

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
April 20, 2025 – 10:30 am**

Resurrection 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 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

Hymn Thine Is the Glory VU #173

Welcome

Christ is Risen.
He has risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship (*Bible Brought Forward*)

***Call to Worship**

At the break of dawn, as the sky blushed with the first hint of light and shadows clung stubbornly to the earth, creation exhaled a quiet, persistent hallelujah.

And resurrection reeked of soil and sorrow. Christ, the Power of Love, is risen indeed. Hallelujah.

At the break of dawn, with tear-streaked faces and hearts heavy with loss, the women dared to hum a hallelujah shaped by grief and fierce devotion.

***Call to Worship** (Continued)

And the silence of the tomb echoed with questions and mourning. Christ, the Wounded One, is risen indeed. Hallelujah.

At the break of dawn, when hope had long since lost its voice
and the promise of morning felt like a forgotten dream, the earth stirred and sang a hallelujah fierce with longing.

And the rising tasted like broken bread and whispered joy.

Christ, the Way of Truth and Life, is risen indeed. Hallelujah.

At the break of dawn, as the world groans with new anguish and age-old injustice, we too gather—defiant and devoted—to sing a hallelujah of freedom and grace.

And this Easter rings with protest and praise. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah

***Hymn** Christ Is Alive VU #158

Prayer of Approach

Resurrecting God, you meet us not where we have it all together, but in the quiet ache of an empty tomb—where sorrow and wonder walk hand in hand.

On this Easter morning, in the strange mingling of hallelujah and heartache, remind us—again—that love is stronger than death, that life, real life, refuses to stay buried.

In a world full of shadows that speak with power, shine through with your persistent, improbable light. Startle us, Holy One—with joy we didn't see coming, with hope we'd forgotten how to hold.

Prayer of Approach (Continued)

This we dare to ask, in the name of the Risen Christ, whose path we follow, and whose name we speak with trembling hope. Amen.

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

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

***Hymn** Jesus Loves Me; Easter Tells Me So

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

How often we have grown tired, drawn under by the noise, the churn and spin of a world too quick to forget the slow, steady work of Love, the long patience of Justice.

God, have mercy.

How often we have turned away—not out of cruelty, but out of fear, or habit—when the truth came from voices we had not learned to trust. And so we missed it, the wisdom born of suffering.

Christ, have mercy.

How often we have called holy words idle tales when they came from the edge of things—from those who live closest to the wound and still dare to dream. We have not always recognized a future being born right before our eyes.

God, have mercy. Amen.

Words of Grace

***Sung Response** Halle, Halle, Hallelujah VU #958 x2

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory** We Give Our Thanks MV #187

***Offertory Prayer**

To the unfolding witness of new life, God, open us. To the sacred work of building a new world, God, ground us. To the unyielding power of love, God, strengthen us. For the rising call of faith, God, guide us. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scripture

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter, Verse 1 to 12.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24:1-12

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

Anthem

Sermon *When the Soul Gathers Itself Again*

Responding to the Word

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the feast of resurrection—a table prepared in the shadow of the empty tomb, where broken bread whispers of wholeness and poured cup sings of unending life.

Come, all who long for new beginnings, all who thirst for grace, all who hunger for hope. The Risen One is our host—and all are welcome.

We come to the table of life, to meet the Christ who lives again.

Passing of the Peace

Before we break bread together, let us share a sign of reconciliation and love. The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the God of resurrection.

Let us give thanks to the Living God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, it is good, it is joy—to give thanks to you, O God of glory and grace. When all was chaos, you sang life into being.

When we wandered, you led us. When we were bound, you freed us. When death closed in, you cracked the stone and rolled it away. You raised Jesus from the grave and with him, hope beyond despair, light beyond shadow, life beyond death.

**By water and Spirit, you birth us into your risen body.
By your breath, we live again.**

And so with the women at the tomb, with the disciples on the road, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we sing your praise in the unending hymn:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Institution Narrative

We remember the night before he gave himself up—not to despair, but to love's deep purpose—Jesus gathered with his friends. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and said:

"This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and said:

*"This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
poured out for you and for many.*

Whenever you drink it, remember me."

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Prayer of Consecration

Come, Holy Spirit—rise in this bread and awaken this cup. Make them for us the Body and Life of Christ, that we, too, may rise with him—renewed, forgiven, and made whole.

Bind us in love that does not die. Open our eyes to your presence among us. And send us from this holy place as bearers of resurrection hope to a world still longing for good news.

Alleluia! Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

This is the bread of new life, broken yet rising.

This is the cup of promise, emptied and overflowing.

In these gifts, the Risen Christ is among us.

Alleluia!

Sharing of the Elements

After Communion Prayer

We give thanks, O God, for the quiet mystery of risen bread
and the grace that spills like morning light. In this meal,
we taste the presence of Christ, alive, here among us,
feeding us with the joy of new life.

Now, send us out, to be your body in the world—bold in love, steadfast in hope, and shining with the light of resurrection. Through Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

*Hymn Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ VU#468

*Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

*Benediction

This blessing comes at early dawn, when the world is still held in the quiet arms of night, its breath lingering on our skin.

Hallelujah. Even now, new life stirs.

This blessing rises through grief, when sorrow still clings like a shadow, and hope has not yet found its voice.

Hallelujah. Even now, resurrection whispers.

This blessing calls from the empty places, where questions outnumber answers and fear turns to awe, turns to joy.

Hallelujah. Even now, we rise.

Christ is risen indeed. Go in peace, to rise in protest and praise, until all creation witnesses, knows, and rejoices in new life.

Amen.

*Choral Benediction Peace Be with You MV #215

Postlude

* Please stand as you are able

Ministers

Clergy

Office Hours

Office Phone

Email

Church Office

Office Hours

Phone

Email

All of us

Rev Greg Davis

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

902-964-2291

minister@cquc.ca

Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

902-964-2221

office@cquc.ca

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.

Today's Bulletins are placed in loving memory of Sheldon Moore. Lovingly remembered by Lois, Brian, Janet, Fred, Alyssa & Kaylee.

Communion – Today we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy communion. Please Note: the bread being served today is gluten-free.

Thank You – Thanks are extended to Linda Shelvey for decorating the church for Easter.

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 for an appointment.

Bookworms United: CHANGE OF DATE. Our April meeting has been moved to Friday, April 25th, at 10 am at the church. We will be discussing *The Diamond Eye* and *Recipe for a Perfect Wife*. All are welcome to join.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, April 27th, are:

Acts 5:27-32 Peter speaks before the Sanhedrin.

Psalms 150 (VU #874) Praise God with the sound of trumpet!

Revelation 1:4-8 John greets the seven churches of Asia.

John 20:19-31 Thomas doubts until he sees Jesus for himself.

These are made available to you should you wish to read them during the upcoming week.

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.

FundScrip – The next order date is Sunday, April 27th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. The promotions for April are Sobeys/Lawtons/Foodland - 5%.

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27th, following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to select a Community of Faith Profile committee. This is our first step in the process of hiring a new minister.

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.

Annual Take-out Hot Roast Beef Supper will be on Saturday, June 7th. A generous serving of hot roast beef with all the trimmings and including a tasty dessert. Three take-out times: 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$20/ adult, \$7/youth (ages 6-12 yrs) and free for children 5 yrs. and younger. For tickets, order in advance by contacting Debbie at 902-964-2882 or Lois at 902-621-0669. **Note:** Tickets will be collected at diners' vehicles and suppers delivered back to vehicles in the church parking lot. We truly appreciate your support and wish you Bon appetite!

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.

Office Church Directory – In an effort to keep contact information as up to date as possible, please give Trudy any changes to your contact information. If you would like to be added to our directory or need to update your info, please contact Trudy at office@cquc.ca or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221.

Bulletin Deadline—Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday evening**. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cquc.ca.

Puzzles - Please check under your pillows, cushions, and tables for any pieces that may have gone wandering. If you find any, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these 'lost pieces'. Many thanks.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collection pop can pull tab which are then given to the Daughters of the Nile women's organization. The funds go to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal where they are used to buy reading materials for children in the hospital. Your pop can tab collections can be dropped off here at the church. Thank you.

The Annual Meeting of the PEI Church Extension Board will be held at 10 am on Saturday, May 3rd, at the Central Queens United Church. The representative from each charge is requested to attend and others are welcome. The meeting typically takes a maximum of one hour.

Eastertide Gathering of The United Church of Canada PEI Cluster Group on Tuesday, April 29th, from 4 pm to 8 pm at Central Queens United Church. Registration Deadline: this Tuesday, April 22nd. To register, email Nancie at nsgreenacres@gmail.com and let her know your name, phone number, email, and what community of faith you represent.

Community News

The Winsloe Players present “A Cottage Affair” at the Carrefour Theatre on April 23rd, 24th, 25th & 26th, at 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$20/adult; \$10/child(12 and under) and are available at Proude’s Shoes (902–894–3504), Winsloe Irving (902–569–0166), Clow’s Red & White (902-621-0500), QEH Foundation (902-894-2425) or from any cast member. For more information: <https://qehfoundation.pe.ca/events/the-winsloe-players-present-a-cottage-affair/>. All proceeds support the QEH Foundation's Big Day of Giving.

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh on Sunday, April 27th, at 2 pm. Hosts Jacinta MacDonald and the Winsloe United House Band welcome special guests Blake Crockett and Colleen MacPhee. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

Karl Jenkins’ The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace – performed by Morgot Jejskind’s Island Choral Society, with soloist Hannah O’Donnell, and members of the Lumions Chamber Orchestra.

Writing in part to honour victims of the savage war in Kosovo (1989/99), Jenkins created a progression of moods which runs from martial bravado, through the ghastly horrors of war, to a resolution in joyous peace. It is set in the framework of a church mass—with a Kyrie, Sanctus, Agnus Dei and Benedictus—but its sections draw on texts and tunes from a fascinating range of other religious and historical sources. Starting with a threatening march to a 15th-century French folk song, “The Armed Man is to be feared”, there are parts from the Psalms and Revelations, the Muslim call to prayer, the poetry of Dryden, Swift, Kipling and Tennyson, a Horace ode, the ancient Mahabharata, impressions of a victim of the Hiroshima bomb, and even Sire Lancelot. This work is

powerful, and emotional roller-coaster, but it ends upliftingly in hope.

The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace is on Sunday, April 27th, at 2:30 pm at St. Paul’s church, downtown Charlottetown (Grafton @Church St). Admission: \$20 online at IslandChoralSociety.ca or cash at the door.

Karl Jenkins’ The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace (Continued) For more information email islandchoralsociety@gmail.com or call 902-628-6778.

Gospel Concert on Sunday, April 27th, at 7 pm at St John’s Anglican Church. Admission is \$10. Performers include: Kella Glydon and Judy Lowe, Frank Whitby, Blue Streak and Allsion Coles and Ed MacLaren.

Handel’s Messiah/Complex – In 2020, a cross-Canada filmed version of Handel’s Messiah, called *Messiah/Complex* was created. This work engaged artists and choirs from every province and territory, making it a distinctly Canadian version of this work.

Though it is often thought of as a work for Christmas, Handel actually originally envisioned it for Easter. For this reason, it’s been decided to re-release it for a limited time from now till April 28th.

If you would like to add this film to your Easter journey, the film is free to watch, and can be watched by following this link: <https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/againstthegraintheatre/messiah-complex>. You have the option to donate if you wish, but it is entirely optional.

