

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!*

April 20, 2025, 10:00 am

Easter Sunday

Greeting Elder: Irene Rose

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 260:** "Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord" (vs. 2, 4)

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

***Hymn 243:** "Jesus Christ is risen today"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

L: Renewing God, Eternal Father,
Ground of Being, Source of Life, and Mother of All:
Today we celebrate the victory of your Son
over the powers of death, destruction, repression, and hatred.
Your Word of Creation, incarnate in him,
could not be confined by a tomb of stone.
Your cosmic Love, expressed in him,
could not be sullied by the cruelty of tyrants.
Your everlasting Life, which flowed through him,
could not be extinguished even by the most humiliating of deaths.
And so, all earthly powers that rule by violence
are brought to nothing by the Prince of Peace —
the peasant king riding on a donkey,
the Messiah anointed by a humble woman,
the Lamb of God who heals the brokenness of this world.
Blessing, honour, glory, and boundless potential
be unto you, O God, who reveals to us new life
in the person of Christ Jesus both then and now,

through the vitality of the Holy Spirit who lights our way;
one eternal Divinity, this day and forevermore.

All: God of new ways, new truth, and new life:

**we come to hear the story of Jesus risen from the tomb,
of a cruel death made powerless by your life-giving power.**

**But we confess that we do not always know what to make of this
new beginning.**

**We may find ourselves clinging to the familiarity of fear,
reluctant to embrace the hope that you offer us this day.**

**We may seek comfort in neutrality and indifference,
and shy away from your call into healing and transformation.**

**We may be accustomed to following the expectations of this
world, and slow to let ourselves imagine new possibilities.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and inspire us, O God, that the hope of the
resurrection may kindle our hearts to live and work at all times for
the goodness that is you.**

Assurance of Pardon

*** Children's hymn 256:** "Now the green blade rises"

*** Children's Time**

Children may go to Sunday School

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Responsive Reading: Psalm 118:1-2,14-24

Gloria Patri (sung# 594)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Special Music: "Lord of the Dance", Sydney Carter, arr. Allen Pote

Gospel: John 20:1-18

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

*** Hymn 251:** "Christ is alive"

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Apostles' Creed (#539 in The Book of Praise)*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of Intercession

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to Communion

***Hymn 530:** "I come with joy"

The Peace

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (responses: #564 in The Book of Praise)

Communion (please come up to receive the elements, or raise your hand if unable)

Special Music (during communion): "Ave Verum Corpus", W.A. Mozart

The Grace (The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.)

***Hymn 258:** "Thine be the glory"

***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 **Mary Martha** this week and next week.

This Week at Iona (April 20th – April 26th):

- **April 23rd** - 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 23rd** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study

Next Week at Iona (April 27th – May 3rd):

- **April 30th** - 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 30th** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study

Announcements:

- The Annual meeting will be held **May 4, 2025**, following the service.
- Takeaway tea is available for \$12 per order on May 10. Please place orders by May 4. Contact Debbie: 902 223 7853.

04/20/2025