

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
November 29, 2020 – 10:30 am
First Sunday in Advent - Hope

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 Candle of Hope

Wake up! Don't fall asleep!

Advent is here,
it's soon time to meet,
a savior and friend,
who makes hope come true.
Prepare him a way.
He's coming for you!

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Hope.

**Thank you, God, for sending Jesus,
your gift of hope to the world.
Help us to work with him to bring hope to places
where people are lonely or afraid.
Let this candle remind us that the light of Christ
his shining in our hearts and can spread from us to
others when we live in hope. Amen**

Quiet Preparation for Worship

***Introit**

Come and Fill our Hearts

MV #16

***Call to Worship**

After such suffering,
we go searching for a sign, any sign.
The sun seems to dim, the moon fails, the stars fall.
We need a sign, any sign.

Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

We hope that the Christ is on the way,
gathering the faithful from the four winds,
into a place of peace –

We need a sign, any sign.

Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

Nature once offered signs to depend on:

The fig tree put out tender leaves,
and we knew summer was near—

But climate today

Is hurting, and unpredictable.

We need a sign, any sign.

Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

So together we search for a sign of the One who is coming –

Clarity in confusion

Green shoot in a barren landscape

Song arising in a weary soul.

Be aware, stay awake, change is coming.

Come, let us worship!

***Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

VU #2

Prayer of Approach

**Come into our midst, O Holy One,
rider of the Clouds of Heaven,
surprising answer to heartfelt prayer.
In whatever way you choose—
Come. Shake us up.**

**Help us find you at work in our lives
Showing the way to make all things new.
In Jesus' name we pray.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

VU #794 Part 1

***Hymn** Never Ending Joy

MV #40 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

***Hymn** Never Ending Joy

MV #40 vs 3

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

This has been a year to lament—
Grief and loss,
crisis when social structures have failed the common good
complicity when age-old prejudices found new and cruel
expression:
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

This has been a year to wake up—
To read the “signs of the times”
To wake up to painful truths, and give them voice
To ponder the changes needed for a just world for all:
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

This has been a year to call God into our sorry midst—
Show us your face!
Encourage us in the face of brutal realities,
empower us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you
on the way in which you make all things new.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Silence

Assurance of God's Love

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Offertory In the Bleak Midwinter VU #55 vs 4

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory Prayer**

**O Faithful One,
accept these gifts of our hearts and hands.
May they be multiplied and magnified
as the living presence of Christ in the world. Amen**

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

**Isaiah 64:1-9
Mark 13:24-37**

Anthem

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** People, Look East VU #9

***Blessing**

Send us into the world refreshed in hope,
Awake, alert, attuned to your presence
ready to join your work of blessing for all.
Amen.

Choral Benediction Go Now in Peace VU #964

Postlude

* Please stand as you are able

Ministers	All of us
Clergy	Rev Greg Davis
Office Hours	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.

Sponsor a Bulletin Cover – United Church Sunday bulletin covers are a great addition to our worship services providing excellent photos, liturgy and reflections by United Church people. Congregation members are invited to sponsor a week of bulletins to honour a special day/event or to offer a memorial for a deceased loved one and to help cover the costs of bulletins for our church. The sign-up sheet is on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20 per Sunday.

FundScrip – The **last** order date for 2020 is next Sunday, **December 6th**. 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 at 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.

"Bookworms United" – The next book we are reading is "Akin" by Emma Donoghue. Come join us for some lively discussion on this book on Wednesday, December 2nd, at 11 am at the church. All are welcome!

Drive-Thru Living Nativity – The 10th annual Drive Thru Living Nativity will be this weekend, December 4th, 5th & 6th from 5:30-8:00 pm each evening. This will take place at [6452 Route 19, Canoe Cove](#) at the farm of Chrys and Doreen Jenkins. There will be shepherds, kings, angels, Mary and Joseph. Christmas music will be played and there will be lots of lights. Freewill donations accepted for the Kislingbury Family whose 3 year old son had cancer and had lost his eyesight. Covid 19 restrictions will be in place.

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 on 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 is now open! Please share and invite your friends! Anyone can bid! The auction will run until noon on Wednesday, December 9th. Please 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 open the discussion tab. You will find all the items there. You can bid on as many items 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. 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 with payment between 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm that day. Pick-up will be set up as a "drive thru."

Life Is an Advent Season

CONNECTIONS, 11-28-93

"Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfill. Hope, struggle, fear, expectation and fulfillment are all part of our Advent experience.

"The world is not as just, not as loving, not as whole as we know it can and should be. But the coming of Christ and his presence among us—as one of us—give us reason to live in hope: that light will shatter the darkness, that we can be liberated from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned.

"May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfillment into the Advent of our lives."

~ Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, TOR