

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

**July 21, 2024**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Ninth After Pentecost**

**Holy Communion**

**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.**

**The Community Gathers**

**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 indeed 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** "I Can Feel You Near Me God"

MV #48 v.1

### \*Call to Worship

Mothers and fathers,  
brothers and sisters,  
family and friends,  
**Jesus makes us one.**  
Young and old,  
liberal and conservative,  
gay and straight,  
**Jesus makes us one.**  
Soldier and pacifist,  
secular and religious,  
sinner and saint,  
**Jesus makes us one.**  
Let us worship God  
who calls us into unity.  
**Let us worship God.**

### **Prayer of Approach**

**Gracious and loving God, we bring to you our prayers this day. There is conflict all around us - in the church, in communities, in the world. Yet we know that in the midst of all this we find your spirit, turning sadness into compassion, mistrust into relationship and confusion into hope. Guide us as we celebrate our unity this day and give voice to all our joys and concerns. We pray in Christ’s name.**

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,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 89:20–37

VU #804

## **Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

**Holy God, we confess that our lives keep us consumed more with doing than with being. We trust in the chariots and horses of our times—our tools, our schemes, our positions. We acknowledge that you call us to rest in your truth, your love and your peace without abdicating our responsibility to embody your good news in the world. We struggle to balance the rhythms of rest and renewal in our lives and seek your guidance and direction toward a life where you are our peace, our hope, and our standard. Guide us on this path, we pray. Amen.**

## **Words of Grace**

Beloved, you do not journey alone. In community with the God and one another, we find grace and strength to heed the call to unity. In Christ, we carry the good news and reflect a God who is near to us, faithful to redeem, and affirms our rest and renewal.

## **Sung Response “Halle, Halle, Halle”**

VU #958

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

## **Hymn “Open My Eyes, That I May See”**

VU #371

## **Invitation to Generosity**

God’s goodness flourishes around us in this season of growth and re-creation. Our gifts to God are a token of our gratitude for all

God's goodness. These gifts help to share that goodness through the ministries we undertake in Jesus' name.

**Offertory**      "Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New      MV #115

**\*Presentation of Offering**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**God of goodness and growth, receive our gifts and gratitude for all you provide. Bless our gifts so that they may accomplish more than we can ask or imagine, for the sake of Christ, our Friend and Saviour. Amen.**

**Listening for God's Word**

**Prayer for Understanding**

Send us your Holy Spirit, O God, to prepare us to receive your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that hearing you, we may obey your will and follow your ways in the example of Jesus Christ, the Living Word. Amen.

**Sacred Word**

**Ephesians 2:11–22**

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But

now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

**Mark 6:30–34, 53–56**

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

## **Anthem**

## **Sermon**

### **Responding to God's Word**

## **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **An Invitation to Communion**

**Hymn** "All Who Hunger"

VU #460

### **The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love,  
you are beyond complete knowledge,  
above perfect description.  
Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit;  
Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,

you are creative and self-giving,  
generously moving  
in all the near and distant corners of the universe.  
Nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

Through fear-filled days and aching nights  
when the powers of death have done their worst,  
your love has never deserted us.  
Even when we turn away from you, you are with us;  
your presence never fails us,  
your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ,  
risen to life, eternal as your love.  
With the women at the tomb,  
we raise the strain of gladness.  
Hallelujah! Life is stronger than death!  
The day of resurrection has come, scattering fear and gloom.  
And so we rejoice with all your people of every time and place,  
and with angels and archangels,  
to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy** (Sanctus and Benedictus) MV #203

**O holy, holy holy God. O God of time and space.  
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.  
Hosanna in the highest heavens, creation sings your praise.  
And bless it is the one who comes and bears your name  
always!**

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ,  
who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful  
believers:



loving what he loved  
living what he taught, and  
striving to be his faithful servants  
in our time and place.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises,  
and the price he paid for who he was, what he said and what he  
did.

On the night before Jesus died,  
he took a loaf of bread,  
gave thanks, broke it, and said,  
“Take and eat, whenever you do this, remember me.”  
After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,  
“This is the new covenant, remember me.”

We do remember.  
We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching,  
his dying and his rising to life again.

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**Holy, Holy, Holy** (Sanctus and Benedictus) MV #204

**Holy, holy, holy,  
God of power and might;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Bless it is the one who comes, who comes in God's name.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit,  
we call on you to transform these familiar things,  
as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,  
the wheat and the grape,  
the farmer and the harvest,  
the seed and the Sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community,  
we may taste and see your goodness.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy,  
now and forever.

**Great Amen**

MV #205

**Amen, Amen, O Holy One!**  
**Amen, Amen, O Holy One,**  
**hosanna and Amen!**

**Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup**

The body of Christ,  
**the bread of life.**  
The lifeblood of Christ,  
**the cup of blessing.**  
The gifts of God for the people of God,  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Sharing the Meal**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.**  
**We are fed by your love;**  
**we are strengthened by your life.**

**We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now commissioned to:  
feed as we have been fed,  
forgive as we have been forgiven,  
love as we have been loved.  
Thanks be to God.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

VU #481

### **Changing of the Light**

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**

In your coming and going, may you encounter the living Christ on the journey.

In your coming and going, may you touch the source of power and healing, making caring loving community possible.

In your coming and going, may you find rest.

Come and go in peace. Amen

**Choral Benediction** Amen (966-973, Please choose one) :-)

### **Postlude**

\*Please rise as you are able.