

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

August 1, 2021

10:30 a.m.

10th 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.

The Community Gathers

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Once there was someone 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?" He replied, "I am the Light."

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation

***Introit**

"I Can Feel you Near Me, God"

VU #48

***Call to Worship**

Bless the Lord with heart and soul, for our God is great.
We will bless God in this time of worship!

God sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the earth.
God, renew us in this time of worship!

God feeds all creatures in due season.
God, feed us in this time of worship!

Let us sing to God as long as we live;
**We will sing praise to our God while we have being.
So we come to worship.**

***Hymn** “Open My Eyes, That I May See” VU #371

Prayer of Approach

**God of majesty and mystery,
we gather before you in humble wonder.
Source of all that is, your breadth and depth are beyond our
imagining.
Word of hope and healing, your love defies our explanations.
Spirit of purpose and possibility, you touch us when we least
expect it.
Receive our praise and prayer this day,
and prepare us to receive the Bread of Life in this hour of
worship.
For we come to in praise, may your Holy Spirit stir us to new life.**

With Jesus, we share in the 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.**

Hymn "Jesus, Friend of Little Children" VU #340 vv. 1-2

All God's Children

Hymn "Jesus, Friend of Little Children" VU #340 v. 3

Listening for God's Word

Sacred Word

Ephesians 4:1–16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all

humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”

(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the child of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Psalm 51:1–12

VU# 776

John 6:24–35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Child of God will give you. For it is on him that God has set the seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in the one who was sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is God who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Responding to God's Word

Offertory Invitation

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Let us offer our loaves and fishes in the service of God's kin-dom.

Offertory

*Presentation of Offering

*Offertory Prayer

God of power and possibility, bless the gifts we offer to you this day, and all our efforts to serve you and our neighbours. Use what we have and what we do to build up the ministry of Christ's body, the church, in our congregation, our community and throughout the world you love. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

God in whom we live and move and have our being:
As we gather in your presence today,
we are aware of many challenges in our own lives,
in the lives of those we care about and in the world around us.

Thank you for your faithfulness to each of us
and to your whole creation,
given all that we share and all the different situations we face.
Show us how our care and concern for the world and for each other
can respond to the needs we name before you today:

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

In faithful silence, we lay before you the concerns on our hearts this day:
We pray for those who have been in the headlines lately,
for those situations in the world and in our country that concern us deeply,
and for all whose lives cry out to you and to us for help...

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who are suffering in our community
and for those struggling to overcome the challenges of life:
those who are ill and those who are bereaved;
those struggling to make ends meet or find the right job;
those who are lonely
and those who are moving and in need of new friends...

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for those looking forward to a new beginning this fall:
those hoping for a school year with fewer pandemic interruptions;
those starting at a new school or in a new college or university program;
those beginning new jobs or new activities;
those welcoming new members into the family through birth or marriage:

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our congregation in a time of reorganizing
after months of restrictions.

Gather us in to new and renewed friendships.

Help us see where you call us to reach out with your love and generosity.

Equip us to meet every challenge we face with hearts full of faith and
commitment.

*God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

Amen

***Hymn**

“There's a Spirit in the Air”

VU #582

***Blessing**

As we leave worship today, may these words from Ephesians
remain ringing in our ears:

"... lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one
another in love, making every effort to maintain
the unit of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Let it be so. Amen.

Choral Benediction

“When You Walk from Here”

VU #298

Postlude

*Please rise as you are able.