

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

**June 7, 2020
10:30 a.m.
Pride Sunday**

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 and Announcements

Birthdays and Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation

Introit "We Are All One People" MV #141

Call to Worship

God, the Creator, is with us this day.

And so we gather in the name of the One who made the sun and the moon, the One who made the oceans' waves and the prairie wind. The One, who made each of us, and who calls us to this place just as we are.

“Though I May Speak”

VU #372 v. 1

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Christ, the One who taught of a loving God, is with us this day.
And it is in the shelter of God’s love that we gather. May this time be one brushed with hope, peace, and acceptance. It is in celebrating our great diversity that God’s love is most clearly known.

“Though I May Speak”

VU #372 v. 2

Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Spirit, the Power that binds us together in perfect harmony, is with us this day.
And bound by the love of God, we rejoice and lift our prayers. For here, though we are all so very different, we are united, we belong, we may find the space our souls need to rest in the Creator and sing out to the Holy One.

“Though I May Speak”

VU #372 v. 3

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

Hymn

“When Long Before Time”

VU #248

Prayer of Approach

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh upon us; may your presence fill us with the desire to live with compassion and integrity with all. Come, Divine Spirit, and dwell among us. We need your wisdom to help us love our neighbour and speak the truth of love in the world. Give us strength to stand and be witnesses in our homes, our schools, and our jobs. Come to our places, to this worship and make us one with each other. It is in the name of our brother and companion we pray.

With Jesus we pray this ancient 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.

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Transgression speaks to the wicked
deep in their hearts;
there is no fear of God

before their eyes.
For they flatter themselves in their own eyes
that their iniquity cannot be found out and hated.
The words of their mouths are mischief and deceit;
they have ceased to act wisely and do good.
They plot mischief while on their beds;
they are set on a way that is not good;
they do not reject evil.

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!
Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me,
or the hand of the wicked drive me away.
There the evildoers lie prostrate;
they are thrust down, unable to rise.

Hymn

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

SGP #8

All God’s Children

Prayer of Confession

In the lives of neighbours who suffer brokenness and pain:

We confess you are still speaking!

In the struggle of the poor whose rights are not honoured:

We confess you are still speaking!

In a world crying out for wisdom, love and mercy:

We confess you are still speaking!

In a world crying out for love and compassion:

We confess you are still speaking!

In a world calling for the blessing of truth:

We confess you are still speaking!

Together we seek transformation and reconciliation:

We confess that in our lives we often hide behind our work and play, schools and jobs, fun and technology. We let ourselves get so busy that we forget the world around us. We admit that the distractions of the world pull us into selfishness and silence our witness. Teach us to champion the cause of justice for all, strengthen us to love our neighbour, and speak truth through words and actions. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Even as we speak our words of confession we are already forgiven! When the tomb was found empty and the stone rolled away, God announced to the world that Grace was free. That death had no hold over us. That love would always win. That in Jesus Christ we have been reconciled back to God, and nothing can separate us from God's love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

“What Can I Do?”

MV #191

Presentation of Offering

Offertory Prayer

Through the many gifts we are given, may we use all that we are and all that we have to grow in acceptance, mercy, and love. In the Spirit we present these gifts, and in Christ’s name, we pray God’s blessing upon them. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

Genesis 9:12-13

God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Matthew 25:34-40

Then the ruler will say to those at the right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my God, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Anthem

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

God our Creator, by your very essence we are called into relationship. As we gather our prayers before you this morning we praise you. We rejoice in the vastness of your creation. The beauty we see all around us speaks to the beauty we are called to see in each other. Help us take conscious care of this planet. God hear our prayer.

Response MV 62 "There is room for all in the Shelter of God's love"

Christ our Redeemer, your life giving call to love each other as you have loved us empowers us. Help us as we walk this road of life together that we might truly live in your love. We pray today for all those places around the world where love, compassion, kindness, patience, and meekness are seen as weaknesses rather than strengths. We pray for the world's leaders and ask that you would fill them with integrity and the willingness to speak truth. We pray for *(add current world issues from this week.)* Christ hear our prayer.

Response MV 62 "There is room for all in the Shelter of God's love"

Spirit, our Sustainer... it is your power that dances among us this morning. As we commit ourselves to this Affirming Journey we ask that you would continue to guide and inspire this church and all those who walk with us. We pray for those who have been shunned, hated and rejected because of their gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, age, religion, class, socio-economic place in the world. We pray for those who are allies. We pray also this day, loving God, for everyone who needs your healing touch in their lives. We pray for all those in hospital and long term care. We pray for those who long for healing of their minds and spirits. We pray for those who walk in grief and sorrow. We remember especially *(name people who have requested prayers)* And so many more whom we name in our hearts... *(silent prayers)*. Spirit hear our prayer.

Response MV 62 "There is room for all in the Shelter of God's love"

Responding to the Word

Hymn

"There Is a Time"

MV #165

Blessing

The Journey is long...

Together we will travel; together we will make our way.

The road is winding...

Together we will explore the twists and turns; together we will follow where the God of Love is leading us.

It will not be easy...

Together we will find the courage we need to face the challenges ahead; together we dance beneath God's rainbow sharing the Good News that all are Chosen and Beloved.

Amen.

Amen.

Choral Benediction "Go, Make a Difference" MV #209

Postlude

Worship Resources today, (used in part or whole), were from
<https://affirmunited.ause.ca/>. Living Skies Regional Council