



## 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

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Ministers</b>     | All of us  |
| <b>Clergy</b>        | <b>Rev Greg Davis</b>                                  |
| Office Hours         | Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday<br>9 am – 12 pm          |
| Office Phone         | 902-964-2291   |
| Email                | <a href="mailto:minister@cquc.ca">minister@cquc.ca</a> |
| <b>Church Office</b> |  |
| Office Hours         | Wednesday & Thursday<br>9 am – 12 pm                   |
| Phone                | 902-964-2221   |
| Email                | <a href="mailto:office@cquc.ca">office@cquc.ca</a>     |

**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.

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

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

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### 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.

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**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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 18<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026. 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 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> on the West River United Church Facebook Page. Bidding will open on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at noon on the WRUC Facebook page and end at 5 pm on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 Marrolli — 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.