

Gathering for Worship

# CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

March 22, 2026 – 10:30 am

## Lent V



Artwork by Rachelle Belair

### 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.*

### 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

### Quiet Preparation for Worship

### Bible Presentation *(Brought forward during the Introit)*

### \*Introit

Don't Be Afraid

MV #90

### \*Call to Worship

In places that seem worn and weary, God is still at work.

**The breath of life moves where hope feels thin.**

When the world feels like a valley of dry bones --

**God gathers what is scattered and stirs what is still.**

When grief sits heavy and the future feels uncertain --

**The Spirit whispers life again.**

Come, let us open our hearts to the quiet work of God.

**Let us worship the One who brings life from the dust.**

**\*Hymn**                      There's a Wideness in God's Mercy                      VU #271

**Prayer of Approach**

**Holy and Life-Giving Presence, you meet us in every season of life. When the world feels bright and full, you walk beside us. When the path grows dim and hope feels fragile, you remain near. In the silent places of our lives, you breathe your Spirit again and again, gathering what has been scattered and renewing what has grown tired. In this Lenten hour quiet our restless thoughts. Open our hearts to your gentle presence. And remind us that even now your Spirit is moving through the valleys of our lives and through the valleys of this troubled world.**

*With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer... (on the screen)*

**Responsive Reading** – Psalm 130                      VU #853

**\*Hymn**                      Draw the Circle Wide                      MV #145 vs 1 & 2

**All God's Children**

**Hymn**                      Draw the Circle Wide                      MV#145 vs 3

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

**Merciful God, there are days when the world feels heavy and we lose heart. We confess that we sometimes turn away from the suffering around us. We grow tired. We grow discouraged. We begin to believe that nothing can change. Forgive us when fear closes our hearts. Forgive us when we forget the power of compassion. Forgive us when we fail to trust that your Spirit is still bringing life into the world. Breathe into us again, O God, that we may live with courage, kindness, and hope. Amen.**

*Silent Prayer*

**Words of God's Steadfast Love**

Hear the good news:

The Spirit of God has never stopped moving through the world. Where hearts have grown weary, God breathes renewal. Where love has grown faint, God kindles new light. In mercy and grace, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited again into the slow and sacred work of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Sung Response**                      Halle, Halle, Halle                      VU #958

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

**Invitation to Generosity**

**\*Presentation of Offering**

**\*Offertory** Christ Has No Body Now but Yours                      MV #171 (Chorus)

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**Giver of all life, receive these gifts we offer. May they become seeds of compassion, acts of justice, and signs of hope in a weary world. Use them, and us, in the quiet work of bringing life where it is needed most. Amen.**

**Listening for the Word**

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Sacred Scripture**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14** *The valley of dry bones.*

**John 11:1-1-45** *The raising of Lazarus.*

**Anthem**                      "Remember"                      *Choir*

**Prayer**

**Sermon**                      "The Slow Work of Resurrection"

## Reflective Music

### Responding to the Word

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

\***Hymn**                      In the Bulb There Is a Flower                      VU #703

### \*Changing the Light

### \*Blessing

### \*Choral Benediction (*Tune: KINGSFOLD*)

Go now in peace through desert days,  
God walks with you in hidden ways.  
From ash and dust to hope made new,  
The Lord of life goes forth with you.

### 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	<a href="mailto:minister@cquc.ca">minister@cquc.ca</a>
<u>Church Office</u>	
Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Phone	902-964-2221
Email	<a href="mailto:office@cquc.ca">office@cquc.ca</a>
<u>Website</u>	<a href="https://www.cquc.ca">https://www.cquc.ca</a>

**Thank You** to Kirk Neville for his beautiful gift of music this morning.  
*Central Queens United Church*

## Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm (Seder Meal & Communion)

Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am

### *Easter Services*

Sunrise Service – April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 am – Breakfast to follow  
Easter Worship with Communion – April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

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## 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](mailto:minister@cquc.ca) for an appointment.

**Scripture Readings** - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, are:

Matthew 21:1-11 *Jesus enters Jerusalem.*

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 (VU #837) *The stone the builders rejected.*

Isaiah 50:4-9a *The suffering servant struck and insulted.*

Psalms 31:9-16 (VU #758) *My times are in your hands.*

Philippians 2:5-11 *Let the same mind be in you as was in Jesus.*

Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54 *The passion of Jesus.*

These are made available to you for reading during the upcoming week.

**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](mailto:veldabertram@gmail.com).

**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** – The next order date is March 29<sup>th</sup>. You can reach Janet Howes by email [jhowes1969@gmail.com](mailto:jhowes1969@gmail.com) or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

**Bowling** – Come for a fun afternoon of bowling this Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 – 4:30 pm at the North Rustico Bowling Lanes (North Rustico Lions Club). There is no charge; however, donations will be accepted. Please register with Trudy at the Church office by email at [office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca) or by phone at 902-964-2221 or by calling Walter at 902-213-7015 by this **Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**.

**Birthday Celebration** for Rev. Greg next Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, after the worship service. The congregation is asked to bring sandwiches. Cake will be provided.

**Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast** – Come join us for a pancake breakfast after the Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast will be served at 7:30 am.

**Newfoundland Roast** for Rev. Greg Davis' retirement on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm here at Central Queens United Church. You are invited to a fun evening with lots of music, and shared memories. A free-will offering will be collected at the door for a charity of Rev. Greg's choice.

**Upcoming Church Events** – Mark your calendars for the following events:

April 19 – Potluck after church. Congregation is asked to bring a main dish. Cake will be provided.

June 13 – Spring Roast Beef Supper

July or August – Yard Sale - Date to be announced

September 17, 18 & 19 – Dinner Theater

November 7 – Fall Roast Beef Supper

November 8 – Frozen Pie orders go out

November 22 – Frozen Pie orders due date

December 10 – Frozen Pies pick up date.

**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, please contact Trudy at [office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca) or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221. Thank you.

**Puzzle/Book Lending Library** – Amid all the wonderful books that have been donated to the library, Rev. Greg has left several books that would be useful in planning a reflection / short worship for a small group gathering. He has also left some books by his favourite theologians. For more casual reading, we have Clive Cussler, Nicholas Sparks and James Patterson plus dozens of other authors. Come and check out what may suit your reading tastes. Also be sure to check out the wide variety of puzzles available. All are in the main hall.

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### **Community News**

**King of Kings** – This Saturday, March 28, at 7:30 pm at Bonshaw Hall (9 Green Rd, Bonshaw), Cine-Concert will present a screening of Cecil B. DeMille's *King of Kings*, the 1927 silent film about the life and death of Jesus. It is considered to be one of the biggest box-office successes on screen for the depiction of Christ's life. Musicians Dan Rowswell and Mat MacEachern will be providing the live musical accompaniment. Tickets start at \$16.77. To book tickets or for more information, please visit [Cine-Concert : The King of Kings - 1927 - \(with Live Musical Accompaniment\)](#). Roving Picture Shows, in partnership with Island Jazz, are touring the Island hosting screenings of silent films with live musical accompaniment.

**Winsloe United Church Ceilidh** on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. Host Jacinta MacDonald welcomes special guests Jolee Patkai and Jordan LeClair and Family. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

## More Community News

**Diocesan Environment Network (DEN)** is a network within the Anglican Dioceses of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island that welcomes anyone and everyone who cares about God's creation, Anglican or otherwise, from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island or beyond.

You are invited to join them on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm at St. Mary's Anglican Church Hall, Summerside, to hear more about DEN and discuss how your church can engage in eco spirituality, participate in the Pollinator Seed Project (to help plant small pockets of food for pollinators along the roads and in gardens throughout Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island), and answer God's call to be a greener church, reducing your carbon footprint, and engage in outreach, building meaningful connections with the community you service. Contact The Rev. Margaret Collins at [brigadebucket@hotmail.com](mailto:brigadebucket@hotmail.com) or by telephone at 902-621-2920 for more information.

More information about the DEN events on PEI and the Pollinator Seed Project are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

### THE THIRD CROSS

Two crosses stood upon a hill where soon a third was raised.  
Two criminals awaiting death looked toward the third, amazed  
To see who hung between them, suffering quietly as he died –  
The gentle son of Joseph – why would *he* be crucified?  
And still across the centuries, the question sounds today:  
Why would the gentle Son of God meet death in such a way?  
If die he must, why not a death of honor and acclaim –  
Why choose to be identified with sinners and their shame?  
And yet his death upon the cross enables us to see –  
He comes to us right where we are, not where we'd like to be.  
Amidst our darkness and disgrace, our suffering and our sin,

The Savior comes to each of us,  
Time and time again.

*By: B.J. Hoff*

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*