

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. We offer thanks for their stewardship of this good earth!

March 23, 2025, 10:00 am

Third Sunday In Lent

Greeting Elder: Susan Osborne

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

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

Prelude: (Time for prayer and silent reflection)

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 625:** "Seek ye first"

Note: instead of "Allelu, alleluia", we'll sing "Kyrie eleison"

***Call to Worship:** *Please see insert*

***Hymn 190:** "You thirsty ones"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

L: God of the open hand,
you invite all who thirst to the waters;
you invite all people to feast at your table
without money and without price.
You call us to you again and again,
that you may pour out your love upon us;
in your arms there is room for every regret,
for you shall abundantly pardon.
You are not a God who cuts us down,
for you see the goodness in each one of us,
and call us to flourish and bear fruit.
Nurture us, O God, at our roots;
surround us with all that we need
to become beacons of kindness as you would have us be.

**All: God of abundant mercy,
we confess that we cannot fully grasp the subtlety of your ways**

or the complexity of your thoughts.

We may find ourselves putting our own fixations before your plans.

We may find ourselves taking advantage of others to suit ourselves.

We may find ourselves putting you to the test, hardening our hearts and expecting miracles.

We may find ourselves complaining, finding fault when you bring us good things.

Let us not be tested beyond our strength;
lead us forward, into the welcome that is you,
who shows us a kindness that we dare not yet imagine.

Assurance of Pardon

* **Children's hymn 198:** "I hunger and I thirst"

* **Children's Time**

Children may go to Sunday School

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Responsive Reading: Psalm 63:1-8

Gloria Patri (sung# 594)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

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

* **Hymn 640:** "Softly and tenderly"

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Living Faith 2.1 ("God Creates and Rules")*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors) (831)

***Hymn 651:** "Guide me, O thou great Redeemer"

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

Postlude

* Please stand if able

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

Thank you to **Tamsin Moynihan-Robson** for leading the service this morning. Join us for coffee after the service hosted by **Worship** this week and next week.

03/23/2025

This Week at Iona (March 23rd – March 29th):

- **March 26th** - 9:30 - 11:30 - Wed Morning coffee and crafts group meeting at church. Bring your projects and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee while you work.
- **March 29th** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study
- **March 29th** - 2:00 to 4:00 pm – Talents and Treasurers Auction

Next Week at Iona (March 30th – April 5th):

- **April 2nd** - 9:30 - 11:30 - Wed Morning coffee and crafts group meeting at church. Bring your projects and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee while you work.
- **April 2nd** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study
- **April 3rd**- 1:30 – Guild meeting

Announcements:

- There will be a **guild meeting** on **April 3** at 1:30 all are welcome to join.
- **Talents and Treasurers Auction**
March 29/2025, 2:00 to 4:00 pm
Tea Coffee and Dessert is served first at 2:00 pm
Session invites you to offer your talents and treasurers, that they may be multiplied in support of Iona. You may offer any talent, service or item to be auctioned. Previous items have included; the use of a cottage or truck, snow plowing or gardening advice, financial services, scenic drives, dinners, baked goods, candy, gift baskets, gift items, lessons and crafts. As well we are blessed with gifted painters. Whatever talents or gifts the Lord has blessed you with, please share them with Iona.
- The Annual meeting will be held **May 4, 2025**, following the service.