

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

February 14, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Transfiguration 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 & Announcements

As we enter into this sacred place,
put away the pressures of the world that ask us
to perform,
to take on masks,
to put on a brave front.
Silence the voices that ask you to be perfect.
This is a community of compassion and welcome.
A place where we can experience unconditional love
of God and each other. Welcome in the name of the
one who IS unconditional love!

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** "Come All You People" MV #2 X2

*Call to Worship

Gathering in this sacred place
we anticipate new wonders each week.

**Wherever two or three are gathered to worship,
a holy spirit is present.**

Open our eyes to witness
the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed,
even this day, even in this place.

**We will want to linger and camp in this sanctuary
but when we leave today may our hearts be open
to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

***Hymn** "Creator God You Gave Us Life" MV #27

Prayer of Approach

Holy One,
on mountaintops and valley floors

you reveal to us the light of your love.
Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing beauty
of the divine presence.
With each encounter we are changed and transformed.
Help us, O God, to live our lives as a reflection of divine beauty.
May we walk among our siblings and friends as a blessing,
bearing light into dark places,
hope to displace despair,
and love that casts out hate.
Our world is hurting;
enable us to draw new to you in worship,
equipped for the world that is waiting...

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.**

Psalm 50:1-6

God summons the earth

VU #775

***Hymn**

“This Is God's Wondrous World”

VU #296 vv. 1,2

All God's Children

***Hymn** "This Is God's Wondrous World" VU #296 v. 3

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

St. Valentine's Day reminds us of the transforming power love has in many lives. Gifts we offer to God from the heart also transform lives. Let your offering today express your love for God and God's love for the world in Christ Jesus.

Offertory "You Work, O God, Needs Many Hands" VU #537

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory Prayer**

God of life and love, receive our gifts as tokens of our love. Bless them so they strengthen the ministries of love we undertake in Jesus' name. May our lives shine with hope in these difficult days of wintertime, as we wait for healing and renewal through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Readings

2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah

said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father,

father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Anthem

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer

God of life, God of love:

You created us and set us in relationship with each other—
in families and neighbourhoods, communities and countries,
cultures and nations.

We give you thanks for all the supportive relationships
which bring meaning and encouragement to our lives,
and have meant so much in times of isolation.

Help us contribute what we can to sustain the wellbeing of our
community for all who call it home.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of our faith and our future,

there are so many pressures on homes and families today.

Draw near to those who are struggling in economic difficulty
and those burdened by the challenges to health and happiness
this winter.

Work with parents and children, married partners, and next-door
neighbours who face conflict their relationships
to create solutions that express mutual respect and resolve
tension. Help our congregation support families, whatever their
size or situation, as well as people living on their own, to know
your love.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

You call us to live together in peace and unity.

We pray for our neighbourhoods and our nation.
Where people are divided and bitterness turns into resentment,
show us how to work for reconciliation.
As the pandemic stretches on,
we pray for all those whose skill and dedication is needed
to support our common life.
Wherever we can, may we offer words of encouragement and
appreciation so others know how much they matter to you and to
us all.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Today we give thanks for our church family
and for the years of worship and witness offered here.
So much has changed for us over these past few months
and we pray you will bless our leaders
who have to think carefully and creatively so congregational life
continues.

We remember those of our number in need of your special
attention today...

(Silence)

Guide us all with your wisdom and insight
so we may find ways to reach out to each other in support and
friendship. Open our eyes to opportunities to reach out beyond
our own fellowship as agents of your healing and hope
for we offer ourselves to you in Jesus' name. Amen.ⁱ

***Hymn**

“Spirit God, Be Our Breath”

MV #150

***Blessing**

Now may the God who said,
“Let light shine out of darkness”
and has shone in our hearts,
give us light to bear to the world
that all may see and know that God is love. Amen.

Choral Benediction “Dance With the Spirit” MV #156

Postlude

*Please rise as you are able.

ⁱ [Presbyterian Church In Canada](#). Worship Planner: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Transfiguration Sunday
February 14, 2021 Year B.