mkhululi, Mkhululi wethu,

Mkhululi, Mkhululi, Mkhululi wethu.

¹ Written by Richard Bott, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2015, p. 48. Used with permission.

**You are freedom, you show us the way,
you are freedom, you show us the way.
You are freedom, you show us the way,
you are freedom, you show us the way.**

**You show us, you show us, you show us the way,
you show us, you show us, you show us the way.
You show us, you show us, you show us the way,
you show us, you show us, you show us the way.**

Coming into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

God's Holy Word

Prayer of Illumination:

Enlightening God, still our minds and open us up to listen for your word for us today. Speak to us through this time of worship that we may sense your guidance and grace. Inspire each one of us through the power of the Holy Spirit to find hope in you and share your hope through our lives. **Amen.**²

Scripture: John 17:6-19 • “May my joy be made complete.” Norma Johnston
“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Creator, protect them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

Thanks be to God.

² Written by Gill Le Febre, **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2023, p. 49. Used with permission.

Solo: *The Trumpet Shall Sound*, by G. F. Handel

Douglas Graham, soloist;
Robin Doyon, trumpet; Allan Bevan, piano

Sermon: *Vulnerable and open!*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *Take Time to Be Holy*

Voices United 672

**Take time to be holy,
speak oft with your Lord;
abide in God always,
and feed on God's word.
Make friends of God's children,
help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing
God's blessing to seek.**

**Take time to be holy,
let God be your guide,
and run not before God,
whatever betide.**

**In joy or in sorrow,
still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus,
still trust in God's word.**

**Take time to be holy,
be calm in your soul,
each thought and each motive
beneath God's control.**

**Thus led by the spirit
to fountains of love,
you soon shall be fitted
for service above.**

Grateful Response

Pastoral Prayers

Rev. Dirk Jessen

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:

Now, in offering what matters, we are blessed.

Now, in giving of ourselves, we are equipped for love.

Now, in transforming these gifts for the healing of the world,
the Spirit opens us to transformation.

Now, in giving, in receiving, we become one with you, O God.

Amen.³

Hymn: *This Is the Day*

Voices United 412

**This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made,
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.**

**Open to us, open to us
your gates, O God, your gates, O God;
we will go in, we will go in,
to your holy place, to your holy place.
Open to us your gates, O God,
we will go in to your holy place.
Open to us, open to us your gates, O God.**

**You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.**

³ Written by Gord Dunbar, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2020, p. 50. Used with permission.

**You are our God, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, you are our God, we will praise your name.**

**This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made,
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.**

Commissioning:

We go into God's world to share what we have.

We go into God's world to share who we are.

**We go into God's world, with God's love, Christ's peace, and the
Holy Spirit's song. Alleluia. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.⁴**

Postlude: *This Is My Father's World/He's Got the Whole World In His
Hands*, arr. by Brant Adams Robin Doyon, trumpet; Dr. Allan Bevan, piano

Questions for Reflection:

What does it mean to be in relationship with God?

How do we truly come to know one another and learn about how God
is at work in our lives?

R-W Report

Next Sunday

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Pentecost & 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.

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-4 • Pentecost

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 • Gifts of the Spirit

Sermon: A Manifestation of the Spirit!

On Pentecost Sunday, which is considered the birth of Christianity, we
hear the story of the manifestation of the Spirit in humanity. The Spirit of
God has power and as it descended on the people, the Holy Spirit gave all
Christians a sense of purpose. We are called to live out God's good news in
the world by nurturing faith, comforting hearts, sharing our gifts for the
good of all, resisting the forces that exploit and marginalize, defending
human dignity, while being a part of the mending of God's world. On this

⁴ Written by Richard Bott, **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2022, p. 50. Used with permission.

day we give thanks for all the gifts that we have received and we commit to manifesting this Spirit in all we are and in all we do together!

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

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun May 12	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids' Church - Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
	Bake Sale - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
Mon May 13	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tues May 14	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
	Property Committee - Room 11	1:00 pm
	UCW - Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
	R-W Board - Room 11	7:00 pm
Wed May 15	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs May 16	Not Falling For You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun May 19	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids' Church - Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
Mon May 20	Church Closed	
Tues May 21	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
Wed May 22	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Gratitude Team Meeting - Club Room	5:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs May 23	Not Falling For You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

COMMUNION SERVER VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, **May 26**, we will celebrate communion, sharing Jesus' meal. All people, all ages, are welcome to serve Communion. If this is your first time, know that someone will assist you in learning how to serve Communion. You only need to come a little earlier (10:00 am). If you are able to serve, sign up on the tablet in the outer office, or visit rwuc.org/volunteer.

R-W News & Notes

STAFF & HOURS

Rev. Dirk Jessen will be on Study leave from **May 13-25**. The church will be closed Monday, **May 20** in observance of the Victoria Day stat holiday.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the thirteen R-W youth who made sandwiches and put together lunch kits for the annual ICPM service at Bissell on May 5. Also thanks to volunteer assistants Brad and Ben Warkentin, Margery Wright, Lois Field, and Janet Mears. Janet will be coordinating the project next year. - Lois Field

TALENT SHOW

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, **June 1**. Robertson-Wesley Music Society will be sponsoring a Talent Show in Memorial Hall featuring our choirs, talented soloists and members of the congregation. This will be a fun evening so please plan to attend. If you are interested in participating in the talent show please contact Dr. Allan Bevan at music@rwuc.org by **May 15, 2024**.

GREEN BITES

1. Here are a few ideas to reduce our use of plastics:
 2. Buy un-tubed toothpaste which is sold as pill-size tablets.
 3. When needing an extra bag at the grocery store, purchase one that is made of paper rather than plastic.
 4. When purchasing an item packed in plastic, remove the purchased item and leave behind the plastic material that has been used as packing. Manufacturers and retailers will soon get the message!
 5. When purchasing bulk food items, take them home in packaging that you have carried with you to the store.
 6. Examine labels thoroughly before purchasing items made of manufactured materials.
 7. Ingredients such as polypropylene and polyethylene usually indicate the presence of microbeads so avoid purchasing them.
- the Environmental Stewardship Group

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.

SEEKING ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER

We are in need of a battery powered lawn mower. For more details please contact Brad at brad.campbell@rwuc.org.

WILD CHURCH

Wild Church gathers next at 1pm on **May 19th** at the Paul Kane Park fountain (one block east of RWUC - accessible for wheelchair/walker/stroller users). The theme is "Sounds like Spring." Pets welcome! All-age friendly! Rain or shine! Follow Wild Church on Instagram @wildchurchyeg. Have questions? Contact us at wildchurch@rwuc.org

SPIRITED ART STUDIO

Spirited Art Studio is a free secular community art program providing an informal, welcoming and inclusive space where we come together to nurture our creative spirit through art and craft activities. There are as many pathways to creativity as there are individuals! Come see what adventures await you as you create, learn and make new connections. **Mondays** from 7:00 - 8:30 pm and **Wednesdays** 1:30 - 3:00 pm.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm on Zoom and in the Club Room. Reflect on the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday. We are using the practice of Lectio Divina which means we read through the scripture three times. You will be invited into some moments of silence, and if you are willing you are invited to share with the group. You don't need to be a Biblical Scholar. God speaks through the scriptures and it is wonderful to hear the diversity of messages that are received. Contact the office for the Zoom link. Come with a bible and a journal, or simply yourself! Tune in when you can.

In the Community

NO MEANS NO!!! EXCEPT IN OPERA CONCERT

In the opera world, much of the drama of the stories come from a man telling a woman that he loves her, her rejecting his proclamation, and him not taking that rejection very well. The majority of the time, that man is portrayed by a baritone and I can't change my voice, so I work with what the composers wrote for me to sing. Hence the title of my upcoming concert "No means no!!! Except in opera". Come out to listen to me and fellow Robertson-Wesley choir member Jacqueline Hernandez sing hits from operas such as Rigoletto, Don Giovanni, and musicals such as Oklahoma, and The Secret Garden. The concert will be taking place at Robertson-Wesley, Sunday, **May 12** at 3:30pm in the afternoon. Admission is pay what you can, with a suggested amount of \$20.
- Douglas Graham

LARRE'S BARBER SHOP DISCOUNT

Our neighbour Larre's Barber shop, open since 1948, is under new management, the son of the original barber has taken over the shop, and he is offering the R-W church community 25% off all haircuts. They are open 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, 7 days a week and accept walk-ins. (10325 124 st)

THE UNITED CHURCH AT 100: Centennial Planning Workshop

The United Church turns 100 in June 2025! Join Regional archivists, Leanne Templeton and Erin Acland, and other resource people, and we'll look at resources for creatively commemorating this anniversary in your context. We'll talk about local, Regional, and national ideas together- both the celebrations, and the anniversary opportunity to look at where we've been as a church, and where the future might take us. Come with your ideas and questions, and be ready to bring some ideas back to your community and ministry! Wednesday, **May 29** May 2024, 6:30 pm
For more info talk to Regional Rep Lisa Lane, or email her at alberta.angel10@gmail.com

Worship Notes

We are in 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 continue to 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

Heart Volume Love Made Of - Free photo on Pixabay. Words added by Rev. Karen Bridges

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

