

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

July 10, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Fifth 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

Welcome & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

There was a person who did such amazing things - said such wonderful things - that great crowds of people followed him everywhere. One day they ask him, "Who are you?" He said, "I am the light."

Quiet Preparation for Worship (Bible is brought forward during the quiet time)

***Introit** "Come All You People"

MV #2

Call to Worship

The paths of God are steadfast love and faithfulness.

In trust, we wait on you to speak, to reveal, to send.

The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

Lead us in your truth with mercy and righteousness.

The paths of the Most High are steadfast love and faithfulness.

Let us bathe ourselves in God's steadfast love and faithfulness in this, a time for worship and praise!

***Hymn** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

VU #220

Opening Prayer

Divine Builder, you set our standards and foundation. Make your presence known to us as we gather before you. Let, us, your assembled community reflect your body and your vision. Strengthen us with all truth and as we embrace your abundant love. Enliven our senses and stir our being as we worship you as the people you have gifted to build your kingdom alongside you.

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

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which 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 82

VU #799

***Hymn** “One More Step Along the World I Go” VU #639 vv. 1, 2, 3

All God’s Children

***Hymn** “One More Step Along the World I Go” VU #639 vv. 4, 5

Call to Confession

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Everlasting God, you build up and challenge us. We realize that we have erected idols that need to be demolished in our time. We sometimes embrace complacency and comfort over following your vision of a beloved community where liberation is not only realized but celebrated. We measure ourselves not against your precepts but by the standards of this world. We close our ears to voices we do not want to hear and our eyes to sights too painful to see. Tear down the fear of discomfort within us and rebuild us with the pillars of holy love, compassionate care, and Spirit-led action. In your mercy, make us new. Amen.

Assurance of Amazing Love

God remains near to us and delights in prospering the fruit of our bodies, our soul, and our acts. The way of God is not too hard for us, nor is it too far from us. The Kingdom of God is near!

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

The plumb line is a device used to ensure alignment in construction. Generosity aligns the use of resources in excess. We bring our gifts out of the abundance we have received to benefit our neighbour and bless the world. We give as we are able, we give as we are called. God loves a cheerful giver.

Offertory

***Presentation of Offering** “You Nourish Us”

VU #545

Offertory Prayer

Architect of our faith, use these humble offerings to construct your plan of peace, hope, and love for life abundant. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Word

Amos 7:7-17

This is what God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in hand. And the LORD said to me, 'Amos, what do you see?' And I said, 'A plumb-line.' Then the Lord said,

'See, I am setting a plumb-line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;
the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.'

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

"Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land."

And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.'

Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

'Now therefore hear the word of the LORD.

You say, "Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac."

Therefore, thus says the LORD:

"Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parcelled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land."

Luke 10:25–37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.'

So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of abundant growth,
as summer unfolds around us,
we give you thanks for warm sunny days,
for beauty in our gardens,
crops growing in our fields,
life swimming in oceans and lakes.
Where the abundance of nature is at risk,
we pray that your Spirit will work in and through us
to restore the air, water and soil for the good of all creation.

God of every life,
Hear our prayer.

God of peace and reconciliation,
we thank you for the peace and freedom we enjoy
and the many ways our lives are protected in this land.
We remember before you those places torn apart by violence and
hatred.....,
those people who face discrimination daily.....,
and anyone who feel unsafe this day or any day.....
silence

Inspire leaders in every country to lead with wisdom and mercy.
Guide them in your ways of peace and justice.

God of every life,
Hear our prayer.

God of creativity and community,
we thank you for the many ways the Church can serve you and all
creation.
Thank you for the unique voices that sing your praise and speak
your comfort,
all the hands that share in acts of service,
all the prayers offered quietly for your will to be done.
We pray for the Church and its many congregations
as we seek to be faithful.
Help us work together so that our unity bears witness
to the possibilities for unity among diverse peoples everywhere.

God of every life,
Hear our prayer.

God of every precious life,
our hearts ache for those who are suffering.
Hear our prayers as we name before you those in need of your
love and healing in the silence of our hearts...

Silence

God of every life,
Hear our prayer.

God hope and love,
draw us closer to you every day. Show us what you desire for us
and inspire our faithfulness response as we see in the example of
Jesus. Amen.

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

VU #575

***Benediction**

Be filled with all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Bear fruit in every good work as you grow in the knowledge of God. Be strong in God and give thanks to the One who has given you a share in the kingdom, the power, and the glory. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** "Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New" MV #115

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.