

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

October 29, 2023

10:30 a.m.

22nd After Pentecost

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

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

**Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the
unceded traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people.**

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship and wonder.

It is good to be here.

It is good to be together.

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** “Rise Up, Rise Up”

MV #130

Call to Worship

No matter who—or what—you are, you are welcome here.

Let’s be clear: Here, we welcome goblins and gargoyles, saints and sinners, angels and devils, zombies and werewolves, vampires and witches.

We welcome princesses and princes, aliens and astronauts, robots and bionic women, firefighters and police officers, nurses and doctors, cowboys, cowgirls, cowfolk of all varieties!

We welcome Superman, Wonder Woman, Black Panther, Batman, Spiderman, Black Widow, and Thor. Indeed, we welcome both superheroes and superstars.

In short, we welcome people, monsters, and all other manner of creatures! Here, we welcome you, and all of who and what you are.

Welcome. Let us worship God!

***Hymn** “Shout for God”

All God's Children Sing

Getting Personal Let us get-up and greet the many creatures here today with a "high-five" welcome.

Prayer of Approach

God of every age and time, inspire us today to see the beauty in each person. Help us to see the beauty, even behind the masks we wear. Wrap us anew with a felt sense of your persistent presence in each creature we meet. Granting us a new energy to offer you everything of our hearts, minds and souls. Yes, Love of Life, root us and ground us in your love. And let it be more than enough for today, as we gather in the name of Jesus.

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 90:1–6, 13–17

VU #805

***Hymn** “The Butterfly Song”

All God's Children Sing

All God's Children

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

Our mission is to engage in God's mission to
feed the hungry,
give drink to the thirsty
and wipe the tears from every eye.

This is accomplished through our gifts of time, talent and
treasure.

Give generously so that God's will might be
done on earth as it is in heaven.

Offertory

***Presentation of Offering**

*** Offertory "We Will Take What You Offer"**

MV #196

***Offertory Prayer**

**Living God,
we are your people, we carry your presence.
Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission in the world.
Multiply our efforts to meet every need.
This we pray in the name of the Christ,
whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
reign in our hearts and lives. Amen.**

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scripture

1 Thessalonians 2:1–8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22:34–46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

***Hymn** "Walk with Me"

VU #649

Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

See the **light is now changed**. It has taken on a different form.

But it is still here! It's absorbed in you. It clings to you.

Go cradle and share the **Light**. **Share** it to others as we go about your daily living. **Go and live in the light**, Carriers of the light.

***Benediction**

God, bless all the people whom we will meet this week. Let our visit with them be a pleasant treat. Whatever the costumes we wear, may bless and care. May the Christ in us, meet the Christ in others. Be a blessing, carry the light. The world is waiting. Go. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** “Deep In Our Hearts” MV #154

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.