

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

September 6, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Fourteenth after Pentecost

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

Greeting

In the name of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, welcome! All are welcome here. Amen.

Welcome & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Once there was a person who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people began to follow him. But they didn't know who he was. So one day they simply had to ask him. "Who are you?" and he said, "I am the light."

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation

Introit “Where Two or Three” MV #14 X4

Call to Worship

Watch and listen for the wonders of our God.
Our God is among us.

Watch and listen for the goodness of our God.
Our God moves among us.

Watch and listen, for God is here.
Our God dwells among us.

Let us then open our hearts, minds, and Spirit as we worship.
Amen!

Hymn “Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet” VU #245

Prayer of Approach

**God, the encourager, God, the compassionate,
God, the merciful, holy, blessed:
disturb us. Rouse us from our sleep.
Lift us into consciousness of your presence.
Change us, move us, mold us for the better;
so that, at the sound of your voice
at the call of our name
we will never be the same.
May this worship do this and so much more,
in the name of Jesus.**

We share in the ancient prayer Jesus prayed ...

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 149

VU #872-873

Hymn

"Like a Rock"

MV #92

All God's Children

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

God has provided what we need to enjoy God's creation, and serve God and neighbour in loving kindness. Our offering will spread the gifts God gives to neighbours in need in the name of Christ, our Lord.

Offertory

"What Can I Do?"

MV #191

Presentation of Offering

Offertory Prayer

**These gifts represent the best of ourselves, O God –
we attest, with joy, that we can do no better.**

Receive them with our prayers.

Take and use them for your goodness.

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the

morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Matthew 18:15-20

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Anthem

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Creator of heaven and earth,
lover of each and every soul,
we are filled with gratitude for the blessings of this life.
For making us in your image to love and care for one another,
we give you thanks.
For the gift of Christ, who redeems and guides us,
and who gives us a pattern for everyday living,
we praise you.
Hear us now as we pray for situations where your love and grace are
sorely needed in the world you love.

We pray for the church in this place and around the world, facing so many
new challenges to respond to so many enduring needs...

(Silence is Kept)

We pray for this beautiful planet, the fragile home we share with all living
things...

(Silence is Kept)

For those who provide leadership in this town and area and the nations of
the world, that they may find the wisdom and courage to do justice in the
decisions they make...

(Silence is Kept)

For those who serve as teachers, healers and caregivers facing new
situations this fall, and for all students who return to school in very
different circumstances...

(Silence is Kept)

For the homeless and the hungry, for the unemployed and the anxious, and
for all who have become more vulnerable through the pandemic...

(Silence is Kept)

For those who mourn and those who are alone or feeling isolated...

(Silence is Kept)

For the powerless and oppressed, and those caught up in destructive relationships or unjust political systems...

(Silence is Kept)

And for the concerns we bear on our hearts this day...

(Silence is Kept)

Eternal God, we thank you for those who have gone ahead of us and showed us some measure of your eternal love. Keep us always in communion with you, and with your people from every time and place. Amen.

Responding to the Word

Hymn

“Deep in Our Hearts”

VU # 154

Blessing

The sweet Spirit of God has blessed us! Let us give thanks.

Thank you!

The great Spirit of God will guide us! Let us give thanks.

Thank you!

The humble Spirit of God is with us. Let us give thanks.

Thank you!

And may the blessed, eternal Trinity
grant you the peace the world cannot give, now and forever.

Amen.

Extinguishing of the Candle

I'm going to change the light so it is not just in one place any more. It can be in many places all at once. Watch.

Choral Benediction

Postlude