

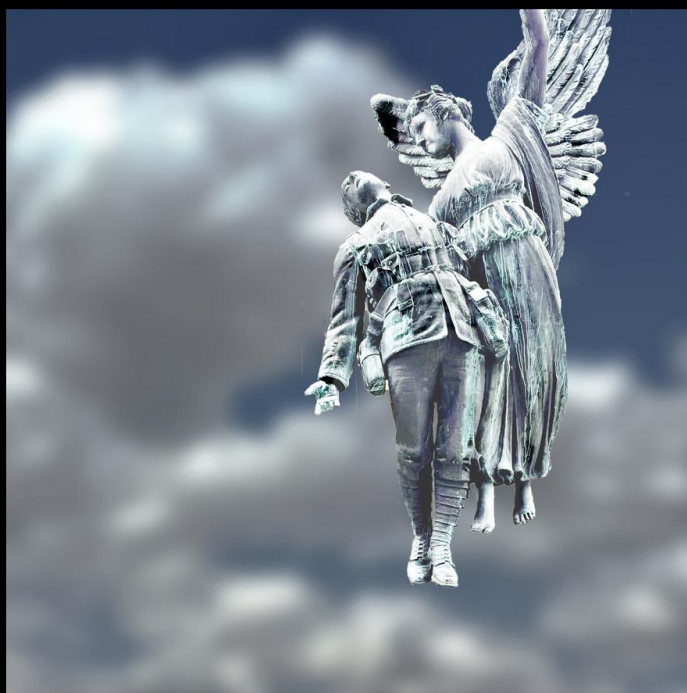


An Affirming Congregation of The United Church of Canada

2024 November 10

Sacrament of Communion

Pentecost 26



1914 War Angel

JT

Welcome and Inclusion

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

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 community of faith.

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. 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 activity books available. 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.

Friends in Christ

Announcements at 10:15 AM

Prelude: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, by Martin Luther arr. Christina Harmon
Frédéric Payant, trumpet; Dr. Allan Bevan, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Introit: *Psalm 4*, by Nicholas Palmer Frédéric Payant, trumpet; Dr. Allan Bevan, organ

Call to Worship:

We bring our hopes and fears, our struggles and our lives as they are, into the presence of the One who leaves doors and futures open to gracious possibilities.

God's word lights the paths before us.

May this time of worship empower us to make faithful choices.

God's word lights the paths before us.

May this time of worship renew and restore our relationships with God and each other.

God's word lights the paths before us.¹

Hymn: *Peace for the Children*

More Voices 149

Peace for the children, peace peace.

Vv. 1, 4-5, 10

Peace for the children we pray.

**Following the path of One of peace,
we work for healing, we work for peace;
peace for the children today.**

Peace in our families, peace peace.

Peace for our families we pray.

**Following the path of One of peace,
we work for healing, we work for peace;
peace for our families today.**

Peace for the nations, peace peace.

Peace for the nations we pray.

**Following the path of One of peace,
we work for healing, we work for peace;
peace for the nations today.**

Peace in the soul, peace peace.

Peace in the soul we pray.

**Following the path of One of peace,
we work for healing, we work for peace;
peace in the soul today.**

Act of Remembrance

Invocation Prayer:

God of grace and God of wonder, we yearn for peace - the kind of peace where justice flows down like a mighty and ever-flowing stream, the kind where there is not merely an absence of war but the sincere recognition

¹ Written by Peter Chynoweth, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2024, p. 33. Used with permission.

of a harmony where all have a part. May this time help to bring peace to the world and goodwill amongst even the most fractious of people. From the rising up of the sun to its setting may we be ambassadors of peace and harmony, goodwill and hope. This we pray as siblings of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

(Please join/stand as you are able)

The Last Post

Frédéric Payant, trumpet

(Silence)

The Rouse

The Act of Remembrance:

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning we will remember them. We will remember them.

We will remember them.

The Laying of the Wreath

Rev. Larry Wright

National Anthem:

Voices United 524 v.1

O Canada! Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all of us command.

Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,

Il sait porter la croix!

Ton histoire est une épopée des plus brillants exploits.

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

God's Holy Word

Prayer of Illumination:

May the readings today shed light on a shadowed world yearning for hope.
May we be blessed in the receiving of these words of comfort and hope.

Amen.²

Scripture:

Judy Hayman

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 • Ruth marries Boaz

Naomi, her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do." She said to her, "All that you tell me I will do." So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher to your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you,

² Written by Sharon Winegarden, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2021, p. 36. Used with permission.

who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” The women of the neighbourhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Mark 12:38-44 • The widow offers two coins.

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.” Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then Jesus called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church,
Thanks be to God.

Anthem: *Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren*, by Johannes Brahms

Choir of R-W

*Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit Trauren, sei stille!
Wie Gott es fügt, so sei vergnügt mein Wille.*

*Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen?
Der Eine steht allem für,
der gibt auch dir das Deine.*

*Sei nur in allem Handel ohn Wandel, steh feste!
Was Gott beschleußt, das ist und heißt das Beste. Amen.*

Let nothing affect you with grief; be calm!
As God ordains, so may my will be content.

Why worry today about tomorrow?
The One is in charge, who gives also to you what is yours.

In all your doings be steadfast; stand firm!
What God decrees is, and is acknowledged, the best.

Sermon: *Expressions of Hospitality*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *I Saw the Rich Ones*

More Voices 127

**I saw the rich ones I saw what they gave
the widow who offered two pennies she'd saved
and I saw she was smiling I knew she was glad
and I wondered because she gave all that she had**

**But with God the world is turned upside down
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found
Let's work for a world where all people are free
where it's good to feel good about God
loving you and me.**

**I saw Zacheus, a sinner they said
but to his house I saw Jesus go to break bread
and I knew something special had happened that day
when Zacheus gave half of his riches away**

**But with God the world is turned upside down
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found
Let's work for a world where all people are free
where it's good to feel good about God
loving you and me.**

**The men in the vineyards were grumbling one day
I knew they weren't happy with what they'd been paid
for the ones who came later were paid just the same
as the workers who greeted the dawn when they came**

**But with God the world is turned upside down
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found
Let's work for a world where all people are free
where it's good to feel good about God
loving you and me.**

Grateful Response

A Gratitude Minute

Sylvia Duffus

Pastoral Prayers

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.**

Sung Prayer: *Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Voices United 400

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

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: *Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ*

Voices United 573 vs. 3

**Come with the vision and the strength I need
to serve my God, and all humanity;
fulfillment of my life in love outpoured -
my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.**

Offering Prayer:

So often, loving God, we feel inadequate to the need, yet you call us to give of what we have to share.

We ask for your blessing on these gifts, knowing that each one counts, especially when they are collected together. May what we offer become justice and peace in the world all around. Amen.³

Sacrament of Holy Communion

All who worship with us today, regardless of age or church membership, are invited and welcome to partake in this sacrament. For people who worship online, please prepare whatever is available in your house, a cracker, bread, muffin, and juice, wine, or water. People in the sanctuary will be offered bread and grape juice. There is a gluten free option.

We are invited to this table where our living finds wholeness.

We bring our woundedness to be healed, and we bring our hope for abundant life in Christ.

We are invited to this table where the humble foods of life are offered.

Bread and cup to nourish, love and acceptance to nurture.

We are all one in the body of Christ, joining today with the body of Christ worldwide.

Thanks be to God.⁴

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Duet: *Agnus Dei*, by Théodore Dubois Hendrick Baerends and Douglas Graham, soloists

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth, we join with all people to give you thanks and praise. You formed the universe in your wisdom and created all things by your grace. We praise you for all your good gifts: the witness of saints and prophets; the work of faithful people; this earth in all its blessing and promise; and this bread, once scattered, now brought together and made one. In the hope that your people may be brought together from the ends of the earth into your reign of justice and compassion, we gather with those of every time and every place to give you praise and glory:⁵

Holy, Holy, Holy:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

Voices United p. 942-943

³ Written by Gord Dunbar, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2024, p. 52. Used with permission.

⁴ Written by Wanda Burse, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2, 2019, p. 45. Used with permission.

⁵ **Celebrate God's Presence**, 130001

**Heav'n and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Remembering Jesus at Table:

Blessed is our mentor, Jesus, who, before his suffering, earnestly desired to eat with his companions the Passover of liberation; who, on the night that he was betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

“This is my body, which is for you. Do this to remember me.”

In the same way, after supper, he passed the cup, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this whenever you drink it, to remember me.”

O God, Redeemer of all things, with grateful thanks we offer this bread and wine, fruits of your earth and of our labour, signs of your redemptive purpose for our lives and for all your creation.⁶

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Memorial Acclamation:

Voices United p. 943

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy God, pour your Spirit on us, that we may know Christ in the breaking of bread, and that in word and deed, we may be channels of your love, peace, and justice in the world.⁷

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Great Amen:

Voices United p. 943

Amen, amen, amen, amen.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Meditation: *Simple Gifts*, Trad. Shaker Melody arr. by Russell Schulz-Widmar

Dr. Allan Bevan, organ

Prayer after Communion:

Life-giving God, we have taken our place at your table. We have participated in this remembrance with Christians the world over today. We accept that we are now called to live Christ-like lives, serving others, protecting the earth, and making right our relationships with each other. For this Christ came, for this Christ served, and for this we are grateful, in Christ's name. Amen.⁸

Hymn: *Now Thank We All Our God*

Voices United 236

**Now thank we all our God,
with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

⁶ Celebrate God's Presence, 14R002

⁷ Celebrate God's Presence, 14Oa003

⁸ Written by Catherine Tovell, *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, 2023, p. 42. Used with permission.

**O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God
for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest
who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be, evermore.**

Benediction:

Now into God's world we go:
grateful for a love that holds us fast,
ready to live our gratitude in the world,
thankful that we have been blessed,
and eager to be a blessing
in all the places life calls us to be. Amen.⁹

Postlude: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*, Trad. Welsh Hymn Melody arr. by
Brant Adams Frédéric Payant, trumpet; Dr. Allan Bevan, piano

Question for reflection:

What are our expressions of hospitality?
How do these expressions of hospitality cultivate a safe space for all people?

R-W Report

Next Sunday
Sunday, Nov 17, 2024
Pentecost 27
M&S Bucket

Children and 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 Samuel 1:4-20 • Samuel is born to Hannah and Eli
Mark 13:1-8 • Not one stone of the temple will be left standing

Sermon: May grace relieve my fears.

The prayers of Hannah express sincere anguish and despair. In her prayers she seeks safety, comfort, hope and salvation. Salvation is not an event, but rather a process found through God's grace. What is found in salvation is new life where we grow and change and become what God has called us to be. How is Robertson-Wesley a reflection of the world that we live in? How is Robertson-Wesley a reflection of God's vision for the world?

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

⁹ Written by Robin Wardlaw, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2021, p. 39. Used with permission.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Nov 10	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids' Church - Garden Patch & Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
Mon Nov 11	Church Closed	
Tues Nov 12	Scripture Reflections - Cancelled	
	Property Committee - Lower Hall	1:00 pm
	UCW - Room 11	1:30 pm
	Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom	7:00 pm
Wed Nov 13	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Counselling - Club Room	12:00 pm & 5:00 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thurs Nov 14	Not Falling for You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Men's Group - Room 11	9:30 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:30 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	7:00 pm
Sat Nov 16	Religious Trauma Workshop - Sanctuary	1:00 pm
	Youth Group - Lower Hall	7:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun Nov 17	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids' Church - Garden Patch & Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
	Wild Church - Away	1:00 pm
Mon Nov 18	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
Tues Nov 19	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
Wed Nov 20	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Counselling - Club Room	12:00 pm & 5:00 pm
	Gratitude Team - Library	5:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall and Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs Nov 21	Not Falling for You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	7:00 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

MISSION AND OUTREACH (M&O) POD COORDINATOR

The role of the M&O Pod Coordinator is to gather and engage interested members of the congregation in conversation about our current and future directions in Mission and Outreach, along with different justice issues that are emerging in the world. In keeping with our Mission statement, the Pod Coordinator will host conversations, empower others to develop, implement and evaluate ideas, events, projects, resources, and programs. As needed or requested, the Pod Coordinator will report back to the Official Board. The term for the M&O Pod Coordinator will be two years. Required skills: Facilitation and diplomacy skills, Good listener, Ability to identify skills and resources in the congregation, Communication skills, and basic computer skills. If you have questions about this position you are welcome to contact Peter Graham at p.graham@rwuc.org.

MUSIC PROGRAMS

Are you called to sing? If so we have a place for you in the R-W Choir! Rehearsals are **Wednesdays** at 7:30. On **Thursdays** Nova Bells (5:30) is open to all who would like to learn more about music and ringing. R-W Ringers (7pm) has a position open for someone who can read music and would like to join in. Instrumental Ensemble - Do you play an instrument? Let Dr. Bevan know of your interest at music@rwuc.org

R-W News & Notes

R-W MEN'S GROUP

The Robertson Wesley Men's Group November Men's Group Meeting will be held on **November** the **14th** at 10:00 am in the basement Room 11. Doors open at 9:30 am. This meetings conversation will be lead by our own Chris Gowers relating to his career as a Hotelier. Very interesting and fun.

R-W MUSIC SOCIETY ADVENT CONCERT

Please join Robertson-Wesley's Choir and Ringers for a concert of beautiful Advent and Christmas music following worship on Sunday, **November 24**. The concert will begin following coffee hour at 12:30 pm and finish up about 1:15 pm. The program includes Benjamin Britten's marvellous *Ceremony of Carols*, and features guest harpist, Keri-Lynne Zwicker. Ms. Zwicker will perform seasonal music with both the R-W Choir and Ringers all under the direction of Dr. Allan Bevan. This concert is sponsored by the R.-W Music Society and is free to attend with a suggested donation of \$20.

HONOUR SUNDAY POINSETTIAS

Order a Poinsettia for Honour Sunday, **November 24** and following the service you can take it home or have it delivered! You can choose to honour a family member who has passed away or perhaps a best friend who is always there for you! We will be taking orders for Poinsettias in Memorial Hall following the service on **November 10** and **17**. If you aren't attending church physically and would like to order, please contact Elyse in the office at 780-482-1587.

WILD CHURCH

The next Wild Church service is on **November 17** at 1:00 pm at Emily Murphy Park (Picnic Site 3, near at the east end of the parking lot). Our theme is "Offering Lament, Taking Responsibility"; together we will acknowledge our culpability in the destruction of the natural world and shoulder our God-given responsibility to care for Creation. This will be a time to engage with our grief for ecological loss and to recommit to fostering a loving relationship with Earth. Dress for the weather; cancelled below -15C with windchill. Contact us at wildchurchyeg.org for questions/transportation needs.

WRITE FOR BETWEEN THE AISLES

Do you write poetry? Have you read a life-changing book lately? Do you have a faith question you are exploring or a passion you want to share? Then why not submit something for inclusion in the church's quarterly publication *Between the Aisles*? For guidelines and publication requirements, see www.rwuc.org/between-the-aisles. Deadline for submissions for the advent edition is **today**, Published: Dec 1.

UNRAVELLING RELIGIOUS TRAUMA

November 16, 1:00 - 2:30 pm in the Sanctuary. We can all agree that having a religious tradition has many upsides: being a part of a community, having a belief in something bigger than yourself, participating in meaningful traditions, and having a set of values all serve to give life meaning. But when a person, a community, or a set of doctrine associated with that religion causes harm, the harm cuts deeply into our sense of ourselves, our sense of belonging in the world, and even our place in eternity. This is a topic that every person of faith should be informed about. Come join Psychologist Amy Nydam and Provisional Psychologist Paige Cahill for a workshop that will cover the basics of what Religious Trauma is and how it shows up individually, interpersonally, communally, and existentially. Whether you have experiences of Religious Trauma personally, know someone who has, or just want to learn more so that you can support those around you, you are welcome. If you have any questions about this workshop, please contact Rev. Karen Bridges at karen.bridges@rwuc.org

Worship Notes

We have moved back into the regular season known as Pentecost Season which is symbolized by the colour green which reflects the journey of all disciples with growth leading to wholeness. Some call this the season of the church and the time in the liturgical year where we hear the followers of Jesus becoming the church. Jesus' ministry is revealed in this time as we walk toward the last Sunday of the Liturgical year entitled the Reign of Christ Sunday which this year will be the last Sunday of November.

Thanks to Frédéric Payant, for sharing his talents with us today. Frédéric performs with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and has kindly substituting for Robin Doyon, who is ill today. This morning's duet, sung by Hendrick Baerends and Douglas Graham is a setting of the ancient text, *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God) by Parisian organist-composer Théodore Dubois (1837-1924). The *Agnus Dei* is the last of the five movements of the Mass Ordinary. It is based upon the words of John the Baptist from the Gospel of John (1:29) - "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" We welcome Hendrick to R-W He is our new tenor vocal lead and we are delighted to have him sing with us. The choir's anthem *Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren* (Let Nothing Ever Grieve Thee) was composed by the youthful Johannes Brahms in 1856. Brahms (1833-1897), was living with the great composer Robert Schuman and his wife Clara at this time. Schuman suffered from a mental illness and was to die later that same year. The text is by the Lutheran hymn writer Paul Flemming (1609-1640) and is one of calm and consolation in times of grief. Brahms' setting is a technical tour-de-force, being a double canon at the interval of a ninth. The concluding amen is known as one of the most beautiful amens in all of music.

Thank you to Rev. Larry Wright for laying the wreath today and for finding the Treaty 6 Territory Flag.

Cover Image

Cover image by Jim Triscott, Sept 2024.

Lead Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges
Faith Development and Intergenerational Ministries Coordinator: Kevin Trautwein
Social Justice and Outreach Ministries Coordinator: Peter Graham
Music Director: Dr. Allan Bevan
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