

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
March 19, 2023 – 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

Bible Presentation

*Introit God in the Darkness MV #17 vs 1 & 3

*Call to Worship

Children of God, a new vision of leadership is called forth and God calls upon the least likely, the unheard of, and the humble of heart to assemble to receive anointing.

In peace, we anoint the forgotten, the youngest, smallest and unlikeliest of siblings whom God has raised up to serve.

Though the call may involve risk and danger, we are called to listen, obey and live a love unwavering.

In peace, we anoint the disinherited and dismissed.

God's call does not depend on our outward appearance or our earthly achievements.

In peace, we anoint neighbour and kin alike, knowing God looks upon the heart. Let us open our hearts to God this day.

*Hymn Though I May Speak VU #372

Prayer of Approach

Anointed One, your love comes peaceably into our lives if we will let it. We are so fixated on the gold standard, the familiar and the safe choice that we often lose sight of what you are raising up right in our very midst. Enliven us with your Spirit this day so that we might get a glimpse of your peace. Take what we might imagine as too small for your kingdom and use it to open the world to your overflowing abundance and provision for all that you have created. In the name of Jesus, the Christ we pray.

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 23 VU #749

*Hymn I Am the Light of the World VU #87 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

*Hymn I Am the Light of the World VU #87 vs 3 & 4

Children may retire to Sunday School

Call to Transformation and New Life

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of surprises, we know that we do not often perceive the world as you do. We look to the flashy fame, the grand gestures, optimal achievements, and unreachable standards. Yet, in spite of our misguided reach towards perfection, you give us glimpses of your grandeur and grace. Surprise us yet again this day, O God, that in our complacency, which allows us to drift towards the same old ways of faith, that we may be transformed anew. Provide us with a new cup of oil that we may be anointed by your love so that we may set out into your world to bless and anoint others. In the name of the One whose love and peace makes all things new we pray. Amen.

Sung Assurance of God's Unending Love

Don't Be Afraid

MV #90 x 2

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

It is not the outward appearance or size of the gifts we have to share that matters to God. It is the loving generosity of our hearts that is closest to the heart of God. We are invited to give this day out of the abundance of our lives, from our heart, knowing that no matter the size of the gift God knows our hearts.

We give this day from our hearts and may it be pleasing to God.

Offertory

*Presentation of Offering

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

VU #149 vs 4

*Offertory Prayer

Generous God, you remind us that you "anoint our heads with oil" and that our "cup overflows" with your abundance. We do not take for granted all that you provide. Take these gifts and use them for the healing and tender care of your hurting world. May your cup of love overflow and abide with the hurting and heartbroken, forgotten and despised, so that we may all be made whole. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scripture

1 Samuel 16:1-13

John 9:1-41

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Responding to the Word

*Hymn

You, God, are My Firmament

VU #279

*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

Ministry of Music

Kirk Neville

Website

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

Phone

902-786-9222

Email

nevillejk@hotmail.com

Church Office

Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Phone

902-964-2221

Email

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.

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday Service – April 6 at 10:30 am
Good Friday Taizé Service – April 7 at 10:30 am
Easter Sunrise Service – April 9 at 6:30 am (outside, weather permitting)
Easter Service with Communion – April 9 at 10:30 am

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 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 2nd. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

FündScrip

Confirmation Classes – Anyone who is 14 years or older who is interested in confirmation classes, please contact Greg at 902-964-2291 or by email at minister@cquc.ca.

Camp Abby Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, March 27th, at North Bedeque United Church beginning at 6 pm. A representative from each congregation is requested to attend.

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.

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.

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.

Weekly Bulletins can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a sign-up 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.

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.

Central Queens Emmaus Walkers is on pause. Stay tuned for when they will resume.

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

Central Queens Funeral Home Annual Meeting will be held this Saturday, March 25th, at the Funeral Home, 2538 Glasgow Road. Open house from 1 - 2 pm. Meeting to begin at 2 pm. Everyone welcome. Storm Date: Saturday, April 1st, 2 pm. (902-964-2886)

Over . . .

Winsloe United Church Winter Series Ceilidh today at 2 pm. Host Eddy Quinn welcomes special guests Billy Matthews, Lester MacPherson, and Steven Perry. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

Lenten Poem

Lent is a time to take time to let the power
of our faith story take hold of us,
a time to let the events get up
and walk around in us,
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
a time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and
listen to his Word,
a time to touch his robe
and feel the healing surge through us,
a time to ponder and a time to wonder

Lent is a time to allow
a fresh new taste of God!
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,
our thoughts to come unbidden.
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
knowing our past.
Give us courage, O God,
to hear your Word
and to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven
and give us the faith
to take up our lives and walk.

By: Ann Weems

