

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

November 9, 2025

Remembrance Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Twenty Second Sunday 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 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

Welcome to this service of remembrance. We have gathered here with gratitude to recognize the sacrifices of our Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP, and members of the Regional Police forces who have offered themselves in service to our country. Through world wars and regional conflicts, at home and abroad, they have demonstrated courage, loyalty, integrity, and service to Canada before self. The freedoms we enjoy today would not be possible without them. And so, on this Sunday before the 11th day of the 11th month, we remember them.

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Once there was someone who said **such amazing** things and did **such wonderful** things that people began to follow him. But they didn't know who he was. So one day they simply had to ask him, "Who are you?" He replied, "I am the Light."

Quiet Preparation for Worship (Bible is brought forward during the quiet time)

Bible Presentation

***Introit** "Gather Us In" MV #7 (repeat)

*Call to Worship

We gather this day remembering those who have lived, served, and died in the cause of peace.

We remember the weight of conflict and the longing for a better world.

We remember, so that the lessons of war will not be forgotten.

The prophet Micah envisions a time when nations "shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

We come, seeking that vision — when peace will be our way and justice our companion.

Come, let us worship God,
the One who calls us to walk in peace,
to seek goodness, and to live humbly with all.

We will worship in gratitude, remembering with hope.

***Hymn** "For the Healing of the Nations" VU #678

Prayer of Approach

**God of all nations and generations,
you are our refuge and strength,
a very present help in times of trouble.**

**On this day, we remember those
who faced the darkness of war,
who offered their lives in service,
and who returned changed forever.**

**Grant us, O God, hearts that remember with gratitude,
spirits that yearn for peace,
and minds that seek wisdom in the stories of the past.
As we gather in your name,
fill us with your Spirit of truth and compassion,
that our worship may honour the living and the dead,
and glorify you, the God of peace.**

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,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Act of Remembrance

***Hymn**

"O Canada"

VU #524

Roll Call of Those Who Died in the Wars:

Boer War (1899-1902)

World War I (1914-1918)

World War II (1939-1945)

Korean War (1950 – 1953)

Placing of the Wreath: Placed by Kim Rodd

The Response: They shall not grow old,
as we that are left grow old.
**At the going down of the sun
and in the morning, we will remember them.**

The Last Post

Two minutes of Silence

Reveille

***God Save the King**

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
we confess that too often we forget.
We forget the cost of freedom,
and we forget the suffering caused by violence and hate.
We confess that peace is easier to talk about
than to live.**

**Forgive us when we turn away from the cries of the wounded,
the hungry, and the displaced.
Forgive our indifference to the divisions among us.
Renew in us the courage to be peacemakers,
and guide us to walk in your ways.
Through Christ, who blesses the humble, the merciful, and the
pure in heart.
Amen.**

Silent Prayer and Reflection

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news:
God's love is steadfast,
and God's mercy has no end.
Those who seek peace and walk in God's ways
will find forgiveness and hope.

Friends, in Christ we are forgiven.
Let us live as people of peace,
and share peace with one another.

Thanks be to God.

Presentation of Our Gifts

Offertory Invitation

As we remember the service and sacrifice of others,
let us offer our gifts — signs of our gratitude and commitment
to the work of healing, justice, and peace in our world.
May these offerings become instruments of God's love
and agents of hope among all people.

Offertory "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" VU #541

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory Prayer**

God of abundance and grace,
we bring these gifts in thanksgiving —
for lives lived in service,
for freedom hard-won,
and for the promise of peace that endures in you.
Bless these offerings,
that they may build up your reign of peace and compassion
in this world you so love.
Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Word

Prayer for Understanding

God of wisdom and vision,
as we open your word,
quiet the noise of the world around us.
Let your Spirit move among us,
that we may hear the ancient promise anew —
the promise of peace for all people,
and the call to walk in your ways.
Through the Prince of Peace, we pray.
Amen.

Micah 4:1-5

4 In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,
² and many nations shall come and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
³ He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore;

⁴ but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid;
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

⁵ For all the peoples walk,
each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God
forever and ever.

Psalm 34

VU # 761-762

Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and
after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children
of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Anthem

Sermon *The Stories We Choose to Tell*

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Eternal God,
on this day of remembrance,
we hold before you those who gave their lives
so that others might live in freedom.
We remember those who still bear wounds of body, mind,
or spirit
from the violence of war.

We pray for peace in every troubled land —
in homes divided by anger,

in nations torn by conflict,
in hearts weighed down by fear.

God of justice,
teach us to be your people of reconciliation.
May we love our neighbours as ourselves,
and seek the good of all creation.

God of mercy,
comfort those who grieve this day,
especially families whose loss still feels fresh.
Surround veterans and service members
with understanding and care.

God of hope,
give to all nations the courage to lay down weapons
and to build together a future of cooperation and trust.
As we remember,
make us mindful that peace begins within each heart.

We pray in the name of Jesus,
who blesses the peacemakers and calls them children of God.
Amen.

***Hymn** “God, Make Us Servants of Your Peace” VU #676

*** Benediction**

Go now, in peace.
Walk in the ways of justice,
speak words of kindness,
and live with hearts of gratitude.

May the God who calls us to remember
also lead us to rebuild —
until the day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
and we shall learn war no more.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Choral Benediction**

“Go Now in Peace”

VU #964

Postlude