

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

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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 6, 2025, 10:00 am

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Greeting Elder: Waneta Holmes

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 685:** "How firm a foundation"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

L: God who forms the currents of the sea,
and charts a path in the endless waters;
you make inroads through the wilderness of our lives,
and show us rivers in the deserts of our hearts.
You call us to turn from stagnant ways,
and to leave behind those things that no longer make us flourish.
From day to day you call us to behold,
for you are continually doing a new thing;
though we may not yet perceive it,
it springs forth again and again.
Lead us, then, to water in the wilderness, and to rivers in the desert,
that we may ever turn to your goodness
and serve your purpose in newness of life.

All: God who pours out your love upon each of us,

we confess that we do not so easily pour out our love upon each other.

**We might struggle with how best to meet our neighbours' needs.
We might judge our neighbours' character and fail to extend a hand.**

**We might be overwhelmed at what the world has left undone,
and despair about where to begin.**

**Help us to remember that the details of how we love
come second to the necessity of loving with our whole hearts,
and that loving unreservedly is what makes us fully human.**

In the name of your Son, who loved and was loved in astonishing ways.

Assurance of Pardon

*** Children's hymn 87:** "When God restored our common life"

*** Children's Time**

Children may go to Sunday School

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Responsive Reading: Psalm 126

Gloria Patri (sung# 594)

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

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

*** Hymn 588:** "A prophet-woman broke a jar"

Sermon

Offertory music: "They'll know we are Christians by our love" (by Peter Scholtes)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Living Faith 8.3 ("Love")*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

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

***Hymn 587:** "Called as partners in Christ's service"

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

Postlude

*** Please stand if able**

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

04/06/2025

Thank you to **Tamsin Moynihan-Robson** for leading the service this morning. Thank you to today's Lenten reader, **Ellie Melville**. Join us for coffee after the service hosted by **Congregational Life** this week and next week.

This Week at Iona (April 6th – April 12th):

- **April 9th- 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 9th - 1:30-3:00 pm** – Bible study

Next Week at Iona (April 13th – April 19th):

- **April 16th - 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 16th - 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.