

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada**

**April 18, 2021**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**Covenanting of New Elders**

**Welcoming New Members**

**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.**

**The Community Gathers**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Moment of Silence for the killings in Nova Scotia last year.**

**Birthdays & Special Occasions**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Once there was someone who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people began to follow him. But they didn't know who he was. So one day they simply had to ask him,



**making all things new with the springtime of your Spirit.**

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

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth,  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**Hymn**            "All Things Bright and Beautiful"            VU #291 vv. 1,2

### **All God's Children**

**Hymn**            "All Things Bright and Beautiful"            VU #291 vv. 4,5

## **Listening for God's Word**

### **Sacred Word**

#### **Acts 3:12–19**

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though

by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

**Psalm 4**

VU #727

**Luke 24:36b–48**

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

## **Anthem**

## **Sermon**

## **Reflective Music**

### **Responding to God's Word**

## **Covenanting with Elders**

## **Welcoming New Members**

## **Offertory Invitation**

Our lives overflow with blessing and goodness in Christ and in creation. Out of the bounty with which God has blessed us, let us present to God our offering with overflowing thankfulness. We give as we are able, we give as we are called.

**Offertory**      “Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands”      VU #537

## **\*Presentation of Offering**

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

**God our Maker, you have given us life in a world filled with so much abundance. In Christ you have given us new life and abundant hope. We offer our gifts to you, knowing they are part of your abundance. Bless them and bless us, that we may bring hope and new life in Christ's name to a world that so badly needs these gifts. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

God our Maker,  
source of Easter power and hope,  
you have walked with your faithful people through many generations,  
people facing challenge and uncertainty,  
people seeking your purpose and promise.  
We still face challenges and uncertainty, even with Easter in our hearts.  
Walk with us and with those for whom we pray for this day,  
so that your resurrecting power may lead us in lives of faithfulness.  
In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for children and young people  
who must think about the future in uncertain times  
facing threats new to this generation like the pandemic and climate change.  
Give them hope rooted in the knowledge that their lives matter to you.  
Show them how to make a difference in the world,  
whatever threats they face as they grow.  
In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for people for whom age or experience, illness or disability  
create barriers to full participation in your world.  
Surround each one in pain or despair with your comfort  
and renew in each one a sense of dignity and purpose.  
Show them how much they matter to you and to us.  
In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those facing grief and loss in these difficult days when it is still so hard to gather for support.  
Stay with those who must rearrange their lives without their beloved.  
Give them strength and comfort through your promise of resurrection.  
We pray for communities challenged by forces beyond their control— natural disaster, political strife and the economic consequence of the pandemic.  
Give courage to those facing challenges, and wisdom to those who lead, so that well-being may be restored soon and hope for the future prevail.  
In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,  
**Hear our prayer.**

As Earth Day approaches this week,  
we remember before you the struggles within your creation,  
creatures losing habitat, unique species dying out, oceans filled with plastic,  
the climate warming and the havoc that results for all of us.  
Jesus, you are the firstborn of all creation;  
Help us to honour you by caring for the earth and its fragile balances  
in the ways we live and the priorities we set.

**\*Hymn**

“Walk With Me”

VU# 649

**\*Blessing**

Go out this day knowing that you are witnesses to the risen Christ.  
**With her eyes open to wonder,  
their minds attuned to goodness,  
with our souls aware of what fears and doubts still remain  
but with our hearts open to joy and forgiveness,  
we go in peace  
to love and serve the world.**

**Choral Amen**

**Choral Benediction**

**Postlude**

\*Please rise as you are able.