

Central Queens United Church
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December 25, 2016 – Christmas Day

(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.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*Call to Worship:

Leader: The season of hope, peace, joy, and love is upon us.
We celebrate Christ's birth. Let us also honour the rebirth of the Holy One
deep in our hearts.

People: It is a glorious time! Praise be to God!

*Introit: # 4 "All Who Are Thirsty"

Prayer of Approach:

God of our light and salvation, you raise us up and save us from
despair. You provide for us and give us dignity. When we feel alone
and forgotten, you remember us. When we are sick of falsehood and
lies, you restore us to truth. Be with us now in our worship, as we call
out to you, our God of light and salvation. Amen.

*Hymn: # 48 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 97 VU 817

Time With Youth:

(at conclusion children recess for Sunday School)

Presentation of Our Gifts To God: (Choir sings #71 "Twas in the Moon
of Wintertime")

*Offertory Prayer:

Generous God, we offer our gifts to you. We offer not only our
treasure, but also our time and talent. We offer all our gifts so that our
families, our neighbours, our church, our world will be changed for
good. Bless these gifts, O God, so that they may be used in a caring,
loving way. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

*Hymn: # 60 vv. 1, 3, 5 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Prayer of Confession & Renewal:

God, we confess that ours is still a world in which Herod seems to rule:
the powerful are revered, the visions of the wise are ignored, the poor
are afflicted, and the innocent are killed. You show us that salvation
comes in the vulnerability of a child, yet we hunger for the "security" of
weapons and walls. You teach us that freedom comes in loving service,
yet we trample on others in our efforts to be "free." Forgive us, God,
when we look to the palace instead of the stable, when we heed
politicians more than prophets. Renew us with the Spirit of Bethlehem,
that we may be better prepared for your coming. In the name of Jesus
Christ, our Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: In the story of Christmas, we are reminded that where meek souls
receive Christ - our dear Christ enters into their hearts and lives.

All: Let us open ourselves to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Let us allow Christ to be born in us this day and forevermore. Amen.

The New Creed: (Sung)

-LISTENING TO THE WORD-

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

-RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS-

Anthem: "Hold the Child Gently"

Pastoral Prayers & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn:** # 59 "Joy to the World"

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Benediction: "Go Now in Peace"

Go now in peace, never be afraid,

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there, watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Acknowledgements

Call to Worship: Written by: Laura J. Turnbull.

Prayer of Approach: Written by: Wanda Winfield

Prayer of Confession/Assurance of Pardon: Written by: Frances Flook

Gathering, ACE 2016-2017, pages 34-35. Used with permission.



Today's Bulletins Are Placed
In Loving Memory Of
Oscar Lajeunesse
Presented by
Lois Lajeunesse & Family

-THE LIFE AND WORK OF OUR CHURCH-

- The congregation of Central Queens United Church would like to thank Roland Easter 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.
- Karla's (Church Secretary) Work Schedule: Tuesday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30a.m.. Please note change of schedule.
- 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 new cookbooks, please call Karla at 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.

- 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..

- We invite you to take some quiet time to prepare for worship by reading these lessons. Next week Lectionary Readings are: January 1 – First Sunday after Christmas - Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148 (Voices United 870-871); Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

January 1 – New Year's Day - Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8 (Voices United 730-732); Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

- The church is running out of storage space and is wondering if anyone has available space at home where we could store items. If you can help us out please call church office at 902-964-2221.

- Bible Reading Guides for 2017 – These are provided free by The Canadian Bible Society. You are encouraged to read your Bible daily and 2017 is a good year to begin.

- 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 web-site.

- Youth Group (grades 7 to 12) meets the last Friday of each month from 7 to 9 at the church or an off-site location.

- January 14th – Saturday – 9:30 p.m. -- Minister's Book Club the church parlour. The title is: "Hillbilly Elegy" by JD Vance. Contact Liz Spangler (spangler@upei.ca or 964 2295) for more information. All are welcome!

- ~January 19th – Thursday – 7:45 p.m. -- Official Board Meeting to be held at Central Queens United Church.

- January 26th -- Thursday – 7:00 p.m. – Presbytery Meeting at Central Queens United Church.

- January 29th – Sunday – After Church -- Annual Meeting will be held at Central Queens United Church. The plan is to do what we usually do - have a potluck meal after the service, and then have the meeting.

-COMMUNITY EVENTS-

- Tuesday's & Thursday's -- Eternal Fitness is expanding to Hunter River! Classes will be held at Hunter River Community Centre. We are currently offering Group Fitness Classes on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:45pm-1:30pm. Tuesday class is Cardio Core

and Thursday is Tabata. Both classes will be catered to all fitness levels (beginner to advance). First class is free, \$10 drop-in, \$64 for one month, taxes included. For the remainder of the month of November we have a 50% off offer! Bring a friend and you will both receive 50% off your month membership. If you are looking for more information about our programs in Hunter River or South Rustico you can contact Denee Gallant via phone or e-mail: [902-218-1529](tel:902-218-1529), dgallant31@gmail.com

- December 27th – Tuesday – 7:30 p.m. – Because of the demand for tickets to the Ladies of the Centuries Christmas Show on Monday, December 12th, which was sold out, we are doing an extra Christmas show on Tuesday, December 27th, starting at 7:30 at Winsloe United Church. Admission is \$10 at the door, but for anyone who had tickets for the December 12th show and were unable to use them, we will honour them at this show.

- February 21st -- Tuesday – 6 p.m. -- Camp Abby's Annual Meeting will be held at Trinity United Church in Summerside. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you think you might attend, please notify a board member or you can send an email to the board chair, Garth Cousins at garthcousins@hotmail.com or call him at [902-436-0458](tel:902-436-0458).