

Central Queens Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada  
March 27, 2022 – 10:30 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Lenten Litany

In Jesus we find light for the world, but sometimes we prefer to live in the shadows. Sometimes we prefer not to see what happens in our own emotional and spiritual life. Sometimes we prefer not to know what happens in the world around us. And in the shadows, we stumble on the rocks. When we choose not to see or know, we choose to turn away from God.

*The fourth rock is placed*

The rock that causes us to stumble.  
**May God's spirit walk with us.**

\*Introit                      Don't Be Afraid                      MV #90

\*Call to Worship

Happy are those who experience the grace of God,  
**who find forgiveness and mercy from the Holy One.**  
Happy are those who experience the steadfast love of God,  
**who find peace even in times of trial.**  
Happy are those who experience rest in God,  
**who find sabbath to renew their spirit.**

Hymn                      Seek Ye First the Kingdom                      VU #356

Prayer of Approach

**Holy God, after times of broken relationships, painful injustices, and feeling deserted, we enter this season yearning for restoration and your comforting love. In this time of wilderness and reflection, we evaluate the relationships between us and our neighbors. This morning, fill our weary souls with hope. Lead us on roads of renewal and focus our minds as we ponder our callings in your realm.**

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 32                      VU #759-760

\*Hymn                      God of the Sparrow                      VU #229 vs 1-4

All God's Children

\* Hymn                      God of the Sparrow                      VU #229 vs 5 & 6

Prayer of Confession

**Holy Breath, there are moments when our decisions do not take into consideration the well-being of our neighbors. There are times when our reactions turn inward instead of building healthy reconciliation. How is it that we are holding back our neighbor's rebirth? How are our implicit and explicit biases restricting God's grace and radical love? How do our actions and biases impede our own spiritual growth?**

Urge us to be life-giving agents of your love. May each of our steps be healing not only to us, but to our siblings on the journey. Amen.

### Assurance of Unending Love

#### Presentation of Our Gifts

### Offertory Invitation

### Offertory

\*Presentation of Offering Christ Has No Body Now but Yours MV #171  
(Chorus)

### \*Offertory Prayer

God of blessings. With gratitude, we celebrate the offerings we share with you and this community today. May they enliven our spirits, building excitement around us, and creating a culture of giving. Open us to new possibilities for using our gifts to build the dignity of all and to strengthen all whom we meet. Amen.

#### Listening for the Word

### Sacred Scripture

Joshua 5:9-12

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### Anthem

### Sermon

### Reflective Music Selection

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

#### Responding to the Word

\*Hymn O God, How We Have Wandered VU #112

### \*Benediction

### \*Choral Benediction

Peace Be With You

MV #215

### 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](mailto:minister@cquc.ca)

### Ministry of Music

Kirk Neville

### Website

<https://cquc.ca/index.htm>

### Phone

902-786-9222

### Email

[nevillejk@hotmail.com](mailto:nevillejk@hotmail.com)

### Church Office

### Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday  
9 am – 12 pm

### Phone

902-964-2221

### Email

[office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca)

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

**Sympathy** – Sympathies are extended to Kevin, Kelly, Korby and families on the loss of their mother, Ann Andrews.

#### 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](mailto:minister@cquc.ca) for an appointment.

**In-Church Services:** At the recent meeting of the Official Board, it has been decided that registration is no longer required. Masks are still required.

**60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration** – On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Grant & Nancy Rackham celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. You are invited after church services today to join with them as they celebrate this major milestone.

**Official Board Meetings** – The Official Board will be meeting on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, following the worship service. The agenda item will be COVID protocols. All are welcome to attend.

**Scent-Free** – “*No scents makes 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.

**Broadview** (formerly Observer) – To renew your subscription of Broadview or for a new subscription, please contact Velda at 902-940-7674. Subscription cost is \$25 for one year.

**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](mailto:veldabertram@gmail.com).

**FundScrip** – The next order date will be Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. You can reach Janet Howes by email ([jhowes1969@gmail.com](mailto:jhowes1969@gmail.com)) or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

**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 here at the church. Thank you.

**Rosewood Services** – Services at Rosewood will resume in April.

**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.

**Bookworms United** – Bookworms United will meet on Wednesday, **April 6<sup>th</sup>**. Please note this correction from what was indicated in the bulletin last week. Discussion will be on **Five Little Indians** by Michelle Good, a book about residential school survivors. For more information, please contact Liz Spangler at [spangler@upei.ca](mailto:spangler@upei.ca).

**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@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca).

#### LAMB OF GOD . . .

Thank you  
for your sacrificial love . . .  
for standing in for me at Calvary,  
taking my place,  
erasing my sin,  
redeeming my soul . . .  
for paying the ransom I could never provide,  
cancelling the debt I could never repay,  
and reclaiming my soul for eternity  
at the price of death on a cross . . .  
Thank you, with all my heart,  
for your saving love.

By: *B. J. Hoff*



**Mission & Service** - One of the things we can do to promote peace is share what we have to ensure that everyone has enough. That's why your generosity through Mission & Service supports economic development programs that offer things like micro-loans and business training and support to purchase equipment.

Leila Basheer is a 46-year-old mother of five who lives in a village in the northwestern part of the West Bank in Palestine. Leila's husband is in poor health, which makes it hard to get by. Since she was a child, Leila has been preserving carob paste, which helps with upset stomach. Four years ago, as her family struggled, she had the idea to sell her carob paste. But processing it by hand is labour-intensive so she turned to DSPR—the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees—for help.

“As I made some profit from local sales, I decided to expand. DSPR helped me out with buying grinding equipment that facilitated making carob paste enormously,” she says.

The outcome is amazing. Not only can Leila produce high-quality paste but her income has also grown. “The grinding equipment helped me increase my income by 40 percent. I look forward to buying a second grinding machine, this time to produce tomato paste,” says Leila.

Palestinians in the West Bank are subject to complex systems of control. These systems of control include physical barriers like the Separation Wall, checkpoints, and roadblocks, and bureaucratic ones like permits and closure of areas. These restrict Palestinians' right to freedom of movement. The Israeli occupation has confiscated thousands of dunums (1 dunum = 1,000 square metres) of land from Palestinian farmers to build illegal settlements, bypass roads, and build the Separation Wall. Moreover, the checkpoints, roadblocks, and crop destruction create extreme challenges for farmers attempting to reach their land and their markets.

Every step we take to support families like Leila's brings us a step closer to peace and justice. Thank you for your generosity through [Mission & Service](#).