

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!

October 4, 2026

19th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Ministry Candidate: Tamsin Moynihan-Robson

Music Ministry: Cathy Lee Holmes

Greeting Elder: Perry Mason

*(*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:** He became poor that we may be rich,
loving the world and leaving his throne;
King of all kings and Lord of all lords,
flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone. From Iona Community.

***Call to Worship:** (based on Psalm 19)

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim God's handiwork.
The daylight exults with God's self-giving;
the dark of night whispers God's mercy.
God lives to create, and God's law is love;
Let us praise our Maker and Sustainer.

***Hymn:** "Jesus calls us here to meet him"

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Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God who in love creates all things:
You light the fire of the stars;

you nurture the teeming seas;
you planted gardens upon the land,
home to us, your many peoples.
You guide us to live in rightness and compassion;
you warn us away from harmful paths;
you teach us, through the prophets,
through each other, and through the gift of your Son.
The eyes of all look to you
to provide for our needs in due time,
and our bodies and spirits alike
are fed through your love.
And so we praise you, Creator and Sustainer,
ever giving of yourself
so that we may be united with you,
one God, now and forever.

**God, you have planted many gardens in this world,
and blessed us, your people, to dwell in them.**

**Yet we confess that we are not always perfect stewards
in the fields and orchards of our lives:**

**sometimes we still hold grudges, forsake the need to repair,
or refuse to admit when we too may be in error.**

**Forgive us, and help us to be good stewards;
show us how to nurture the gardens we live in,
that we too may be nurtured by the fruits of your love,
made manifest in all who surround us. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

***Teaching hymn:** "God of hosts, you chose a vine"

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HEARING THE WORD

First Reading: Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20 (The Ten Commandments)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19 (The heavens declare the glory of God)

Gloria Patri

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Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b–14 (Whatever gains I had,
I regard as loss)

Gospel: Matthew 21:33–46 (The parable of the wicked tenants)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn:** "Hail, our once-rejected Jesus"
Sermon
Music for Reflection

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October 4, 2026

RESPONSE TO THE WORD – COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

***Offering** followed by **The Doxology** **# 830**

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

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving **# 564**

The Lord's Prayer (sung) **# 831**

***Communion Hymn** "One bread, one body" **# 540**

Communion and Post-Communion Prayer

...keep us faithful to one another and to you.

Send us from this table as people of Christ's peace.

One body. One Spirit. One Lord.

One faith. One hope. One table. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Sent forth by your blessing" **# 775**

***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 after the service for coffee,
hosted this week and next by **Worship and Education**.

Announcements:

- **Iona's AMS** will meet Tuesday, Oct. 6th at 1:30 pm upstairs for the annual Brown Bag Auction, with proceeds going to Margaret's House which provides free daily meals for those in need
- **The Wednesday morning craft group** meets weekly at 9:30am. All are welcome for tea, coffee, and conversation. Bring along your own craft items to work on.
- **Thanksgiving Decorating** – by the Hospitality & Community Life will be Sat, Oct. 10th at 11:00 AM. Donations of produce needed (which will go to the Foodbank the following week). Thank you.
- **Replanting of Iona's Garden:** new shrubs are needed. If you would like to donate one, contact Debbie Bourque at 902-223-7853.