

WELCOME TO IONA

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!

August 16, 2026

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministry Candidate: Tamsin Moynihan-Robson

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Music Ministry: Cathy Lee Holmes

Greeting Elder: Kerrilee York

*(*Indicates please stand as able)*

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 #78:** "This is the Day" verses 1 and 3

***Call to Worship:**

Let the nations be glad and sing with joy,

For God guides us all with justice and equity.

Let the people praise God, for how we have been blessed;

Come let us worship and offer all honour and praise.

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

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God to whom none is a stranger:

You are One; we are many.

You are boundless; we are finite.

We perceive only that which is before us;

you perceive the vastness of the universe you have made.

And still you love each one of us with a love so great

that you entered into our reality,
sharing in the joy and pain of our human experience.

And as a distraught woman reminded your Son

that your loving kindness is meant for all,

you remind us that your loving kindness belongs to each of us,
to be shared with friends we have met and those we have not met,
in ever-more-surprising ways.

Blessed are you, O God who rises to the challenge,
forever and ever. Amen.

**O God, you loved us enough to become incarnate in a human life
yet still we cling to the illusion that our own human lives
are nothing.**

**We confess that we still doubt your infinite and wondrous love,
whose embrace extends even to those whom this world calls
last, lost, and least.**

**And so, help us to reach out, to trust you,
and to call on you without reserve. AMEN**

Words of Assurance

***Teaching hymn #124:** "People in darkness are looking for light"

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 45:1-15 (Joseph reveals himself to his brothers)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 133 ("Behold how good and how pleasant it is")

Gloria Patri #594

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 (God has not rejected his people)

Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28 (Jesus and the Canaanite woman)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn:** "We cannot measure how you heal" (See insert)

Sermon

Music for Reflection

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Aug.16, 2026

Offering

*The Doxology #830

*Affirmation of Faith: Living Faith 9.2.1 "Our Mission & Other Faiths"

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

*Hymn #663: "God whose giving knows no ending"

*Commissioning and Benediction

*Choral Amen

Postlude

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We are glad you have gathered to worship with us this morning.
Everyone is invited to join us for lemonade on the lawn,
hosted by **The Guild** this week and by **AMS** next week.

Announcements:

- **The lovely flowers** in the front of the church were given by Martin and Christine Arseneault in memory of their parents: John and Nancy Arseneault and John and Phyllis Burden.
- **The Wed morning craft group** will start up on Sept 23rd at 9:30 in the kitchen. All are welcome for tea, coffee, and conversation. Bring along your own craft items to work on.
- **Children Believe**
It is time to remember our sponsored child through Children Believe. We have a new child. His name is **Amanu Molla**. He was 10 years old on April 5th. He has 1 brother and 3 sisters He lives in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
Our sponsorship is \$45 monthly, \$540/year. Our bill will be due at the end of October. If you would like to contribute to his sponsorship, please add your donation to Children Believe in your envelope. Thank you for your continued support in this outreach.