

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

**October 13, 2024**

**10:30 a.m.**

**21st After Pentecost**

**Thanksgiving**

**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** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" VU #232 v. 1

### **Call to Worship**

God says, "I will fill your cup and then some."

**We come now to receive.**

Jesus says, "I bring abundant life to all."

**We come now to share.**

Spirit says, "I fill your hearts with love."

**We come now to love.**

Let us worship God.

**\*Hymn** "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind" VU #234

### **Prayer of Approach**

**Holy and gracious God,  
we gather as seekers, lovers, disciples, and friends.  
We gather to give you thanks for the blessings of our lives  
and to replenish and refuel our spirits for the road ahead.  
We gather to learn the wisdom of your way and feel the warmth  
of your love.  
Bless our gathering as we join our hearts and minds together in  
worship.**

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.**

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 126

VU #850

**\*Hymn** "Shout for God"

VU #246 vv. 1, 2

### **All God's Children**

**\*Hymn** "Shout for God"

VU #246 vv. 3,4

### **Presentation of Our Gifts**

## **Invitation to Generosity**

Now in response to God's love and generosity, let us take up our offering in support of the mission and ministry of our congregation and the Mission and Service of our wider church.

## **\*Presentation of Offering**

**\* Offertory** "What Can I Do?" MV #191

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

**Like the psalmist, gracious God, we love living with you and we are grateful for our many blessings. We love knowing that you are present with us as we journey through life. With thanksgiving in our hearts, we pray that our gifts of time, talent, and treasure will bless our neighbours, near and far. Amen.**

## **Listening for the Word**

## **Prayer for Understanding**

Generous God, we give you thanks for the inspiration and guidance of your Word. May we hear these words from the sacred text newly and may we ground ourselves in your wisdom and your way. Amen.

## **Sacred Scripture**

## Joel 2:21–27

Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the LORD has done great things!  
Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the LORD your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.  
The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the LORD your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never  
again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again  
be put to shame.

## **Matthew 6:25–33**

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Anthem**

**Sermon**

**Reflective Music**

### **Responding to the Word**

#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Gracious God,  
move us to thanksgiving,  
not because of all that we have received,  
but because of your love of us.

Move us to thanksgiving,  
not only for the bounty of the harvest,  
but for your ongoing presence in the world  
and your promise of abundant life for all.  
Move us to thanksgiving, not just today, but every day.  
Let our thanksgiving be expressed in our generosity.  
Let our thanksgiving be expressed in our service.  
Let our thanksgiving be expressed in our compassion  
as we take a moment now to offer the prayers of our hearts in  
silence...

*(silent prayer)*

May our cups overflow with gratitude and compassion as we  
gather our prayers using the words that Jesus taught us so long  
ago....

**\*Hymn** "Let All Things Now Living"

VU #242

### **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.

### **\*Commissioning**

In the spirit of Thanksgiving,  
go into the world, this week,  
determined to share God's lavish love with all whom you  
encounter. Go love God,  
go love yourselves, and

go love others,  
knowing that God goes the way with you.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Benediction**

May you be blessed with an unwavering trust in God.  
May you walk with integrity in the way of Jesus.  
And may the Spirit of God inspire and guide you all your days.  
Amen.

**\*Choral Benediction**      “You Shall Go Out with Joy”      VU #884

**Postlude**

\*Please stand as you are able.