

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

June 26, 2022

10:30 a.m.

3rd After Pentecost

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.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

There was a person who did such amazing things - said such wonderful things - that great crowds of people followed him everywhere. One day they ask him, "Who are you?" He said, "I am the light."

Quiet Preparation for Worship (Bible is brought forward during the quiet time)

***Introit**

"Come Touch Our Hearts"

MV #12 vv.1, 2

Call to Worship

Holy one,
in ancient days you called, and brave,
frightened,
ordinary folk answered.

They served you well.

In recent days,
new challenges emerged,
and you called out,
and brave,
frightened,
ordinary folk answered.

They served you well.

In our days,
we see challenges and problems on a new,
different scale:
complex webs of greed and inequality,
prejudice and unfairness,
waste and miserliness,
Ignorance.

**Could we be the brave,
frightened,
ordinary people
you have called to serve you?**

In this time of worship, may we hear the call of God
to our lives this day.

Let us worship God!

***Hymn** “All Creatures of Our God and King”

VU #217

Opening Prayer

**Moving, growing God,
we greet you this day.
For the places and the people in which we have glimpsed you,
we give you thanks.
Prepare us to see you again,
to see you anew.
Help us to meet you,
follow you,
serve you in all your many disguises.
Help us to discern your artful, loving, giving,
compelling presence.**

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

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which 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.**

Psalm 77:1–2, 11–20

VU #791

***Hymn “I Am a Child of God”**

MV #157 vv. 1, 2, 3

All God’s Children

***Hymn “I Am a Child of God”**

MV #157 vv. 4, 5

Call to Confession

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Holy One,

**forgive us that when we could have said something and did not;
when we could have done something and held back;
when we feared the future, and did not act in the present;
when we protected ourselves, and did not listen to your call.**

Help us, Holy One,

to look,

to listen,

to perceive your Spirit's movement in the world.

Part the waters of our reluctance.

Lead us forward. Amen.

Assurance of Amazing Love

God gives us a place to stand.

God gives us the grace to name our failings and to
begin again.

In God's grace, we are made free!

God be praised. Amen.

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

Jesus invites us to follow him in all ways, including the use and sharing of our resources. An accounting of our time, talent, and treasure that reflects our active citizenship in the kingdom brings glory to the Holy One. These seeds bear fruit.

Offertory

***Presentation of Offering** “You Nourish Us”

VU #545

Offertory Prayer

**Loving God,
you offer us gifts beyond price:
gifts of skills and time and love.
We gratefully receive these and in turn offer you back a portion.
Bless our offerings.
May they go through this place and out into the world,
to continue your work of peace, justice and mercy. Amen.**

Listening for the Word

Sacred Word

Galatians 5:1, 13–25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Luke 9:51–62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” And Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” And Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Gracious, loving God,
God of the prophets, both ancient and current,
God of our seeking,
we give you thanks for all those you have sent to us to teach
us your ways.

We praise you for the brave strong voices among us who
repeat your words of love, mercy, justice and peace
just when we need to hear them.

We honour you, that you never leave us alone.

May we be reminded of your presence when we feel
discouraged or abandoned.

Grant us a breathing space and gather us up again,
to hear your words afresh;
to renew our spirits;
to live your truth into the world.

Sometimes we feel left out, left behind by our teachers,
even by your Spirit.

Revive us.

Restore us.

Renew us.

We pray this day for all who need to hear you're renewing,
refueling word.

Especially we pray for.....

For your love;

for your leaving;

for your constant presence;

we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

Responding to the Word

***Hymn** “He Leadeth Me”

VU #657

***Benediction**

As it has been for others, now it is for you:
take up your work.

Go boldly into the world,
and know that the God of our past,
our present and our future
goes with you. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** “Peace Be with You”

MV #215

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.