

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
December 7, 2025 – 10:30 am**

Second Sunday in Advent - Peace

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 Candle of Exodus/Peace

Reader 1

The story of God's people is one of movement – from bondage toward freedom, from fear toward trust. Peace is found not in stillness alone, but in the journey toward justice.

We long for peace that frees and restores.

Reader 2

This candle invites us to walk the exodus path – to seek peace that lifts every voice and loosens every chain.

Candle of Peace is Lit

We light the candle of Peace, trusting that God leads us toward liberation.

May peace shape our steps.

Lighting of the Candle of Exodus/Peace (Continued)

Prayer

Spirit of Life, guide our feet in the way of peace – a peace wide enough for every neighbour, every creature, every corner of creation. Amen.

Bible Presentation (*Placed during the Introit*)

***Introit**

Peace Is a Star

VU #7 vs 2

***Call to Worship**

In this season of watching and waiting, we gather to remember the God who leads people out from fear into freedom, from oppression into hope, from despair into peace.

We come as those travelling through our own wilderness, listening for the promise of new life.

A shoot shall rise from a forgotten stump, a whisper of peace growing where the world sees only endings.

We come to welcome that peace: quiet enough to steady our hearts, bold enough to transform our world.

Come, let us worship the God who calls us forward into a future made whole.

***Hymn**

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

VU #18

Prayer of Approach

Creator God, we gather in these Advent days seeking the peace that the world cannot manufacture - the peace that grows from justice, the peace that takes root in compassion, the peace that is bold enough to begin in the tiniest of shoots.

In a world weary with violence and division, plant in us a courage that rises. Turn our hearts toward your vision, where none are preyed upon, and all can rest without fear.

Prayer of Approach (Continued)

Walk with us in this wilderness time and lead us toward the freedom you desire for all people. Amen.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer...(on screen)

Responsive Reading – Psalm 72 Parts 1 & 3

VU #790

*Hymn Jesus Came, a Child like Me

VU #583 vs 1 & 2

Time for All Ages

Hymn Jesus Came, a Child like Me

VU #583 vs 3 & 4

Children may retire to Sunday School

Call to Confession

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Let us come before God with honesty and trust.

God of the wilderness path, we confess that we are often afraid to change. We cling to old habits, old wounds, old ways of thinking that do not give life.

We forget that you call us toward newness - toward justice, toward courage, toward peace.

Forgive us, we pray. Loosen what binds us and free us to walk in your way. Amen.

Assurance of God's Unending Love

*Hymn Halle, Halle, Halle

VU #958

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

*Presentation of Offering When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

VU #149 vs 4

Offertory Prayer

God of the tender shoot and the fierce new beginning, in this season of longing we bring our gifts - small signs of trust that your peace is stronger than fear.

Use what we offer to loosen what harms, to lift those who are pressed down, to plant seeds of justice in places long stripped bare.

Take our gifts, take our lives, and weave them into your dream of peace - stubborn, generous, and beautifully alive. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Sacred Word

Isaiah 11:1-10

The peaceable reign of God

Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist preaches

Anthem

"Come, See"

Choir

Responding to the Word

Prayer

Sermon

Peace That Sees Clearly

Reflective Music

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

O God, break open the world with your peace, and make us bold to live it.

For places where war crushes communities and where fear silences ordinary people, we pray for leaders who choose

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Continued)

justice over power, restoration over revenge. O God, break open the world with your peace,
and make us bold to live it.

For our own country and province, for neighbourhoods divided by distrust, for households strained by worry or weariness - may your peace take root in real and healing ways. O God, break open the world with your peace,
and make us bold to live it.

For the earth - for forests, waters, creatures, and fragile ecosystems that long for our care rather than our consumption - teach us to live gently. O God, break open the world with your peace,
and make us bold to live it.

For all who carry grief, illness, anxiety, or pain; for those feeling lost in a wilderness season; for any who travel a lonely road - surround them with comfort, strength, and hope. O God, break open the world with your peace,
and make us bold to live it.

For this congregation, that we may be a community shaped by compassion, courage, and generosity - embodying peace in ways both small and transformative. O God, break open the world with your peace,
and make us bold to live it.

Holy One, gather all our prayers—spoken and unspoken - into your great longing for a world made whole.
Amen.

***Hymn** Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness VU #28

***Blessing**

***Choral Benediction** O Come, O Come Emmanuel VU #1 vs 1

Postlude

Please stand as you are able

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
Church Office	
Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Phone	902-964-2221
Email	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.

Thank You to Kirk Neville for his beautiful gift of music this morning.
Congregation of Central Queens United Church

Today’s Bulletins are placed in loving memory of Harry Weeks.
Lovingly remembered by Sandra, Craig and Mary Weeks and families.

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.

Sunday School Helpers are Needed to assist in our Sunday School ministry. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important ministry.

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.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, December 14th, are:

Isaiah 35:1-10 *The desert blooms and rejoices.*

Responsive Reading – Luke 1:46b-55 (VU #898) *Mary's song of justice.*

James 5:7-10 *Wait patiently for the coming of the Lord.*

Matthew 11:2-11 *John's disciples visit Jesus.*

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

Congregational Meeting following the worship service today. The Community of Faith Profile Committee will be presenting the Community of Faith profile.

The Search Committee is looking for volunteers to help in the search for a new minister. If interested, please see Walter Carver.

Rosewood Service on Thursday, December 18th, at 6:15 pm. The Elders will be assisting Greg with the service.

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.

FundScrip – Janet will be placing an order today. This will be the **last** day for 2025 to order Fundscrip. Orders will resume in the new year on January 4th, 2026. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. The promotions for December are American Eagle - 8%, Boston Pizza - 10%, Ultramar and Shell - 3%, Subway -7% and Old Navy/Gap - 13% and Winners/Homesense - 8%.

A Heartwarming Christmas Concert will be hosted by Central Queens Musical Friends on Sunday, December 14th, 7 pm at Central Queens United Church. Featured performers joining this musical ensemble are Chris DeRoche, Wade Campbell, Braidan Campbell, Jodi Whitlock, Kirk Neville, Brad Trivers and Annika Trivers. Forget the commercial stress for a few hours and join us for an evening of seasonal music and song favourites in a welcoming Christmas atmosphere. Light refreshments at intermission as well as a fudge sale. Admission is a free will offering.

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

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.

Puzzles/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!! If you happen to find any missing pieces of puzzles at home, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these 'lost pieces'.

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.

Community Events

A Very Victorian Christmas – The New Glasgow Christmas Choir will present the musical drama “A Very Victorian Christmas” at New Glasgow Christian Church this evening, December 7th, at 7:30 pm. Admission is free but the choir hopes to raise enough money through donations to send a stable full of animals to a World Vision village.

Come Experience the Magic of the Holidays – Ling’s Second Annual Christmas House Tour next Sunday, December 14th, from 2 – 8 pm at 1549 New Glasgow Rd – Rte 224, Wheatley River. Admission minimum: \$10 donation/person. All proceeds go the Central Queens Elementary School Christmas Families program. Seasonal refreshments will be available. Spread the joy, support local families, and come celebrate the season together!!

West River United Church is delighted to host Tip Er Back next Sunday, December 14th, at 7 pm. Admission is \$15 and tickets can be purchased either from the church office or at the door. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

7th Annual West River United Online Cake & Goodies Auction from Thursday, December 4th – Thursday, December 12th on the West River United Church Facebook Page. Bidding will open on Thursday, December 4th at noon on the WRUC Facebook page and end at 5 pm on Thursday, December 12th. You can place your bids in the comments of the item you are interested in. Please make sure you have your comments set to “**All Comments**” so you can see all bids to avoid duplication of amounts. Choose one item or all the items. Share with your neighbours and friends. Check the page often so you are not outbid on your favourite Christmas Goodies. Winners will be notified by Facebook Messenger. Pick up your item on Saturday, December 14th, from 11 am – 12 pm at West River United. **Please note** - The items have not been baked yet and pictures are just to get your mouth watering and your fingers clicking. Happy bidding!!!

Free Concert - Park Royal Choir presents "Light of Peace", a beautiful event of Celtic-inspired Christmas music, next Sunday, December 14th, at 7 pm at Park Royal United Church. Led by Park Royal's Music Director, Andrea Ellis, the concert will feature the Park Royal Choir and guest musicians Allison Ling Giggey (fiddle), Sam Lantz (flute), Machaela Osowski (bodhrán), and Sharon Cameron (piano). The program includes "Light of Peace" by Karen Marroli — a stunning blend of Irish and Scottish melodies, carols, and messages of hope and peace — plus other festive selections and a joyful sing-along. Stay after the concert for apple cider and conversation! This FREE EVENT is supported by The United Church of Canada Foundation and the Centennial Granting Fund.

Mission and Service - *Gifts with Joy, Gifts with Hope, Gifts with Vision*

December always seems to arrive in a blink, doesn't it? Some are already checking off shopping lists, and others are thinking about starting. Wherever you fall, Gifts with Vision can make your Christmas giving simple and meaningful.

With Gifts with Vision, there's no wrapping, no shipping deadlines, and no frantic mall searches. Instead, you can choose a gift that truly matters. Every gift supports communities across Canada and around the world—addressing poverty and hunger, strengthening education, supporting healing and reconciliation, and more. There's something thoughtful for everyone on your list.

Each Gift with Vision connects directly to a Mission and Service project that relies on the generosity of people like you. Your gift becomes part of real change and real hope for people who need it.

As you settle into the season, whether you're a planner or a last-minute shopper, consider a gift that gives back. Gifts with Vision is just a click away.