

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
December 6, 2020 – 10:30 am
Second Sunday in Advent - Peace

Central Queens' Mission Statement

Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people; celebrating joy and sharing in pain. Through faith and fellowship, we are united by God's love to live and serve as Disciples of Christ.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Quiet Preparation for Worship

*Introit Prepare the Way of the Lord VU #10

***Call to Worship**

Comfort, comfort all my people.

God invites us to return and reconciles us into God's heart.

Comfort, comfort all my people.

God hears our cries for justice and offers restoration of hope.

Comfort, comfort all my people.

God knows our troubled hearts and speaks peace, gently healing.

Comfort, comfort all my people.

God knows our uncertainties and offers the word that is steady and sure.

We come together to worship God.

Our guide, our hope, our source of peace and comfort.

Advent Candle Lighting – Peace

Voice 1: In the settle and stir of a burnt-orange sunrise, in the lilted laughter around a table full of friends, in the flash of clarity that turns on the light of insight and leads us towards wisdom, we find the peace that passes all understanding.

Voice 2: But there are things we need to understand. Help us hear you in the stories of those who struggle.

Voice 1: Peace is what the prophets foretold.

Voice 2: Peace is what is sacrificed when profit takes precedence.

We light a candle for peace and pray for the courage to live peace into our lives and world.

Two candles are lit

Voice 1: In this second week of Advent, as the waiting and expectation heighten, deepen our desire for peace.

Voice 2: Like the wise called to journey in those early dawning days, may we seek, strive and search for peace. Like the prophets old and new, may we cry out for its coming.

We light a candle for peace. May it light the way.

*Hymn Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness VU #28

Prayer of Approach

O, God

you call to us from the wild places,

you call to us from the inner chambers of our hearts.

We come in answer to your invitation.

We come to pray, to praise,

to learn of your love for all creation.

Reveal your abundant love that we may experience it together - inform and inspire us to seek your kingdom on earth in our time.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer . . .

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

VU #802

***Hymn** Are You a Shepard? MV #126 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

***Hymn** Are You a Shepard? MV #126 vs 3

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God, there are many things that block our path to a relationship with you. Some of these obstacles are put in our way by others. When that happens, we can be angry and stubborn, refusing to find another way, and we find it difficult to forgive.

We turned back to you, O God, our source of forgiveness and comfort.

Sometimes the obstacles in our paths are of our own making, when we choose not to live the way Jesus taught and modeled. We may choose to do things our own way, and trip ourselves up.

We turned back to you, oh God, our source of forgiveness and comfort.

There are times when we put obstacles in the path of others; our actions or our words don't help people see your presence in the world and in their lives. We are sorry, O God.

We turned back to you, oh God, our source of forgiveness and comfort.

Silence

Assurance of God's Love

Hear these words of comfort and assurance: God speaks tenderly to God's people, saying, "Comfort, comfort."

God feeds us like a shepherd feeds sheep, gathering us in strong, gentle arms of love and carrying us safely home. Amen

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Offertory In the Bleak Midwinter VU #55 vs 4

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory Prayer**

God of comfort and new beginnings, we turn back to you again and bring to you these gifts of money, of creativity and of ourselves, asking that you bless them and us. May these gifts bring comfort to many. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Anthem

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** All Earth is Waiting VU #5

***Blessing**

**May you know God's peace in words and ways of comfort.
May you show God's peace in words and ways of comfort.
May God's peace and hope shine in all the world. Amen**

Choral Benediction Go Now in Peace VU #964

Postlude

* Please stand as you are able

Ministers All of us

Clergy

Office Hours

Rev Greg Davis

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Office Phone

902-964-2291

Email

minister@cquc.ca

Ministry of Music

Kirk Neville

Website

<https://cquc.ca/index.htm>

Church Office

Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Phone

902-964-2221

Email

office@cquc.ca

Warm Welcome to All – We are glad you are here as a visitor, a seeker, someone looking for a new church home, or as a regular worshiper.

Life and Work of Our Church

Greg's Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 am – 12 pm. If anyone is in the hospital or would like a visit from Greg, please call him at 902-964-2291. If you wish to meet with Greg outside the scheduled hours, please call 902-964-2291 or email minister@cquc.ca for an appointment.

Registration for Church Services: Registration is **required**. Masks are **required** while attending church. To registration, please call 902-964-2221 or email office@cquc.ca. If you are registering **after Thursday**, please text or call Velda at 902-940-7674.

Sunday Worship Cancellations – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page if our church service is cancelled.

FundScrip –The **last** order date for 2020 is **today**. The first order date for 2021 is Sunday, January 10th. You can reach Janet Howes by email (jhowes1969@gmail.com) or by phone (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. Added to the program is Lululemon at 3%. November & December Promotions: Winners/Homesense – 8%, Sally – 12%, Esso – 3%, Swiss Chalet/Montanas – 10%, La Vie en Rose – 11%.

Food Bank –Please remember to continue your support for the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off any Sunday or during the week in the wooden box by the church entrance.

Bulletin Deadline – Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday** evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cquc.ca.

Central Queens Emmaus Walkers – Come join us as we walk and chat every Thursday at 12 pm. We will meet at the Dr. Kent G. Ellis Memorial Park. All are welcome.

CQUC Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 24th. Please have all reports into the church office by January 11th. Reports can be emailed to office@cquc.ca.

Surviving The Holidays - COVID-19 permitting, and with limited registration available, the Brookfield Pastoral Charge is once again offering the GriefShare Surviving the Holidays event for those who are grieving a loved one at Christmas. This year's event will be hosted this Saturday, December 12th, at 10 am in the sanctuary at Brookfield Presbyterian Church. Facilitator: Rev Thomas J. Kay.

West River United Church Cake and Goodies Facebook Auction - Still time to place your online bid!

West River United Church Cake and Goodies Facebook Auction will be closing noon December 5th. You can place your bids in the comments of the item you are interested in. To do so click on the event tab on the left of your screen, then click on the Cake and Goodies Auction picture to open the event and then open the discussion tab. There you will find all the items. You can bid on as many as you like. Just click on “comment” under the item you would like to bid on and enter a higher amount than the previous person. The auction will run until **noon December 5th**. The

winners will be notified via message and be tagged in the comments also. If you are the winner of an item, it can be picked up December 12th, with payment, between 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm. **Pick-up will be set up as a “drive thru.”**

The Advent Virus

Author Unknown

WARNING.....WARNING: ADVENT VIRUS

Be on the alert for symptoms of inner **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to this virus and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.

Some signs and symptoms of **The Advent Virus**:

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Please send this warning out to all your friends. This virus can and has affected many systems. Some systems have been completely cleaned out because of it.