

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 23, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministry Candidate: Tamsin Moynihan-Robson

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Music Ministry: Cathy Lee Holmes

Greeting Elder: Susan Osborne

*(*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:**

We give thanks to God with all our hearts,
for God's faithful love endures forever.

We sing praises to the Lord, with all our strength,
**for God's promises declare God's goodness
to all the earth.**

We place our trust in in God with full confidence,
and we come to worship with hearts full of praise.

***Hymn #321:** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Eternal God,
you are the same yesterday, today and tomorrow,
and yet you come to us afresh each new day.

You breathe new life into what has grown tired and discouraged.
You offer healing for what is worn or broken.
You restore hope when things seem impossible.
You are the source of life and love for all your creatures,
and you renew us to put our love for you
into action for the well-being of your creation.
And so, we worship you, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,
and offer our prayers and praise to you,
eternal and ever-present God, now and always.

Confident of your grace and loving kindness,
we confess to you our sins.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have strayed from your purposes.

You set a path for us to follow,

but we conform to the ways of this world.

You give each of us gifts to use for the work of your kingdom,

but we wait for others to do what needs doing.

Forgive us for taking the easy way out,

and renew in us the eagerness and energy to serve.

Words of Assurance

***Teaching hymn #648:** "I'm gonna live so God can use me"

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Exodus 1:8-2:10 (Moses is drawn from the water)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 124 ("If it had not been the Lord...")

Gloria Patri #594

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8 (New life in Christ)

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20 ("Who do you say that I am?")

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn #635:** "Brother, sister, let me serve you"

Sermon

Music for Reflection

Offering

***The Doxology #830**

***Affirmation of Faith:** Living Faith 3.3.2–3.2.3 "Jesus Christ: Truly God"

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

***Hymn #757:** "Come sing, O Church, in joy"

***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 **AMS** this week and by **Session** next week.

Announcements:

- **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.