

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

**October 1, 2023**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Seventh After Pentecost**

**World Wide Communion Sunday**

**Central Queens Mission Statement**

**Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people; celebrating the 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**

**Greeting & Welcome**

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

**Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people.**

Welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace and this holy sanctuary.

**We gather this morning to share in the Word, the Cup and the Bread and to receive God's deepest blessing that we might in turn be a blessing to others.**

So, be welcome.

**Be blessed.**

Be.

## **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)**

## **Bible Presentation**

**\*Introit** "Rise Up, Rise Up"

MV 130

## **Call to Worship**

The whole world is in God's hands.  
**Everything that lives and breathes.**  
**Everything that simply is. Everything.**  
From the farthest spaces, to the inmost places!  
**God is with us and we are with God. Alleluia!**

As people of Christ, gathered at table,  
with our sisters and brothers around the world,  
to remember whose we are, we praise —  
**Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**  
*(Canada)*

**\*Hymn** "For the Beauty of the Earth"

VU 226

### **Prayer of Approach**

**Holy and gracious God,  
we gather as seekers, lovers, disciples and friends.  
We gather to give you thanks for the blessings of our lives and to  
replenish and refuel for the road ahead.  
We gather to learn the wisdom of your way and feel the warmth  
of your love. Bless this gathering as we join together in  
wholehearted worship.**

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,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **Psalm 104**

VU 826-7 Parts 1 and 2

**\*Hymn** "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

VU 575

**Sharing the Peace:** "The peace of Christ be with you, and also with you."

## **Presentation of Our Gifts**

### **Invitation to Generosity**

Moved by God's love, and grateful for us, let us take up our offering with joy and a generosity of spirit. Amen.

### **Offertory**

#### **\*Presentation of Offering**

**\* Offertory**      "What Can I Do?"      MV 191

#### **\*Offertory Prayer**

**Gracious God, we pray that our offering this morning will multiply our blessings so that our neighbours next door and across the globe might be nourished in body, mind and spirit. We pray that your reign of love and justice be made tangible and visible and that no one be left out of the banquet. Amen.**

## **Listening for the Word**

### **Sacred Scripture**

#### **Philippians 2:1-5**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing

from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...

**Anthem**

**Sermon**

### **Responding to the Word**

### **Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymn** “One Bread, One Body”

VU 467

### **Invitation to Communion**

We rejoice in the God of life,  
who gives us bread:  
the fruit of the earth worked with human hands.  
and who makes it into the bread of life.

**We rejoice in the God of life**

**who gives us wine:**

**the fruit of the vine tended with daily care,  
and puts the flavour of the new world into it.**

As the wheat and grapes are joined on this table in bread and wine – into a visual symbol for us –

**May our church join together**

**into a visual symbol for the entire world. (Germany)**

## **Reconciliation**

**I commit, God, to searching for:  
the healing of my relationship with you.  
The healing of my relationship with myself.  
The healing of my relationship with others.  
The healing of my relationship with all your creation.  
SHALOM! (Chile)**

## **Assurance of Grace**

Forgiveness is forgetting bad things, remembering good things.  
Forgiveness is accepting God's love. *(China)*

## **Naming of Countries**

In this World Communion, we pray for these particular countries.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Ethiopia, Haiti,  
Lebanon, Syria ....

## **Words of Remembering**

Remember, the Lord, the friend of sinners, who were the  
oppressed, the estranged, the weak, the sick, widow, orphans.  
Remember, the Lord, the one disliking of the common structure  
and power.

Remember, the Lord, the one sharing of daily food in life.

Remember, the Lord, the one liberating from a dictator.

We remember thy suffering, O Lord, at thy Last Supper. *(Korea)*

## **Prayer of Consecration**

You emptied yourself completely  
keeping nothing for yourself.  
Now, naked, utterly stripped,  
you give yourself to us as bread that sustains us  
and as wine that consoles us.  
You are Light and Truth  
You are the Way and the Hope  
You are Love. Grow in us. *(Guatemala)*

### **Sharing of the Elements**

The ears of wheat are broken and scattered  
on the hillside to grow.  
Gathered, they are broken again  
and scattered throughout the city to make bread.  
the bread is scattered to each home  
and broken to make nourishment.

Broken and scattered, broken and scattered,  
and some becomes Christ's body broken for us  
as we are the people of God scattered through the city  
and, perhaps, broken to give nourishment to others.  
*(South Africa)*

**We receive this bread, broken, scattered and made whole.**

*(Pause)*

**We drink this cup, thirsty, longing, willing to be poured.**

*(Pause)*

Come, for all is ready.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give you thanks O Lord, for all food that has arrived at our table from your generosity. Bless the people who have made it possible, from the cultivation of the earth until it arrived to us. Give bread to those who are hungry, and to those who have bread give us hunger for you. Amen. *(Mexico)*

**\*Hymn** “Let us Talents and Tongues Employ”

VU 468

### **Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

See the **light is now changed**. It has taken on a different form.  
**But it is still here!** It's absorbed in you. It clings to you.  
Go cradle and share the **Light. Share** it to others as we go about your daily living. **Go and live in the light**, Carriers of the light.

### **\*Blessing**

May the God of Life,  
be your guide on the road every day,  
be your refuge in times of uncertainty  
and be your rest in times of fatigue.

May the God of Life,  
strengthen you when you feel weak,  
comfort you when you feel sad  
and hug you when you feel alone.



May the God of Life,  
who loves you and knows you,  
cover you with the tenderness of a Mother.  
Forever.  
Amen. (*Argentina*)

**\*Choral Benediction**      “Deep In Our Hearts”      MV 154

**Postlude**

\*Please stand as you are able.