

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

January 22, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Central Queens Mission Statement

Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people; celebrating the 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)

Bible Presentation

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

MV #2

Call to Worship

Our ever-present God dwells in the sanctuary and in homes, in public spaces and our interior lives.

Behold the greatness of the Holy One in the expansiveness of these sacred spaces.

We seek God's face on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

We live in the presence of the Holy One all the days of our lives.

We call out for God's grace, strength and guidance.

Seek the face of the Holy One. Recognize God's greatness.

***Hymn** "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

VU #822

Prayer of Approach

God, we acknowledge your presence among us and the ways you connect us as a community. Make us receptive to your voice and instruments of your love in the world. Thrill us with your majesty and inspire us with your humility. We rejoice in this gathering as we bless your Holy Name in the assembly, gathered across time and space as your people. We seek you. We're grateful to find 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,
forever and ever.
Amen.

Psalm 27:1, 4–9

VU # 754

***Hymn “This Is God's Wondrous World”**

VU #296 vv. 1, 2

All God’s Children

***Hymn “This Is God's Wondrous World”**

VU #296 v. 3

Call to Transformation and New Life

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Sovereign God, how often do we turn toward ourselves or others for validation and deliverance rather than seek your wisdom, will and way? How often have we sought our own measure of greatness apart from the realm of your kingdom? How long have you waited for us to seek you? Forgive us, O God, and call us back to your presence, plan and purpose.

glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Matthew 4:12–23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun (Zeh-byoo-luhn) and Naphtali (Naf-taa-lee) so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the
Gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.'

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven has come near.'

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon,
who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the
lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me,
and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their
nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other
brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat
with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called
them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and
followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and
proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every
disease and every sickness among the people.

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God in whom we live and move and have our being,
this week we join with Christians around the world
to pray for peace and unity, and for justice and mercy in your
fragile creation. We remember before you today people living

face to face with war and violence, especially those places where ancient hatreds burn.

God, speak to us a word of peace;
embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people living face to face with economic uncertainty, those struggling with rising costs of daily necessities, and those who have lost their jobs, their savings, their homes or businesses. And we pray for people in other regions of Canada who face different challenges than we do.

God, speak to us a word of reassurance;
embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people living face to face with discrimination and social prejudice, those who are bullied at school, at work or at home, and all those who have been made a shamed of who they are.

God, speak to us a word of dignity;
embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people living face to face with illness and suffering, those waiting for diagnosis or treatment, those struggling with disability or delay in medical attention, and those who know grief or fear.

God, speak to us a word of healing;

embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people of different creeds and faiths, those who seek understanding and co-operation among different religious traditions, and those who show love to their neighbours, whatever their creed or conviction.

God, speak to us a word of reconciliation;
embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today your whole creation and its many vulnerable facets and faces. Teach us how to care for the rips and tears in the fabric of the world you love so we may live together wisely and protect the future in our attitudes and actions.

God, speak to us a word of wisdom;
embrace us with your love.

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** “Dear God, Who Loves all Humankind” VU #608

***Blessing**

Go into the world to live out the gift of unity in Christ, eager to serve and open to learn from the Christ who calls us and sets us free. May the love of God, the peace of Christ and unity in the Holy Spirit be yours now and always. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** “Dance With the Spirit” MV #156

Postlude

***Please stand as you are able.**