

# CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

MARCH 31, 2024

Resurrection Sunday



Artwork by Rachelle Belair

## 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

Pre-Service Anthem

Prelude

Processional Hymn      Thine Is the Glory      VU #173

Welcome

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship (*Bible is Brought Forward*)

**\*Call to Worship**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Leader  | Early in the morning,  |
| Females | Fearful but faithful,  |
| Males   | Dubious and doubting,  |
| All     | We come to the garden...   |
| Females | We expected only silence, but we heard the voice of angels;              |
| Males   | We did not understand but we found our hope rekindled;                   |
| All:    | We came to attend to a corpse but instead we encountered life! Alleluia! |

\*Hymn      Christ Is Alive      VU #158

Prayer of Approach

Watching at the cross we see the powerful reality of a life directed by love...

## Prayer of Approach (continued)

**Risen Jesus - as we meet you in imagination, standing in the graveyard, may fear be thrown off, our lives energized, and our feet follow yours in the service of justice.**

Waiting by the tomb we glimpse the challenging potential of a life constrained by love...

**Risen Jesus – as we meet you in the world, incarnated in others, may selfishness be defied, our hearts expanded, and our hands joined with yours in the service of liberation.**

Walking in the garden we encounter the vibrant possibilities of a life reborn through love...

**Risen Jesus - as we meet you beyond time, present in bread and wine, may what is wounded be healed through love and what is mortal be transformed by life in the service of your Kin-dom. Amen.**

**Responsive Reading** – Psalm 118 *Parts 1, 2 & 3* VU #837

**\*Hymn** Shout for God AGCS #48 vs 1 & 2

**All God's Children**

**Hymn** Shout for God AGCS #48 vs 3 & 4

**Call to Transformation and New Life**

## Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Jesus, through your committed living and dying, you show us the possibilities of love and reveal the first fruits of your Kin-dom;

**We confess that all too often we have let self-preservation smother and defy the rule of justice.**

*Silence / Kyrie*

Jesus, by your patient waiting in the tomb, you show us the possibilities of love and reveal the first fruits of your Kin-dom;

**We confess that all too easily we have let self-interests out-argue love and restrict the reach of liberation.**

*Silence / Kyrie*

Jesus, in your paradoxical rising from the dead, you show the possibilities of love and reveal the first fruits of your Kin-dom;

**We confess that all too readily we have let self-doubt keep love chained and deny the possibility of transformation.**

*Silence / Kyrie*

Jesus - Incarnate Love, committed, patient and free -- your resurrection reminds us that the graveyard is also where life begins again:

**Meet us now in our places of death: teach and transform us that our lives too might witness to the possibilities of love, and bear the fruits of your Kin-dom. Amen.**

## Words of Grace

We believe that Jesus - God unbound - directed by love, accepted restraint, and lived a fully human life to begin the healing of the world.

**Alleluia! With wonder we affirm it!**

We believe that Jesus - God unbounded - sustained by love, accepted restraint, and died on the cross to draw the sting of death.

**Alleluia! With wonder we affirm it!**

We believe that Jesus - God unbounded - empowered by love, accepted restraint and was entombed to break the grip of evil.

**Alleluia! With wonder we affirm it!**

We believe that Jesus - God unbounded - directed, sustained, and empowered by love, threw off all restraint and rose from the dead to transform the world through life.

**Alleluia! With wonder we affirm it!**

**Sung Response**                    Halle, Halle, Halle                    VU #958 x 2

## Presentation of Our Gifts

## Invitation to Generosity

## Offertory

**\*Presentation of Offering**    We Give Our Thanks    MV #187

## \*Offertory Prayer

**O God, we remember that weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes early in the morning. We pray that these gifts of blessing might be a sign of the love, light and glory of our God who has created a world of abundance with all that we need. We are thankful for**

**your generosity, O God, as we dedicate these offerings to you and your beloved creation. Amen.**

## Listening for the Word

### Sacred Scripture

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**– John 20:1-18**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Anthem

*Come Proclaim the Victory*

### Sermon

## Responding to the Word

### Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

It is right to give our thanks and praise. We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power, you sustain the universe.

**Glory to you forever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your child, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we sing,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Bless it is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks and praise, loving God, because in sending Jesus, your son, to us, you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross, he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead, you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.  
**Glory to you forever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is a cup of my blood, the blood of the new covenant and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."  
**Glory to you forever and ever.**

Gracious God, with this bread and wine, we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.  
**Glory to you forever and ever.**

Creator God, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your Kin-dom.

We sing your praise, Almighty God, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Glory to you forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

Lord, we die with you on the cross.

**Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

**Now we share in your resurrection.**

Live in us, that we may live in you.

*Breaking of the bread and pouring of the wine*

The gifts of God, for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

All your works praise you, O Lord.

**And your faithful servants bless you.**

**Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your son, Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth lives to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**      Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ      VU #468

**\*Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

## \*Benediction

For those still following

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Peter, still denying

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Caiaphas, still controlling

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Mary, still searching

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Pilate, still washing their hands

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Thomas, still doubting

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Judas, still betraying

**Christ is risen!**

For those, like Mary, still anointing

**Christ is risen!**

Go in peace, to tell the world

**Christ is risen!**

And may the love that has newly defeated death be with you, not just for now, but forever.

Go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Choral Benediction      Go in Love

## Postlude

\* Please stand as you are able

*Prayers (whole or in part) in this Liturgy is from Transformed Life written by Pat Bennet (Iona community, UK). Used with permission.*

*Communion Service is taken from the Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church*

**Today's Bulletins** are placed in loving memory of Harry & Inez Smith. Lovingly remembered by Helen, Wilfred, Velda, Margaret, Lois, and their families.

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## Ministers

All of us

## Clergy

**Rev Greg Davis**

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Office Phone

902-964-2291

Email

[minister@cquc.ca](mailto:minister@cquc.ca)

## Ministry of Music

**Kirk Neville**

Website

<https://cquc.ca/index.htm>

Phone

902-786-9222

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[nevillejk@hotmail.com](mailto:nevillejk@hotmail.com)

## Church Office

Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Phone

902-964-2221

Email

[office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca)

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**A Warm Welcome to All** – We are delighted you have joined us. May God's word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others. If you are looking for a church home, we would like to invite you to consider us your spiritual family. All are welcome in this place.

## Life and Work of Our Church

**Greg's Office Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 am – 12 pm. If anyone is in the hospital or would like a visit from Greg, please call him at 902-964-2291. If you wish to meet with Greg outside the scheduled hours, please call 902-964-2291 or email [minister@cquc.ca](mailto:minister@cquc.ca) for an appointment.

**Scent-Free** – “No scents make good sense”

Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume, cologne, and fragrant personal care products as they can trigger serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies. Thank you for your cooperation so that everyone can attend our church.

**E-transfers** – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept e-transfers. If you prefer to give your offerings through e-transfer, please send via email to [veldabertram@gmail.com](mailto:veldabertram@gmail.com).

**Bulletin Deadline**—Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday** evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to [office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca).

**FundScrip** – Janet will be placing an order today. The next order date is April 14<sup>th</sup>. You can reach Janet Howes by email [jhowes1969@gmail.com](mailto:jhowes1969@gmail.com) or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. The March promotions are Home Hardware 4.5% and Swiss Chalet/Montana's 7%. April's promotion is Sobeys/Lawton's 5%.

**Sunday School** has resumed. If you would like to help with this important ministry, please contact Greg at 902-964-2291 or by email at [minister@cquc.ca](mailto:minister@cquc.ca). Help us to continue this ministry for our children.

**Weekly Bulletins** can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a signup sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00.

**Y@R** is a place of community and a place of faith where United Church youth, between grade 6 and 12, meet from across New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, Quebec. It takes place during the Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (FSLDW), May 31-June 2, 2024. To register, please follow this link: <https://ucceast.ca/82679-fsldw-youthregion>. If you have any questions, please email Catherine Stuart, Regional Minister for Children, Youth and Young Adults at [cstuart@united-church.ca](mailto:cstuart@united-church.ca), or Lisa Folkins, Director, at [lisa.folkins@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.folkins@gmail.com).

**Food Bank** – Please remember to support the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off in the wooden box at the church entrance any Sunday or during church office hours.

**Pop Can Pull Tabs** – The funds from your pull tabs go to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal where they are used to buy reading materials for children in hospital. Your pull tabs can be dropped off at the church.

**Puzzle/Book Exchange** – Be sure to check out the wide variety of books and puzzles available in the main hall. Help yourself to a puzzle and/or book or bring some of your own to share!!

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**Community News**

**Central Queens Funeral Co-Op Annual Meeting** – The Central Queens Funeral Co-op Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at the funeral home, 2538 Glasgow Road. Open House from 1- 2 pm. Meeting to begin at 2 pm. Everyone welcome. Storm date will be Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm.

**Winsloe United Church Ceilidh** on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. Host Jacinta MacDonald welcomes special guests Chad Matthews, Steven Perry, drummer Billy Matthews, and the Winsloe United House Band. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

**Mission and Service** recognizes the profound connection between the Resurrection story and the transformative potential of education.

This Easter, we pause to think of great sacrifices and miracles. Just as Jesus emerged from the tomb, defeating death, and showing us that we can be raised to new life, education opens the mind, dispels ignorance, and fosters a deeper understanding of Christ's teachings and compassion.

Mission and Service, in its commitment to education, seeks to empower each partner to be a beacon of knowledge and compassion in the world. With your support, they engage in mutual learning, seeking opportunities to grow their understanding of the world through the eyes of their partners.

Thank you for empowering Mission and Service partners in all forms of education.

### **Easter Love**

On Easter we celebrate love,  
love coming down from heaven,  
love blanketing the earth  
in a transforming embrace;  
unique and infinite love,  
giving more than we can imagine  
for us, to cleanse our sin,  
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,  
the walking, talking Word.  
He is teacher, role model, friend,  
this God in human form,  
dying, then rising from the dead,  
proving all who believe  
will also rise  
to have eternal life, with Him,  
Lord of all.  
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!  
*By Joanna Fuchs*