

Central Queens Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada  
April 16, 2023 – 10:30 am

Second Sunday of Easter

Covenanting of Elders

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

Bible Presentation

\*Introit Bless the Lord (Taizé) x 4

Call to Worship

Thomas said, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

We are in a transitional space, confused between brokenness and new opportunities.

**Dear God, fill us with the power of Resurrection to embrace newness.**

We are hiding like the disciples behind closed doors with fear and doubts, waiting for your appearance.

Call to Worship (continued)

**Come into our midst now, penetrate into our closed hearts bringing your peace.**

Refresh us, O God, and empower us.

**As we worship today, blow into us your gentle spirit.**

\*Hymn Joyful, Joyful We Adore You VU #232

Prayer of Approach

**God of the risen Jesus, we praise you for the great love that you have shown to us in Jesus. Help us to embrace the new life that the resurrected Christ is giving us. A life beyond our doubts, faith over fear, courage in the face of confusion, belief in times of disbelief, and trust to follow in your way. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of the resurrected Jesus in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose.**

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 16 VU #738

\*Hymn Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks VU #179 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

Hymn Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks VU #179 vs 3 & 4

*Children may retire to Sunday School*

Call to Transformation and New Life

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Jesus presented his wounded and scarred body to his disciples. The body of the resurrected Jesus showcased the wounds caused by oppressive power structures, ugly human envy, and fear of dismantling the status quo.

## Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Continued)

**We praise you, O God, that the disciples were able to embrace the broken body of Jesus so that they could give their bodies to be broken to establish God's love in this world.**

Even today, we witness the wounds of several bodies that raised their voice against injustice, legs broken because they marched for justice, hands broken because they pushed against oppressive forces, and bodies tortured because they identified with victims of injustice.

**Give us courage, O God, not to fear over these broken bodies but to embrace these bodies to gain strength and righteous anger to continue to work for justice.**

Several bodies today tell us the stories of domestic violence, sexual violence and psychological wounds that never fully heal.

**Help us, O God, not to neglect these bodies but to embrace them and support them in their healing.**

Today, the wounded body of the earth and earth communities speaks to us and shares with us the stories of the brutality of colonization, industrial violence on the earth and suppression of the eco-wisdom of the indigenous and traditional communities.

**Help us today, O God, to embrace the broken body of the earth and the victims of climate change. Give us your wisdom to see that resurrection occurs in restoring peace with the earth and earth communities.**

## Assurance of God's Unending Love

### Presentation of Our Gifts

## Invitation to Generosity

## Offertory

**\*Presentation of Offering**      We Give You But Your Own      VU #542

## \*Offertory Prayer

**Giver of every good and perfect gift, in Christ we see the power of love, in the act of giving. Receive our gifts given in gratitude. Bless all that we give so that your work in the world may continue. Amen.**

### Listening for the Word

## Sacred Scripture

**Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
John 20:19-31**

## Anthem

## Sermon

## Reflective Music

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Why is it, Lord, ..... God of Resurrection,

**Response: Receive our prayers and help us to befriend our fear and doubts.**

We pray for those ..... God of Resurrection,

**Response: Receive our prayers and help us to befriend our fear and doubts.**

We pray for those .... God of Resurrection,

**Response: Receive our prayers and help us to befriend our fear and doubts.**

We pray for those ..... God of Resurrection,

**Response: Receive our prayers and help us to befriend our fear and doubts.**

We remember all those ..... God of Resurrection,

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Continued)

**Resurrect in us the hope of life as Jesus did for his disciples and the many who lived in this world have taught us, so that we may continue to proclaim your peace and new life.**

### Responding to God's Word

#### Covenanting With Newly Elected Elders

*Please Refer to Accompanying Booklet*

\***Hymn**            O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee            VU #560

#### \***Blessing**

\***Choral Benediction**            Go to the World            VU #420 vs 2

#### 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 have joined us. May God's word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others. All are welcome.

**Today's Bulletins** are placed in loving memory of Keith and Margaret (Lowther) Webb. Lovingly remembered by Harry & Louise Lowther.

### 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:** Masks are recommended but not required.

**FundScrip** – Janet will be placing an order today. The next order date is Sunday, April 30<sup>th</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.

**FundScrip**

**Congregational Meeting** – A congregational meeting will be held after the worship service today. Information will be presented on the work that needs to be done on the roof and siding of the church.

**E-Transfers** – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept E-Transfers. If you prefer to give your offerings through E-Transfer, please send via email to [veldabertram@gmail.com](mailto:veldabertram@gmail.com).

**Rosewood Service** will be held this Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm. The elders will be assisting Greg with the service.

**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.

**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.

**Bookworms United** – The next meeting of Bookworms United will be on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, in the church parlour. We are reading *Bound* by Theresa Redmond, a historical novel set in PEI in the late 1700s. Thanks to Mo, the author will be joining us!!

**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.

**Bulletin Deadline** – Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday** evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to [office@cguc.ca](mailto:office@cguc.ca).

**Scent-Free** – “No scents make good sense”

Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume, cologne, and fragrant personal care products as they can trigger serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies. Thank you for your cooperation so that everyone can attend our church.

**Pop Can Pull Tabs** – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collecting pop can pull tabs which 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 pull tab collections can be dropped off at the church. Thank you.

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

### Community News

**Winsloe United Church Winter Series Ceilidh** this afternoon, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. Host Eddy Quinn welcomes special guests Sandra and Ricky Jones plus a "Visit from Sarah", a comedy skit presented by Barb Perry. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

**The Winsloe Players Presents “She’s Back”** at the Carrefour Theatre this Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. All proceeds will support the QEH Foundation’s Big Day of Giving. Ticket prices are \$20/adult and \$10/ child (under 12). Tickets are available by calling Proude Shoes (902-894-3504), Winsloe Irving (902-569-0166), Clow’s Red & White (902-621-0500), QEH Foundation (902-894-2425), or any cast member.

**Calling all fudge makers!** The Winsloe Players are graciously accepting donations of homemade fudge to be sold at intermission as an additional way to raise funds during their event. If you can donate this sweet treat, please contact Barb Jenkins at 902-626-6313. Thank you!!

**Spring Park United Church Yard Sale** this Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9 am to 12 noon. Admission by donation.

**Women’s Institute Spring Craft Fair Fundraising** will be held at the Wheatley River Hall, 16 Rackham’s Ln, this Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9 am – 4 pm. Admission: \$2.

**Mission & Service** – *Making a Home for Refugees: ChrisAnn Alvarez’s Work*

Imagine being forced to leave your home.

Set adrift, hoping to find a place to land, somewhere safe so you can rebuild your life.

“There’s this huge misconception that refugees choose to be refugees”, says ChrisAnn Alvarez, Refugee Support at The United Church of Canada. “It’s not a choice. It’s something they’re forced into.”

It’s a reality that is faced by millions of refugees, and it’s a reality that is becoming more and more prominent. More people are displaced today than ever before: 100 million, says the UN Refugee Agency.

That’s the equivalent of three Canadas.

Over . . .

There are many causes: human conflict, climate change, human rights violations, and more.

We can help.

Your gifts provide food, water, sanitation, and social support to people forced to flee their homes. Mission & Service creates educational and confidence-building programs in refugee camps.

Mission & Service also helps refugees find new homes. “Congregations form sponsorship groups together to sponsor the refugee.” Alvarex explains. “What Mission & Service allows is for them to sponsor through their own congregation.”

She tells one story of a sponsor who renovated their basement after it flooded and immediately planned to sponsor a refugee in the new space.

“Who thinks like that?!” Alvarex exclaims with wonder and awe. “It’s just so beautiful!”.

The refugee stayed with his sponsors for years, and they became an adopted family to one another. “The sponsor told me, “We have no kids, so this was an unexpected blessing,”” Alvarex recalls, tearing up. “That’s one example of someone opening their home in their home, in their heart, and allowing themselves to be transformed.”

When we help protect one refugee from persecution, death, or years in a refugee camp, we save the world for that one person – just maybe for ourselves, too.