

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

November 3, 2024

10:30 a.m.

23rd 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 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

Welcome

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

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

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship and wonder.

It is good to be here.

It is good to be together.

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** “Come All You People”

MV #2

Call to Worship

Today we gather in unity and joy.

We come together to seek hope and connection.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the presence of the Divine among us.

We embrace this moment to reflect, to praise, and to be inspired.

As we worship, may we be filled with love and peace.

Together, we celebrate the beauty of life and the strength of community centered in God's embrace!

***Hymn** “Wherever You May Go”

MV #216

Prayer of Approach

Loving God, what joy it is to be known by you - to know you. To know that when we call, you answer. When we seek you, we find you. When we long for you, we discover that you are already with us. Anchor our lives in your presence. Encourage us beyond our fear. Remind us of your goodness and miraculous works. Reaffirm the power you have made available and at work

within us. Fortify us as your people who give and receive your love. In your name, we pray.

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.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 146

VU # 868

***Hymn** "My Love Colours Outside the Lines" MV #138 vv. 1, 2

All God's Children

Hymn "My Love Colours Outside the Lines" MV #138 v. 3

Presentation of Our Gifts

Sacred Scripture

Ruth 1:1–18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had had consideration for his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to your people.' But Naomi said, 'Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that

they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.’ Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, ‘See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.’ But Ruth said,

‘Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.

May the LORD do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!’

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Mark 12:28–34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’ Jesus answered, ‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’ Then the scribe said to him, ‘You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that “he is one, and besides him there is no other”; and “to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength”, and “to love one’s neighbour as oneself”,—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.’ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Eternal God,
on this Sunday

we give you thanks for people in our lives who have shown us
your loving kindness
through their witness.
Inspire us by their examples
and show us how we too can live out our faith
in the midst of challenging times.
God of guidance,
speak into our lives today.

Loving God,
you keep calling us to care for neighbours in need
and show hospitality to strangers in our midst.
Thank you for your persistent love
which continues to comfort and challenge us.
Open our hearts and our eyes
so that we can see how to offer that love to others
as we follow Jesus' example.
God of guidance,
speak into our lives today.

Living God,
you bring new life to the discouraged and those facing danger and
death.
Thank you for signs of hope which break into this troubled world
and defy the powers that stand against you.
With your Spirit, work for peace in areas of conflict
and reconciliation between enemies.
Show us how to stand up for compassion and mutual respect
in the face of so much anger and ridicule.
God of guidance,
speak into our lives today.

Creating God,
we praise you for the beauty of this world
and the rhythms of nature which sustain us.
Give us courage to act on behalf of your creation wherever it is
under stress.
Nurture our commitment to act as your stewards of the earth
and give voice to the suffering of voiceless creatures.
God of guidance,
speak into our lives today.

Wise God,
hear us in this time of silence
as lay before you the people and places on our hearts this day.
Silence

Today we pray for these congregations who are in search and discernment: Cavendish-Breadalbane PC, Murray River United, Mount Stewart, Morell and St. Peters PC, O'Leary- West Cape PC, St David's United, Georgetown; Vernon Bridge United Church; Wellington and Victoria West Pastoral Charge, Trinity-Clifton United Churches, Charlottetown. Amen.

***Hymn** "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection" VU #586

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.

***Benediction**

When love reigns, the world will change.
Be that love the world needs
For the Kingdom to become our beloved realm.
Go, in the assurance that the God of Love,
Who is Love, is with you.

***Choral Benediction** “You Shall Go Out with Joy” VU #884

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.