

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!

May 18, 2025, 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

***Call to Worship:**

In words newly spoken, in old words made new,
we see that Christ is risen indeed.

In former times remembered, in better times foreseen,
we see that Christ is risen indeed.

In the love we are called to share, in the love of God for us,
we see that Christ is risen indeed; hallelujah!

***Hymn 642:** "O Master, let me walk with thee"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

L: God of our tomorrows, God of our yesterdays,
God of today and always;
You breathed wisdom into the words of ancient sages,
calling us to love our neighbour as ourselves.
You inspire compassion and kindness in the traditions of many peoples.
And for us, you sent your Son,
who set before us the task of loving one another,

just as we have been loved.

And so we illuminate your likeness in every moment

where kindness overcomes indifference,

where connection proves stronger than pain,

where empathy is transfigured into moving forward together.

All praise be to you, O God and Fount of Mercy,

through your risen Son, in the fervent compassion of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

All: God of steadfast love,

in Christ you show us so deep a longing to connect

that you entered fully into the human reality

and lived out your Word of togetherness in adversity.

Yet we confess that your simplest calling is often our most difficult task.

We might love in principle, but close our hearts in difficult times.

We might lift our own assumptions over the needs of those we care about.

We may feel powerless to love in a world that is often indifferent.

Forgive us, O God, and teach us to love as Jesus did:

with a love that is sincere, real, tangible, and unafraid.

Assurance of Pardon

*** Children's hymn 225:** "A new commandment I give unto you"

*** Children's Time**

Children may go to Sunday School

HEARING THE WORD

HB/OT: Leviticus 19:9-18

Responsive Reading: Psalm 24:1-6

Gloria Patri (sung# 594)

Epistle: Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel: John 13:31-35

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

*** Hymn 209:** "O Love that wilt not let me go"

Sermon

Offertory music

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Living Faith* 8.3.2, 8.3.4, "Love"

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

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

***Hymn 371:** "Love divine, all loves excelling"

*Commissioning and Benediction

*Choral Amen

Postlude

* Please stand if able

05/18/2025

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 **AMS** this week and by **Christian Education** next week.

This Week at Iona (May 18th – May 24th):

- **May 21** - 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.
- **May 21** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study

Next Week at Iona (May 25th – May 31st):

- **May 28** - 1:30-3:00 pm – Bible study

Announcements:

- Please contact Debbie or Wanetta with the graduates' names.
- The last get together for the Wed morning crafters will be this coming Wed. May 21st. We'll gather together again in the fall.