

**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 indeed good to be together.

**Announcements**

**Birthdays & Special Occasions**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Quiet Preparation for Worship**

**Bible Presentation** (*Placed during the singing of the Introit*)

**\*Introit**

Come, O Holy Spirit

MV #23 vs 1

**\*Call to Worship**

Come, you who are searching for words when old names no longer fit.

**We come, hoping to be named anew.**

Come, you who stand at the edge of questions, wondering what might follow if you dare to step forward.

**We come with courage not yet certain, but willing.**

Jesus turns and asks, “*What are you looking for?*”



**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.*

**\*Call to Worship (Continued)**

We are looking for life.

We are looking for meaning.

We are looking for ourselves.

“Come and see,” he says.

**We come, trusting that in the seeing, we may begin to be.**

**\*Hymn**      Will You Come and See the Light

VU #96

**Prayer of Approach**

**Holy Mystery, you meet us not as an answer, but as a presence.**

**You do not overwhelm us with certainty, but stand quietly among us, asking the gentle question that unsettles and awakens: *What are you looking for?***

**In a world that urges us to hide, to conform, to shrink our becoming, you invite us into the courage to be—to stand in the truth of who we are, unfinished and beloved.**

**Draw near to us in this time of worship. Not to fix us, but to accompany us. Not to erase our doubts, but to bless our questions.**

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

**Responsive Reading – Psalm 40:1-11**

VU #764

**\*Hymn**      Will You Come and Follow Me

VU #567 vs 1, 2 & 3

**All God’s Children**

**Hymn**      Will You Come and Follow Me

VU #567 vs 4 & 5

*Children may retire to Sunday School*

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

**Invitation to Generosity**

**\*Presentation of Offering** In the Bleak Midwinter      VU #55 vs 4

**\*Offertory**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**Giver of every good gift, receive what we offer—not as payment, but as participation.**

**Bless these gifts, that they may help create spaces where people are seen, named, and invited to become more fully themselves, more fully alive.**

**May what we give strengthen the courage to be in this community and beyond. Amen.**

**Listening for the Word**

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Sacred Scripture**

*Isaiah 49:1-7 The mission of God’s servant.*

*John 1:29-42 Simon and Andrew become disciples.*

**Anthem** “God on the Mountain”    *Central Queens Musical Friends*

**Prayer**

**Sermon**      *Staying with the Question*

**Reflective Music**

## Responding to the Word

### Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

God of presence, you walk alongside those who are learning how-to-be.

We pray for all who feel unseen or unnamed—for those struggling with identity, with illness, with loss, with fear of no longer belonging.

**Give them courage to be.**

We pray for those standing at thresholds—new beginnings, painful endings, uncertain futures.

**Give them courage to take the next step.**

We pray for leaders and communities, for churches and institutions, that they may be places of invitation rather than exclusion, listening rather than controlling.

**Give us courage to become what love requires.**

We pray for ourselves, when anxiety threatens to define us, when doubt feels louder than hope. Remind us that even our questions can be holy ground.

We place all these prayers into your patient, listening heart.

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn**                    I, the Lord of Sea and Sky                    VU # 509

### Changing the Light

### \*Blessing

**\*Choral Benediction** Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MV #220

### Postlude

\* Please stand as you are able

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

**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 Ellen Davis for Her beautiful gift of music this morning.  
*Congregation of Central Queens United Church*

### 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.

### 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.

**Annual Reports** – Copies of the Annual Report are available at the back of the sanctuary.

**Scripture Readings** - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, are:

Isaiah 9:1-4 *The people have seen a great light.*

Responsive Reading – Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (VU #752) *God is my light and my salvation.*

I Corinthians 1:10-18 *Overcome divisions and find unity.*

Matthew 4:12-23 *Jesus begins his ministry.*

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

**Annual Meeting** – The Annual Meeting will be next Sunday, January 25, 2026. We will be having sandwiches and sweets following the worship service; then we will have the Annual Meeting.

**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.

**Sunday Worship Cancellations** – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page.

**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 [yeldabertram@gmail.com](mailto:yeldabertram@gmail.com).

**FundScrip** – Janet will be placing an order today. 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 next order date is January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**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).

**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.

Over . . .

**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.

**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**

**Winsloe United Church Ceilidh** next Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. Hosts Jacinta MacDonald and the Winsloe United House Band welcome special guests Lawrence Maxwell and Colleen MacPhee. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

**The Hunter River Helping Hand Program** is a monthly food pick up on the second Monday of each month for residents of Hunter River, Greenvale, Brookfield, Rennies Road, New Glasgow, Wheatley River, Hazel Grove, Fredericton and Darlington that register with the program. Applying for help can feel difficult, but please know your application will be handled with compassion and confidentiality.

Registration for the program can be done Monday-Thursday between 9 am and 2 pm at the municipal office located in the Hunter River Community Centre at 19816 Route 2. Proof of residence in the service area for each member of the household will be required at the time of registration. Registered users will need to inform the office by the last Monday of each month if they will be requiring assistance the following month.