

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!*

July 19, 2026, 10:00 am

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeting Elder: Linda MacKinnon

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 496:** "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet"

***Call to Worship:**

We gather in the presence of God;

We have come to worship and praise God's name.

We gather in joy and expectancy;

We have come to encounter God in beauty and wonder.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening;

Speak your word of life to us, O God.

***Hymn 290:** "Immortal, invisible God only wise"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

O God, you have searched us and you know us. You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you discern our thoughts from far away. You trace our journeys and our resting places, and are acquainted with all our ways. Even before a word is on our tongues, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem us in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon us. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us; it is so high that we cannot attain it.

As we are gathered here, still all voices but yours.

**Open our hearts and minds to hear your Word, to live in your grace,
to forgive as we are forgiven, to love as we are loved.**

We ask your Spirit to be with us,

and ask in the name of your Living Word, Jesus. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Teaching hymn 651: "Guide me, O thou great Redeemer"

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

Responsive Reading: Psalm 139:1-12,23-24

Gloria Patri (sung# 594)

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

***Hymn 569:** "O Jesus, I have promised"

Sermon

Invitation to the Offering

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering followed by The Doxology (sung # 830)

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

***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**

07/19/2026

Postlude

*** Please stand if able**

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

Join us for lemonade after the service—hosted by **AMS** this week and by **Session** next week.

Announcements:

- Welcome and thank you to the Rev. Karen Russell for leading our worship today.