

## 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.**

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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 17, 2026, 10:00 am:**

**7th 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 254:** "Jesus is risen from the grave" (vv. 1, 5)

**\*Call to Worship:**

In the warmth of the Sun and the coming of spring,

**We feel the Earth rising with Christ.**

In hearts that are open and minds that expand,

**We feel ourselves rising with Christ.**

As our friends long for justice and cry out for peace,

**We see the world rising with Christ.**

Each morning, within us, may Christ rise again.

**May all that is good rise with Christ.**

**\*Hymn 528:** "Jesus calls us" (vv. 1-3)

### Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

O God, Source of Life and Love Eternal:

Your goodness shines forth in the glory of your creation;

your Image shines forth in the hearts of all people.

You work through us in ways that we can never know fully,

and you work through others in ways yet unimagined.

Even in our suffering, in our pain, and in our confusion,

you are with us, guiding us to a future that only you can see;

and though the world may slander and dismiss us,

we trust that you will see our desire to do good

and lead us along your path of peace and justice,

so that we may begin to embody your long-expected Kingdom,  
which this world cannot contain or understand.

All praise be to you, O God of the now and the not yet,

and to your Son, crucified and risen,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

**O God, you have marked each one of us out in advance,  
and you gather us unto you through every generation, culture, and  
faith.**

**Yet we confess that none of us know the fullness of your truth,  
and so often disagree on details, methods, frameworks.**

**Forgive us, and show us your Presence as our many voices meet;  
make us one in purpose, that every road may lead to your Kingdom.**

### Words of Assurance

**Teaching hymn 484:** "The church is wherever God's people"

### HEARING THE WORD

**First Reading:** Isaiah 45:1–7 (King Cyrus of Persia)

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 21:1–7 (In your strength the king rejoices, O Lord)

**Gloria Patri (sung# 594)**

**Epistle:** 1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11 (Suffering as a follower of Christ)

**Gospel Reading:** John 17:1–11 (That they may be one)

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

**\*Hymn 479: "The church's one foundation" (vv. 1-4)**

### Sermon

**Invitation to the Offering**

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

**Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)**

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** *Living Faith 7.1.1 and 7.2.1, from "The Church" and "Ministry"*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession**

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

**\*Hymn:** "God our creator" (*please see insert*)

**\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**Postlude**

**\* Please stand if able**

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

Join us for coffee after the service—hosted by **Operations** this week and next.

### **Announcements:**

- **Hospitality & Community Life**

It is now time to compile our list of graduates for 2026. If you have a child or grandchild graduating from High School or a post-secondary institution, please let us know. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. We need to have some information on each student by June 14th, 2026, to honour them on Graduate Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

- Bible study resumes this Wednesday, May 20.
- The coffee group meets every Wednesday at 9:30.
- **SPRING TAKE-AWAY TEA**  
Saturday, May 23 | Pick-up 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Iona Presbyterian Church, 90 Lucien Dr., Dartmouth  
Cost: \$12  
Orders accepted May 3–19 by calling Irene at 902-829-2783.  
Bake Table, Craft Table, and New-to-You Table will also be available at pick-up.