

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
December 18, 2022 – 10:30 am

Fourth Sunday in Advent – Love

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 the Candle of Joy *Advent Candles Are Lit*

Hymn A Candle Is Burning VU #6 vs 1, 2, 3 & 4

Prayer

Gracious God, as you came to those who have gone before us, you come to us now in Jesus. Help us to recognize you in those around us and to care for our neighbours as we do for ourselves. Amen.

Bible Presentation

*Introit Angels We Have Heard on High VU #38 vs 3

*Call to Worship

We come seeking a sign from you, Emmanuel, God with us.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may embody your love.
We come seeking to worship you, the One who dwells with us always.

*Call to Worship (continued)

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may embody your love.

We come seeking to witness your presence, a child to be born in a coming night.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may embody your love. (Inspired by Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19)

*Hymn Let Us Build a House MV #1

Prayer of Approach

God of love –

Ferocious love, fierce love, unending love, everlasting love –

We gather in this place with gratitude for the ways your love has called us out of coldness and into warmth. We know of your care, and we stand in awe of your unending presence.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel.

Stir up your influence in this place.

Give us life, as we call on your name as we worship you in spirit and in truth.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer...

Responsive Reading – Psalm 80:1-7, 18-19 Part One VU #794

*Hymn Gentle Mary Laid Her Child VU #46 vs 1 & 2

A Time for All Ages

*Hymn Gentle Mary Laid Her Child VU #46 vs 3

Children may retire to Sunday School

Call to Confession

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

God, our shepherd – Restorer of our souls. In a world full of hopelessness, we have sometimes forgotten that you have shown your hope in endless ways.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may know your hope.

In the mirey mess of the world, we have sometimes neglected to lean into your peace that transcends comprehension.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may know your peace.

In a culture shrouded in doom and despair, we have often forgotten how to experience your joy.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may know your joy.

In a moment when it is easier to hate others because they believe differently, love differently, live differently, vote differently – we have forgotten how to love beyond the bounds of what separates us.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may know your love. Stimulate our memory, O divine Creator. Remind us that in our weakness, we find your transforming presence.

Assurance of God's Transformative Love

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

***Presentation of Offering** Called by Earth and Sky MV #135

*Offertory Prayer

We dedicate these gifts that have been shared for the enrichment of this beloved community and beyond. Let these gifts do justice in the world so that all may know they are loved by God. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Word

Isaiah 7:10-16

Matthew 1:18-25

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Sung Response: Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

***Hymn** Joy Is Now in Every Place VU #45

*Blessing

***Choral Benediction** Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MV #220

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>

Phone

902-786-9222

Email

nevillejk@hotmail.com

Church Office

Office Hours Wednesday & Thursday
 9 am – 12 pm
Phone 902-964-2221
Email office@cquc.ca

A Warm Welcome to All – We are delighted you have joined us. May God’s word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others. All are welcome.

Sympathies are extended to Robert and Meryl Cummings on the loss of Meryl’s sister.

Christmas Services

Inter-generational Christmas Eve	December 24 th at 6 pm
Communion Service	
Christmas Day Service	December 25 th at 10:30 am

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.

In-Church Services: Masks are recommended but not required.

FundScrip – First order date for 2023 is Sunday, January 8th.

Sunday Worship Cancellations – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page if our church service is cancelled.

E-Transfers – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept E-Transfers. If you wish to give your offerings through E-Transfer, please send via email to veldabertram@gmail.com.

Christmas Carol Concert – Join us tonight for a Christmas featuring Central Queens Musical Friends & guest performers. Concert starts at 7:00 pm. This musical program will provide folks with nostalgic carols as well as a variety of seasonal music from past to present. Come, relax and escape the hustle and bustle and enjoy the reason for the season. Free-will offering.

Scent-Free – “*No scents make good sense*” recognizing that some of our church attendees have sensitivity and/or allergic reactions to various fragrant products. Thank you for your cooperation so that everyone can attend our church.

Mitten Tree – The mitten tree has been set up again this year at the back of the sanctuary. Let’s cover the tree with lots of mittens, scarfs and hats! These items will then be distributed to schools. The tree will be up until Christmas Eve. Help us fill our mitten tree to overflowing!

Church Fund-Raiser – Are you ready to put up your Christmas tree? Contact David Butterworth. The cost of the Christmas trees is by donation and all funds will be donated to our church. David is located at 11 Wilson-Butterworth Lane, Wheatley River. Phone: 782-377-4203.

Food Bank – Please remember to support the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off any Sunday or during church office hours in the wooden box at the church entrance.

Official Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19th, at 7:15 pm.

Annual Meeting – Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29th, after the worship service. Deadline for reports is **Wednesday, January 11th**. Please email them to office@cquc.ca. Thank You.

Weekly Bulletins can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a signup sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00.

Bulletin Deadline – Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday** evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cguc.ca.

Central Queens Emmaus Walkers is paused until after Christmas.

Puzzle Exchange – In the foyer there is a cart with lots of jigsaw puzzles. Help yourself to a puzzle or bring one for someone to do. Making puzzles is a wonderful winter activity.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collecting pop can pull tabs when are then given to the Daughters of the Nile women’s organization. The funds go to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal where they are used to buy reading materials for children in the hospital. Your can tab collections can be dropped off at the church. Thank you.

Community News

Carol Service at Winsloe United Church this evening, December 18th, at 7 p.m. Music by the Winsloe United Church Choir, soloists, and musicians. The evening will include traditional and contemporary Christmas music as well as a Christmas carol sing. Free-will offering.

Winsloe United Church Christmas Concert tomorrow, December 19th, at 7 pm. Featuring Dino and the Harmonies with special guest Eddy Quinn. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 6:30 pm.

