

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge**

**United Church of Canada**

**April 7, 2023 – 10:30 am**

**Good Friday Taizé Service**

**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.*

**About the community of Taizé**

Taizé is a monastic community in southeastern France. It was founded in 1940 with the mission of healing the divisions between Christians and within the human family. This community seeks to create an environment where reconciliation could become a concrete reality every day. It is an ecumenical community which includes 100 brothers from over twenty (20) different countries.

Thousands of Christian people from all over the world, young and old, gather at Taizé every week to pray, to search, to sing, to find refreshment and renewal.

The worship of Taizé is marked by depth and simplicity, consisting of much singing along with significant periods of silent meditation.

**“Prayer is a serene force at work within human beings, stirring them up, transforming them, never allowing them to close their eyes in the face of evil, or wars, of all that threatens the weak of this world. From it we draw energy to wage other struggles – to enable our loved ones to survive, to transform the human condition, to make the earth a place fit to live in.” - Brother Roger of Taizé**

**Prayer Around the Cross**

**Welcome**

**Songs**      Bless the Lord  
                  Come and Fill

**Prayer of Confession** Responsive Prayer by David Adam, Christian poet from Lindisfarne, Ireland

Jesus, Savior,  
Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief,  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

Jesus, Savior,  
Wounded for our transgressions,  
Bruised for our iniquities,  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

Jesus, Savior,  
We come as believers broken by factions,  
Weak in our mission,  
Wavering in our faith.  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

Jesus, Savior,  
We come as people of a world  
Torn by war,  
Ruined by greed,  
Spoiled by selfishness and pride.  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

Jesus, Savior,  
We come as members of a family, Insensitive to each other,  
Blind to tears and deaf to cries.  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

Jesus, Savior,  
We come sick at heart,  
We come ill in mind,  
We come diseased in body.  
**We come to you for you alone can make us whole.**

**Kyrie Eleison**

**Absolution**

**Scripture Reading**      Isaiah 52:13-53:12

*Silence*

## Meditation

**Song** Stay With Me

**Scripture Reading** John 18:1-40

*Silence*

## Reflection

**Scripture Reading** John 19:1-42

*Silence*

**Songs** Ubi Caritas (Live in Charity)  
O Lord, Hear My Prayer

## Prayers of the People

### Lord's Prayer

**Song** Wait for the Lord

### Prayers Around the Cross

**Songs** Jesus, Remember Me  
Within Our Darkest Night  
My Soul is at Rest

### Closing Prayer

**Song** In God Alone

## Benediction

The Cross judges us.

**Can the evil and the powerful ones gain such a hold that the good will be sacrificed?**

The Cross calls us to compassion.

**Can we stand idly by while God's cherished ones are suffering so intensely?**

The Cross questions our loyalty.

**The disciples are hiding when Jesus is dying. Where are we when the cost of friendship is high?**

The Cross signs God's lasting Love,  
**and we remain eternally in its shadow.**

**Song** Don't Be Afraid

MV #90

*The Christ Candle is Extinguished*

