

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!

September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Truth and Reconciliation Sunday
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 #444:** "Sweet is the solemn voice" verses 1 and 2

Call to Worship (in Mi'kmaw, then in English):

Niskam milineya'sit wji'aj msit wenik sape'wimk kisi-kjitua'tijik.

God is revealed in many different ways so that all may know holiness.

Ki'kaj nniskamijinen mu nsitmi'tiwksipnik wla umitki kisna wtmimajuinu teli-sape'wultijik.

Yet our ancestors did not understand the sacredness of this land or its people.

Katu nike' teli-kjitu'tiek: wije'tulti'kwl sa'se'wa'tasultiek ntajiklu'sultinen.

But now we know that when we walk together, we are changed for the better.

Aq nestmu'tiekl teliaqsipnl, kisi-wli-pjilita'yikw.

And when we understand what has been, we can move forward in a good way.

East / White (dawn, springtime, the heart)

***Opening Hymn:** "Inspired by love and anger" (See insert)

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God who creates us, God who is with us,
God looking after us, God watching over us:
In *Na'ku'set*, who shines by day, we see your glory made manifest.
In *Tepknuset*, who shines by night, we see your love revealed.
In the very turning of the leaves, your beauty shines forth.
To a church that has so often gone astray,
you call us to face *ta'n teliaq*: the way things are.
In worlds laid waste by the greed of empire,
you call us to the ministry of *iljo'qwa'tmk*: of setting things right.
And so we listen for *Istue'k wsitun*, the Stranger who speaks your Word;
we change our hearts and lives, as you call us to do,
trusting that you, who are Creating Force and Creative Process,
are uncontained by our culture and vaster even than our faith.
And so, with saints and ancestors near and far,
in the presence of your Spirit and of many spirits,
we praise your name, O God who sets things right, now and forever.

**O God, you come to us as Way, Truth, and Life,
so that all truths may point us back to You.**

**We confess that sometimes the truth is hard to bear,
and we so often find ourselves lost before its enormity.**

**Give us the strength not to deny or turn away,
but to witness, understand, and open our hearts,
that ours may be a legacy of kindness and of healing.
In the name of the One who bears all sorrows, Amen.**

Words of Assurance

South / Yellow (daytime, summer, the soul)

***Teaching Hymn:** "We do not ask that heaven research" (See insert)

HEARING THE WORD

Sept. 27, 2026

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7 (Water from the rock)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 78:1-4,12-16 ("Give ear to my teaching")

Gloria Patri #594

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13 (Christ emptied himself)

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 (Jesus questioned / The two sons)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

West / Red (sunset, autumn, the body)

*Hymn: "We will not take what is not ours" (See insert)

Sermon

Music for Reflection

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offering**

*The Doxology #830

North / Black (night, winter, mind)

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

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

*Commissioning and Benediction

*Choral Amen

Postlude

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***Offerings may also be given by e-transfer to ionapc@eastlink.ca or by pre-authorized monthly deduction. Contact Perry Mason (902-499-0095).*

We are glad you have gathered to worship with us this morning.
Everyone is invited to join us after the service for coffee, hosted
this week by **Session** and next week by **Worship and Education**.