

WELCOME TO IONA

We are pleased to gather together for worship today. Join us after the service for fellowship time. If you wish more information on our congregation, please speak to the duty elder or the minister.

Pastoral information cards are located in the front of the hymn books.

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Dr. PA (Sandy) McDonald
pamcdonald@ns.sympatico.ca 902-497-8112



We gather on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Mi'kmaq bind us together as we strive for healing and reconciliation.

June 23, 2024, 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

Graduate Sunday

Greeting Elder: Perry Mason

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

(Please stand, if able, as the worship leader enters and then be seated.)

Greeting: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you. The Ministry of God's People**

APPROACH TO THE WORD

*Choral Introit 447: "O Great Spirit"

Call to Worship:

L: Love one another.

All: This is The Way of Christ.

L: Serve one another.

All: This is The Way of Christ.

L: Live in peace with one another.

All: This is The Way of Christ.

L: Seek justice for one another.

All: This is The Way of Christ.

L: We are called to walk, act, speak and live all of our lives with the love of Christ Jesus.

All: Come, let us follow The Way, love one another, and worship Christ our Saviour.

Hymn 736: "For the healing of the Nations"

Prayer of Confession:

L: Creator God, our country has journeyed through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission process, seeking understanding, healing, and reconciliation. It has not always been an easy path, but we have sought to walk it together.

All: We have tried to listen to each other's stories. We have sought to understand without judgement. We have noted the differences in values and traditions, but also the places where we share values and traditions.

L: We are all your children.

All: You embrace all in your love.

L: You call us now to reflect that love to each other.

All: You call us to be brothers and sisters on the path to reconciliation. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

L: This we surely know...

All: Forgiving One, your love is higher than the starry heavens.

L: Merciful One, your kindness is deeper than the ocean.

All: Righteous One, let each of us be the embodiment of your love and kindness for speaking the truth and reconciling with one another. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

Hymn 447: "O Great Spirit"

First Reading: Micah 6: 6-8

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 9:9-20 **Gloria Patri (sung)**

Hymn 700: Praise our Maker, peoples of one family

Honoring our Graduates

The Ukulele group: "He's Got the Whole World in his Hands" / "Thy Word"

From the letters: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

Gospel: Matthew 5: 21-24

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Hymn 301: "Many and Great"

Sermon: Time for Truth...

The Celebration of the Sacrament

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology:** "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow" **830**

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed **539**

Offertory Prayer

Invitation

L: We gather at the table as invited guests.

All: We come from many places, differing in age, differing in race, differing in orientation, politics and in many other ways.

L: As we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something that need divide but that our differences often are a blessing.

All: The more difference we bring, the more fully we experience the presence of the sacred in our midst.

L: So come, you who are reconciled in Christ, come just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of truth and reconciliation, you are welcome here, here

in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, you who are reconciled, come and let us remember together.

Communion Hymn 540: "One Bread, One Body"
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Please follow at 564)
Celebration of the Sacrament
Prayer following Communion

We Go Out to Serve God

***Hymn 730:** "O for a World"
***Benediction**
***Choral Amen:**



* Please stand as able.

Large print hymnbooks are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you to **The Rev. Kenn Stright** for leading the service this morning. Join us for lemonade after the service hosted by **Congregational Life** this week and by **Christian Education** next week.

Announcements:

- If anyone would like a Prayer Shawl over the summer months, please contact Evelyn Brown at 902-466-2558 or speak to an AMS member.
- We are looking for someone who might be interested in cutting the church lawn for the summer. If you have children, grandchildren or someone else who might like the opportunity to make some money this summer please contact Perry Mason. All the equipment is supplied by the church. The person must be old enough to handle a self-propelled mower as well as a gas operated whipper snipper. The lawn normally takes one person, 3-4 hours to complete and would need to be done every one to two weeks depending upon the growth. The pay for each mowing is \$100.
- I would like to share April 's statistics from the **East Dartmouth Christian Foodbank** with you. We saw 460 people, or 173 households attend the Foodbank in April. The age group that has the most people

are ages 35 to 44 years old. We have seen a large increase in 2024 and a lot more ethnic group. We have been trying to accommodate their preferences of food such as dried lentils and beans as a protein where many don't eat meat. We thank you for your support from Iona Church. You all have been so gracious and have always supplied the needs when I've asked. You probably don't realize the lives you impact. Thank you so much, Heather

- **Mission and Service**

It is time, once again, for the yearly campaign to support our two children, through Children Believe. This campaign will continue until the end of June 2024 as our bill arrives in June or July. It costs about \$45.00 per month to support one child. If you would like to contribute to the children, please place your contribution in your offering envelope and mark it for Children Believe. Last year we collected enough funds to fulfil our support and send a small gift to each girl. Any extra funds are placed into the emergency fund. Thank you for your consideration and support of this mission.

06/23/24