

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada**

June 21, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Third after Pentecost

Father's Day

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation

Introit "Never Ending Joy"

Call to Worship

Gladden the souls of your servants, O God!
To you, O God, we lift up our hearts.

God is good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love.
Listen to our cries, O God, and answer.

God is great and does wondrous things,
So we come to worship and bow down before you, the most Holy One.

Let us worship our Wonder-full God!

Hymn “Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks” VU #179

Prayer of Approach

**God of grace, you created our minds to grow in wisdom.
You created our hearts to expand with love for you and your world.
You created our voices to sing your praises forever.
Fill us to overflowing with your Holy Spirit,
so we may worship you in spirit and in truth,
bold and unafraid to follow you
in the name of Jesus our brother.**

With our brother Jesus, we say this prayer...

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom 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 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

- ¹ Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- ² Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; ³ be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all day long.
- ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.
- ⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my cry of supplication.
- ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call on you,
for you will answer me.
- ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
- ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.
- ¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.
- ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your serving girl.
- ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me

VU #567

All God's Children

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Pentecost season celebrates the gifts of the Spirit energized in the Church to touch the world with God's love and mercy, God's truth and justice. Whatever you offer back to God becomes a gift which can change the world.

Offertory

What Can I Do?

MV #191

Presentation of Offering

Offertory Prayer

**We dedicate these gifts and our lives to you,
O God, in thanksgiving for your great gift of Jesus
in whom we know an inner peace. Strengthen and
empower us with the Holy Spirit to be bearers of this peace
wherever we go. Amen.**

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

Genesis 21:8-21

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do

as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Matthew 10:24-39

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Anthem

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

God of compassion and courage,
In our weakness you are strength.
In our darkness you are light.
In our sorrows you are comfort and peace.
Embrace each situation we remember in our prayers this day
with your steadfast love.

We thank you for moments of joy that still break into our lives,
even in the strange times of pandemic and re-opening of our communities:
for love given and received,
for friends who furnish our life with meaning and happiness,
and for family who embrace us with love and understanding.
And we thank you for all caring and faithful fathers celebrated this day,
remembering those whose fathers have died
and praying for those fathers cut off from their families.

God of the nations,
we pray for our country and countries around this world
so deeply affected by COVID-19.
Guide leaders to make wise decisions about reopening communities,
and give patience and courage to those whose lives have been disrupted,
especially those who fear what the future holds.
Wherever injustice rules and misinformation confuses,
protect the vulnerable and shine the light of your truth
to reveal the path to justice and renewed hope.

God of compassion,
we pray for peace to prevail in places torn by war,
and ask that respect for human life will grow
wherever people are abused or scorned.
We pray for all those who are suffering and for all who mourn significant loss.
Surround them with your love and support them with the strength of your Spirit.
Open our eyes to see how we might bring comfort to those who are hurting.

Eternal God, you hold the dead as well as the living in your tender care.
We thank you for your people in every age who have entered into your heavenly
presence, especially those dear to our own hearts.
Keep us in communion with them and bring us to dwell with them at the last in
your everlasting light.

Hear us as we offer prayers in silence for the concerns on our hearts this day...
Amen.

Responding to the Word

Hymn “Will You Come and Follow Me” VU #567

Blessing

You were called to worship, and now you are just as surely called into the world to share the love of God with your neighbours, opening your heart to them, whoever they may be, wherever they may be found, just as Jesus did. Go now in peace and share God's love with all. Amen.

Choral Benediction “And On This Path”

Postlude

Offering Prayer written by Donna Kelly
Gathering, Pentecost 1 2020, page 46
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Commissioning written by George Allan
Gathering, Pentecost 1 2020, page 47
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