Central Queens Pastoral Charge United Church of Canada

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

May 11, 2025 – 10:30 am Fourth Sunday of Easter Mothering Sunday



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.

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 the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation (Placed during the Introit)

*Introit

Come All You People

MV #2

*Call to Worship

O Transforming Spirit, you draw us into the sacred dance of community.

We behold Jesus—close, earthy, fully among us learning, listening, loving.

You whisper that the sacred does not stop at our doorways—

That the streets, the fields, the margins are holy ground for your people.

*Call to Worship (Continued)

Stir within us a fire for your dream of wholeness— Shape us into a people who seek the flourishing of all.

Call us not just to live, but to *wake up*— Call us to wonder, to welcome, to love—all that you have made.

***Hymn** For the Beauty of the Earth VU #226

Prayer Of Approach

O Creator of All, as we gather in this circle of breath and belonging, let us begin—not with words, but with the hush of holy stillness.

(Pause)

Open us—body and spirit—to the quiet thrum of your presence woven through each face and breath around us. On this Mothering Sunday, may we honour the sacred act of nurturing—in mothers, in communities, in all who midwife justice and mercy.

Awaken us to your reflection in every tender gesture, every longing heart. Break us open, not to despair, but to begin again—as builders of a world where love takes root.

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 139VU #861				
Poem	In the Arms of Love			
*Hymn	I Can Feel You Near Me God	MV #48		
All God's Children				
Hymn	I Can Feel You Near Me God	MV #48		

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

*Presentation of Offering

***Offertory** We Give Our Thanks MV #187 vs 1

*Offertory Prayer

Creator, we thank you for the gifts of your people, from those who have gone before us to those who walk beside us, and those yet to be. We offer what we have, so all may flourish and follow your way. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Sacred Scripture

Isaiah 66:10-13 Luke 1:46-55

Anthem	Memories Bright and Beautiful	Men's Choir			
Sermon	Bearing Hope, Birthing Change				
Special Music	Put Your Hand in the Hand	Men's Choir			
Responding to the Word					
Prayers Of Thanksgiving and Intercession O God, who knows the secrets of our hearts, who sees the shape of our souls, we stand in the light of your knowing. We are small, we are fragile, and still, we are loved.					
You have searched us, O God, and found us full of grace and wonder.					

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Continued)

In the beauty of this world, where the trees sway like ancient whispers, where rivers carry the memory of the earth, we see your love. In the laughter of children, in the quiet spaces between breaths, we hear your voice calling us to rest.

We listen, O God, to your voice in the wind, in the stillness, in the song of the earth.

We lift up the broken, the weary, the lost, and we ask you, gentle God, to fill their hearts with your love—soothing as the morning sun, steady as the mountain's roots. For those who suffer in silence, for those whose eyes are heavy with sorrow, we pray you will hold them, the way the earth holds the sky.

You are near to the broken hearted, O God, and you carry their burdens in your hands.

We pray for those who wander—the ones searching for a place to rest, the ones whose steps are uncertain. Guide them, O Creator, with the steady hand of a mother. Help us, too, to walk with them, in your light, in your peace.

Lead us, O God, in the ways of compassion, and help us be gentle as the breeze.

We thank you for the quiet gifts—the touch of a hand, the warmth of a smile, the grace of a simple prayer. We thank you for this life, for its deep and tender moments, for the wisdom that comes with time, for the beauty that lives in all things.

We are grateful, O God, for the gift of life, for the grace you show in each moment.

As we leave this place, may we carry your love like a flame—steady, warm, and bright. May we see you in the faces we meet, in the stories we hear, and may we bring your light into the dark places, the way the stars bring their light to the night.

We will carry your love, O God, into the world, with hearts full of grace and hope.

And now, we rest in the knowledge that you have searched us and found us, that you hold us, that you are always with us, leading us toward the quiet of your peace. **Amen.**

*Hymn	Spirit God, Be Our Breath	MV #150		
*Changing the Light				
*Benediction				
*Choral Benedic	tion Peace Be with You	MV #215		
Postlude * Please stand as you are able				
Ministers <u>Clergy</u> Office Hours	All of us Rev Greg Davis Tuesday, Wednesday & Th 9 am – 12 pm	nursday		
Office Phone Email	902-964-2291 <u>minister@cquc.ca</u>			
Church Office Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm			
Phone Email	902-964-2221 office@cguc.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. If you are looking for a church home, we would like to invite you to consider us your spiritual family. All are welcome in this place. **Today's Bulletins** are placed in memory of Reta Ling. Lovingly remembered by Melvin, Debbie and family.

Thank You to Christine Belanger for her beautiful gift of music this morning. *Congregation of Central Queens United Church*

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 <u>minister@cquc.ca</u> for an appointment.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, May 18th, are:

Acts 11:1-18 *Peter's vision of unclean animals.* Psalm 148 (VU #870-871) Let the whole creation praise God.

Revelation 21:1-6 *I saw a new heaven and a new earth.* John 13:31-35 *A new commandment: love one another.* These are made available to you should you wish to read them

during the upcoming week.

Central Queens UCW "Queens Unit" are meeting this Tuesday, May 13th, at 7 pm at the home of Joan D. Bernard. Worship: Margaret Smith; Program: Auction – Lois Lajeunesse; Lunch: Marilyn Batuszkin and Suzanne Silliphant. Roll Call to be answered by "Mother".

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held next Sunday, May 18th, following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to receive a report from the Parking Lot Committee.

Rosewood Service will be held this Thursday, May 15th, at 6:30 pm. The Choir will be assisting Greg in leading the service.

Bookworms United - Please join us at our next meeting this Friday, May 16th, at 10 am at the church. We will be reviewing *Lessons in Chemistry* and *Little Fires Everywhere*. All are welcome.

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.

FundScrip – Janet will be placing an order today. You can reach Janet Howes by email <u>jhowes1969@gmail.com</u> or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. The promotions for May are Winners/Homesense 8%, Boston Pizza 8%, American Eagle 8% and Shell 3%. The next order date is Sunday, May 25th.

Financial Assistance for Camp Abby – The UCW is providing some financial assistance for children going to Camp Abby this summer. If you are considering sending your child to Camp Abby, please give your name to Velda Bertram at 902-964-2210 or Kim Rodd at 902-626-5252 by Friday, June 20th.

E-transfers – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept etransfers. If you prefer to give your offerings through e-transfer, please send via email to <u>veldabertram@gmail.com</u>.

Praise Service next Sunday, May 18th, at 7 pm. This event is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. Special guests will include Central Queens Musical Friends, Sarah Weeks, Brad Trivers, Wade Campbell and Kirk Neville. New and older hymns to be a part of this spiritual program. Everyone is most welcome to attend. A free-will offering will be accepted.

Annual Take-out Hot Roast Beef Supper will be on Saturday, June 7th. A generous serving of hot roast beef with all the trimmings and including a tasty dessert. Three take-out times: 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$20/ adult, \$7/youth (ages 6-12 yrs) and free for children 5 yrs. and younger. For tickets, order in advance by contacting Debbie at 902-964-2882 or Lois at 902-621-0669. **Note:** Tickets will be collected at diners' vehicles and suppers delivered back to vehicles in the church parking lot. We truly appreciate your support and wish you Bon appetite! Bulletin Deadline–Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is Wednesday evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to <u>office@cquc.ca</u>.

Weekly Bulletins can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a signup sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00.

Food Bank – Please remember to support the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off in the wooden box at the church entrance any Sunday or during church office hours.

Office Church Directory – In an effort to keep contact information as up to date as possible, please give Trudy any changes to your contact information. If you would like to be added to our directory or need to update your info, please contact Trudy at <u>office@cquc.ca</u> or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221.

Puzzles/Book Exchange – Be sure to check out the wide variety of books and puzzles available in the main hall. Help yourself to a puzzle and/or book or bring some of your own to share!! If you happen to find any missing pieces of puzzles at home, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these 'lost pieces'.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collection pop can pull tab 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 pop can tab collections can be dropped off here at the church. Thank you.

Community News

Park Royal United Church Take-Out Lobster Supper is back -

supporting local fishers and businesses, this Wednesday, May 14. Tickets now available by calling the Church Office at 902-894-9656. Price is *\$28. They may also be purchased through Eventbrite with information on our Park Royal Facebook page.* Delivery is available. **Hope House Mother's Home Afternoon Tea Fundraiser** this Saturday, May 17th, from 1 – 3 pm at the Credit Union Place, 511 Notre Dame St, Summerside. Tickets are \$40. Invite a friend! Registration is required by emailing <u>hopehousepei@gmail.com</u>. Enjoy a sophisticated Afternoon Tea with tasty sandwiches & sweets. Come meet a few of our amazing moms and get a special peek into everyday life at Hope House Mother's Home!

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh on Sunday, May 25th, at 2 pm. Hosts Dino Dunsford and the Winsloe United House Band welcome special guests Tip-Er-Back with Darlene Bradley. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

MOTHERHOOD

The dearest gifts that heaven holds, the very finest, too, Were made into one pattern that was perfect, sweet, and true. The angels smiled, well pleased, and said, "Compared to all the others, This pattern is so wonderful, let's use it just for mothers!" And through the years, a mother has been all that's sweet and good, For there's a bit of God and love in all true motherhood. By: Helen Steiner Rice

