

**Central Queens  
United Church of Canada**

**June 11, 2023**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Second After Pentecost**

**All are Welcome**

**Youth Worship**

**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**

**Welcome**

**Announcements & Birthdays**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

As we light this candle we are reminded of the flame in each of us; a fire of passion to be shared with the world. Through Christ, the physical reminder of God on Earth, we feel the power and love inside ourselves. With this invitation we are welcome; safe and ready to shine.

**Song** “Fire’s Burning” (Sung as a round)

Fire's burning, fire's burning  
Draw nearer, draw nearer  
In the gloaming, in the gloaming  
Come sing and be merry.

### **Call to Worship**

**Right Side** We greet the sunrise

**Left Side** We greet the day

**All** We Greet each other

**Leader** The very same way

**East Side** With grace

**West Side** With Appreciation

**All** With Respect

**Leader** And welcome. Does the Earth care for our creed? Do the trees withhold shade based on our gender? Does the sun refuse to shine for certain people and not others? No.

**All** Nature has no eyes for our differences, and nor does God. We too, will are called to welcome all – no matter what our difference. All are welcome!

## Opening Prayer

Your love, God, is to be shared with all of your people. Our challenge today and forward, is to find ways to live welcomingly. You see no difference if we are straight or gay, white or black, male or female, young or old. Why must we? Teach us, Living Spirit, to welcome strangers and others different from ourselves as easily as you have taught us to laugh and cry. We crave your peace and seek belonging. In your name we pray for forgiveness, healing and a radical path towards respecting and welcoming all. Amen.

Hymn "Let Us Build a House"

MV 1

### WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Sacred Reading Luke 10:25-37

A Video

Time of Reflection

Who is my neighbour?

Hymn "It Only Takes a Spark"

VU 289

A story "All Are Welcome" written by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman

### WE RESPOND IN JOY AND FAITH

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

\*Presentation of Offering

\* **Offertory**      “What Can I Do?”

MV 191

**\*Offertory Prayer**

What Can we give?

**What can I give, O God, we are so small. Our church is just little?**

I wonder what is the GREATEST gift we can give, even more than money!?

**We can give: Our love. Our Respect. Our Care. To all people no matter what.**

You are right, that is the BEST gift ever. It makes God smile when we give in such ways.

**Amen!**

**Celebrating our Learning Throughout the year. (Sunday School Presentations)**

**A Statement of Faith**

**We are not alone,  
we live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God’s presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn “Draw the Circle Wide”**

**MV 145**

### **Benediction**

As we go out this day, may God teach us to be welcoming in radical ways, reminding us of the joys of community, towering trees, lapping sea shores and feeling the Spirit in silence. May we learn to live our lives to new extremes, experiencing growth and understanding, and above all, loving and welcoming everyone as our neighbour --- Living Radical Welcome. Amen!

### **Choral Benediction**