

Central Queens United Church
Guest Minister: Rev. Gary Clark
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December 10, 2017 – Advent 3

(Stand as able *)

Prelude:

Welcome & Announcements:

Birthday's & Special Occasions: (Tune to Happy Birthday)

We celebrate you, in all that you do

We love you, God bless you.

Let us celebrate you.

Gathering Music:

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

(the first two candles are lit.)

Reader 1: We have lit again the two candles in our Advent wreath, to remind us of God's gifts of hope and peace.

Reader 2: This morning we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of joy.

(light the pink candle.)

Joy is one of God's special gifts to us.

Joy is not happiness.

Joy is much deeper than this.

Joy is trust in God even in the midst of pain.

Joy is surrender to God even when life is good.

Joy is hope in God, even when despair lurks nearby.

Joy will lead us to the manger.

Reader 1 : Let us pray. God of joy, as we continue our Advent journey may the light of this candle remind us of the joy you seek to give us and of our call to share your joy with all people through acts of kindness and compassion and words of gentleness. Amen

Reader 2: Let us sing the third verse of Hope Is A Star - # 7 in Voices United.

***Call To Worship:**

One: The joy of the Lord is all around us

All: Often in the midst of unexpected places.

One: We may be surprised

All: As the true wonder of this season is revealed to us.

One: Today we celebrate God's special gift of Joy!

All: Yes, what amazing Joy surrounds us and lives within us!

Introit: # 374 vs. 1 "Come Find a Quiet Centre"

Prayer of Approach:

Creator of song and dance, we thank you for those who create music for composers, teachers, directors, organists, choirs, and all our voices to sing.

We praise you, O God, with stringed instruments and organs, flutes, harps, trumpets, hand bells, indeed all that makes beautiful music. We praise you for bird songs at dawn and waves that lap our shores.

Breathe through the soul instruments of our lives. Holy Spirit, breath of the Living God, gather up our songs and the longings of our hearts that we might sing your praises deep within always. Amen.

Hymn: # VU 29 "Hark the Glad Sound"

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 126 VU 850

Time With Youth: (at conclusion children recess for Sunday School)

Go, Go, Go, with God

Have peace within your heart

Praise and pray every day

Have peace within your heart.

Presentation of Our Gifts To God: "Old Christmas Card"

(Choir sings as gifts are received)

***Offertory Prayer: (in unison)**

God of joy, we thank you for all your rare and wondrous gifts. As we have received so abundantly, we give as we are able, not only gifts to our families and friends, but also gifts to help Your church and Your world. May our gifts bring joy to all who receive them. Amen.

***Hymn: # VU 18 "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"**

Prayers of Confession & Renewal:

Assurance of Pardon:

Special Music: CQMF "The Gift"

-LISTENING TO THE WORD-

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6: 1 – 4; 8 – 11

1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24

Gospel Reading: Luke 1: 46 - 55

Sermon: "Make Room For Joy"

Anthem: CQMF "Joy To The World"

Hymn: # 87 "I Am the Light of the World" vv. 1,2

The Invitation:

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer:

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift our hearts in prayer.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Creator God, Giver of all blessings. We give you thanks and praise for Jesus, the Light of the World, the Light that no darkness can over power. We thank you that you have called us from darkness to walk in the light. We thank you for the insight of the Magi, who by their gifts showed us that all life is a gift. Accept our praises now, O God, as we remember Jesus, who on the night that he was betrayed took bread and wine and gave you thanks and offered them to his friends saying. "This is my body: This is my blood. Eat and drink and remember me.

Come freshly to us now, we pray as we offer you our lives. Renew in us your spirit and help us to grow in the image of your love. Be among us as we proclaim the mystery of faith. For we have seen your glory, the glory of truth and grace. Fill this day with your Holy Spirit that we may know you in the breaking of the bread and drinking of the cup and see you alive among your children gathered here. Feed us and nourish us that we may grow in the light of Christ. Amen.

The Word's of Institution: (In Unison)

The body of Christ, birthed in a stable, broken on a cross. Eat this and receive new life and hope.

The blood of Christ, freely given, shed for all the world

Drink this and receive Christ's joy and peace.

Receiving The Bread and The Cup:

Prayer After Communion:

Generous God; This morning we celebrate Emmanuel – God with us. In this Holy meal we have received bread for the journey, hope for the year to come. Thank you, O God for these amazing gifts. May we go forth from this service with carols delighting our spirits, with eyes and hearts alert to opportunities to share your love, and with souls at peace, trusting in your grace. Amen.

***Hymn: # 87 "I Am the Light of the World" vv. 3 & 4**

-RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS-

Commissioning & Benediction:

Go from here in joy. Go from here expectantly.

Go out to be the hands of God-who-is-Joy.

Be in the world as friends to all.

And the blessings of joy and friendship be yours.

Choral Benediction: # 156 (MV) "Dance With the Spirit"

Postlude:



**Today's Bulletins Are Placed
In Loving Memory
Of
Elbert Orr
By
The Orr Family**

LIFE AND WORK OF OUR CHURCH –

• **Karla's Office Schedule: Monday – Thursday 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. & Friday 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.... Occasionally schedule may change due to appointment or commitments.**

• **Central Queens would like to thank Rev. Gary Clark for leading our worship service this morning.**

• **If you are visiting with us today we welcome you and encourage you to sign our guest book located in the foyer of the building.**

• **Please Note that there is a large wooden box in the foyer where you may place your items for the FOOD BANK. The box will be there year round. We ask that you remember the poor in your prayers and donate to the food bank as you are able.**

• **You can Sponsor Sunday Bulletin Covers for 2017: United Church Sunday bulletin covers are a great addition to our worship services, providing excellent photos, liturgy, and reflections by United Church people. Congregation members are invited to sponsor a week of bulletins to honour a special day/event or to offer a memorial for a deceased loved one and to help cover the costs of bulletins for our church. The sign-up sheet is on the table outside the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00 per Sunday.**

• **Central Queens United Church Cookbook - Anyone who would like to buy one or more of our cookbooks, please call Karla 964-2221 or 393-9071. These cookbooks would make a great wedding gift, bridal shower gift, birthday gift or even a gift to save for your children when they venture out into the world on their own.**

• **Schedule of Ministers for Sunday Services:
Dec. 24th – Rev. Clark – morning service 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 24th – Elders – 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Dec 31st – Kirk Neville**

- Anyone who would like to donate yarn to the Prayer Shawl Group of Central Queens United Church it would be greatly appreciated. The Prayer Shawl Group makes shawls to give to folks in retirement homes, hospital and new mothers etc...

- FUND SCRIP – Janet will be set up before church each Sunday selling gift cards with a variety of cards on hand. Anyone who would like to learn more about the program she will be happy to answer your questions. Tim Horton's has also been added to the program. Anyone who wish to pay by e-transfer – we are now set up to accept e-transfer.

- We are looking for Volunteers to sign up for our After Church Luncheon and Tea. Anyone who can help out please sign up on the sheet outside the sanctuary. Thank You.

- In event of Inclement Weather an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 a.m. and it will also be posted on our website.

- December 17th – Sunday – 7 p.m. -- Join us for an Evening of Musical Christmas Spirit with our 4th Annual "Old Fashioned Christmas Gospel Concert" featuring music by Gary Chipman, Carol Chipman-Francis, Rodney & Brenda Savidant, Blair Coughlin, Allen "Postie" Connolly and Bob Gagnon. Concert will be held at Central Queens United Church, Hunter River. Admission is \$12 at the door. Info: 314-1865

- December 20th – Wednesday – 8:30 p.m. -- Choir Practice to be held at Central Queens United Church.

- December 21st -- Thursday – 7:00 p.m. – Rosewood Service to be led by the United Church Men.

- December 24th - Sunday – 10:00 a.m. - Choir Practice.

- December 24th – Sunday – 10:30 a.m. – Christmas Eve Morning Service to be held at Central Queens United Church.

- December 24th – Sunday – 4 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service to be held at Central Queens United Church.

- January 13th – Saturday – 9:30 a.m. -- The next meeting of the Minister's Book Club. The book is Hagseed by Margaret Atwood, a modern retelling of Shakespeare's The Tempest. No previous knowledge of Shakespeare required, to enjoy this wonderful story. All are welcome. Contact Liz Spangler 964 2295 for more information.

- January 18th - Thursday - 7:45 p.m. -- Official Board meeting to be held at Central Queens United Church.

- January 21st - Sunday - after church -- Congregational Meeting. The Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) will present its report. Everyone is welcome.

- January 28th - Sunday -- Annual Meeting. There will be a pot-luck meal following the church service. The Annual Meeting will be held after the meal. Everyone is welcome.

-COMMUNITY EVENTS -

- Christmas Wreath Fundraiser -- We are offering Christmas wreaths for local charity fundraisers this year at Silver Bell Christmas Tree Farm in Springvale PEI. Our wreaths are made on a 12" base using fresh balsam fir from our farm. They are also decorated with pinecones, berries and a red or burgundy bow of your choice. Each wreath is \$14 and the suggested retail price is \$25. If you are interested or would like more information, please email us or give us a call, we would be happy to help you ((902) 964-3051 or Email: docj@pei.aibn.com).

- Every Thursday's Night – 6:30p.m. – 7:45 --Presbyterian Youth Group to be held at Central Queens Elementary School Gym. Grade 3 and up are all welcome. Come and join the fun.

- December 17th – Sunday – 7 p.m. -- Ceilidh is planned for Kelly's Cross Community Centre. For a list of guest entertainers see, "Don't Miss This", in Friday's issue of the Guardian.

