

Gathering for Worship

CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

March 8, 2026 – 10:30 am

Lent III



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 wilderness and in well-watered places, God calls us to gather.

We come seeking living water.

When the path feels uncertain and our hearts are dry,

God remains among us.

Come, let us worship the Holy One who stands with us in every season.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn** Great Is Thy Faithfulness VU #288

Prayer of Approach

O God of rock and river, we come to you in the wilderness of our days.

We come with hearts that are restless, with hands that are empty, with lives that long for refreshment.

Still the rushing of our thoughts, quiet the thirst that presses within us. Breathe your presence into our confusion, your hope into our uncertainty, your strength into our weakness.

Meet us here, O God.

Open our eyes to the water that flows even where the land is dry. Open our ears to the whispers of your Spirit even when the world is loud. Open our hearts to the promise of your nearness, even when our paths feel uncertain.

Sustain us, O God, as we worship you in this hour. Shape us, guide us, and call us into the life you give.

For you are our rock, our refuge, our companion, in every wilderness and every well.

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 95 VU #814

***Hymn** When I Needed a Neighbour VU #600 vs 1 - 3

All God's Children

Hymn When I Needed a Neighbour VU #600 vs 4 & 5

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of living water, we confess the dryness of our hearts.

We quarrel in our fear, we doubt when the path is uncertain, we grumble when the wells run low.

We confess that we have sometimes believed that thirst means abandonment, that hardship is punishment, that your presence is absent.

Forgive us for forgetting your nearness in our confusion and our fear. Forgive us for seeking certainty over trust, control over surrender, our own way over your faithful path.

Still us, O God. Remind us that even in the wilderness your steadfast love flows like water, and your mercy rises to meet us. Amen

Silent Prayer

Words of God's Steadfast Love

Hear the good news:

The God who stands upon the rock meets us in our thirst.

Our sins, our doubts, our fears - they do not separate us from love.

Even in the wilderness, grace flows where we are, and presence refuses to abandon us.

Believe this: we are forgiven, we are held, we are renewed.

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**

**Holy One, bless these gifts and the lives that offer them.
May they become streams of mercy, flowing into the
places of need and hope. Amen.**

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Sacred Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7 *Water from the rock.*

John 4:5-42 *Jesus and the Samaritan woman.*

Anthem *“Water Flowing from the Mountains”* *Choir*

Prayer

Sermon *“Obedient and Thirsty”*

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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We pray for our own hearts, O God: when we feel uncertain,
anxious, or alone, teach us to notice the water that flows, to
see the grace that sustains, and to act with love where there is
need.

**God of rock and river, hear our prayers, receive our thanks,
and make us channels of your living water. Amen.**

***Hymn** I Heard the Voice of Jesus VU #626

***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	minister@cquc.ca
Church Office	
Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Phone	902-964-2221
Email	office@cquc.ca
Website	https://www.cquc.ca

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday – April 2nd at 7 pm (Seder Meal &
Communion)
Good Friday – April 3rd at 10:30 am
Sunrise Service – April 5th at **6:30** am – Breakfast to follow at
7:15 am at the church (**Please** note change in times)
Easter Service with Communion – April 5th at 10:30 am

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 loving memory of Joan & Fred Stilwell. Lovingly remembered by Roger, Kim, Craig and Families.

Thank You –Thanks are extended to Christine Belanger for her beautiful gift of music this morning. *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 minister@cquc.ca for an appointment.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, March 15th, are:

I Samuel 16:1-13 *Samuel chooses one of Jesse's sons as king.*

Psalms 23 (VU #749) *God is my shepherd.*

Ephesians 5:8-14 *Live as children of the light.*

John 9:1-41 *Jesus heals the man born blind.*

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.

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 15th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

Official Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19th, at 7:15 pm at the church. All are welcome to attend.

Rosewood Service will be on Thursday, March 19th, at 6:30 pm. The UC Men will be assisting Greg with the service.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 11th, at 7 pm here at Central Queens United Church for a Newfoundland Roast for Rev. Greg Davis' retirement. You're 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.

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.

Worship Cancellations – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Sunday School Helpers are Needed to assist in our Sunday School ministry. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important ministry.

Bulletin Deadline–Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday evening**. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cquc.ca.

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 or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221. Thank you.

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.

Puzzle/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 a puzzle at home, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these “lost pieces”.

Community News

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh on Sunday, March 15th, at 2 pm. Hosts Jacinta MacDonald and the Winsloe House Band with guest drummer Todd Gallant welcome special guest Tip-Er-Back with Darlene Bradley. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

Commonwealth Day Celebration - The Royal Commonwealth Society of PEI invites the public to attend a free event in celebration of Commonwealth Day, this Monday, March 9th, at 7 pm at the Kirk of Saint James, Pownal St. entrance. The Lieutenant Governor will read the Commonwealth Day message from His Majesty, King Charles III. Cadets will present flags of the 56 Commonwealth Countries. Music is by the PEI Regiment Band and special guests, the Singing Strings. A free will offering would be appreciated. Light refreshments afterwards.

St Patrick’s Day Community Brunch has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Pancake Breakfast – On Saturday, March 21st, from 8:30 -10:30 am, Trinity United Church will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$20 per family. Please call 902-892-4114 to reserve your tickets. You may also purchase tickets at the door.

Over

More Community News

Chili/Soup & Song Event to celebrate the end of March Break and 1st day of Spring at Park Royal United Church on Saturday, March 21st, from 4:30 – 6 pm. Cost: \$10. Come into their gym, sit down and enjoy music by ‘Grace Notes’ and sing along while you have your supper. Call the Church Office at 902-894-9656 to book your spot.

LAMB OF GOD . . .

Thank you
for your sacrificial love . . .
for standing in for me at Calvary,
taking my place,
erasing my sin,
redeeming my soul . . .
for paying the ransom I could never provide,
cancelling the debt I could never repay,
and reclaiming my soul for eternity
at the price of death on a cross . . .
Thank you, with all my heart,
For your saving love.

By: B.J. Hoff

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that he has died as a ransom to set them free. Hebrews 9:15

