

St. Cyprian's Anglican Church & Iona Presbyterian Church

1080 Finch Ave East, Toronto, Ontario

Telephone: 416-494-2442

St. Cyprian's Website: stcyprianschurch.ca

Iona's Website: tri-church.ca/iona

Church office hours: Tuesdays & Fridays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Sunday Worship by Zoom and in person 10:30 a.m.



Lent 2

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Minister: Every member of the congregations

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. John Oakes

Email: revdrjohnoakes@outlook.com

Phone: (647) 219-5754

Rector's Warden: Carol Berger

People's Warden: Stacey Leslie

Iona Elders: Marg Black, Dorine Bourque, Melissa Reid

Director of Music: Laura Hope

Office Administrator: Bob Williams

Lay Assistant: Hank Huang

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2897790104?omn=83067962618>

Or call: 647 374 4685 or 647 558 0588

Meeting ID: 289 779 0104

No Passcode

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we meet on the traditional lands of the Mississauga. We acknowledge this territory's significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived, and continue to live, upon it and whose practices and spiritualities were tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the territory and its other inhabitants today.

Cell phones

Please be sure that your cell phone is switched off or set to airplane mode to conserve the WiFi service for our Zoom broadcast. Thank you.

Holy Communion

(Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship* and "Worship Planner")

Hymns are from *The Book of Praise*, unless otherwise noted

Presider: Rev. Dr. John Oakes

Celebrant and Preacher: Rev. Kathy Brownlee

Welcome

Processional Hymn #331: *The God of Abraham Praise*

Responsive Call to Worship

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of Adoration

Presider: God of power and might, grace and love, heaven and earth are full of your glory. You chose to become one of us in Jesus Christ, sharing our joy and sorrow, manifesting your greatness in the child in the manger. So we praise you for your love which is great enough to embrace the

universe, yet close enough to enter our hearts. Fill us with your Holy and life-giving Spirit that we, with the rest of the church and the whole creation, may praise and adore you, O God, our Creator and Redeemer, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

In recalling all that God is and does, we also acknowledge who we are and how far we have fallen. So we join together to confess our sins:

Prayer of Confession

All: God of mercy and loving-kindness, you sent Christ among us to be the light of the world and to reveal your love to all people. We confess our many sins against you and one another, which can cast shade upon the brightness of your light. We waste our gifts, we ignore the cries of the needy, and we do not strive for peace. In your great mercy, we ask you to forgive us our sins against you and one another, and to cleanse us from unrighteousness through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Presider: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on us, pardon and deliver us from all your sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also, with you.

Presider: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

The Proclamation of the Word

Prayer For Illumination

Presider: God of Wisdom, we turn to Scripture to listen and learn. Send your Holy Spirit to help us listen carefully so that we hear what we have not heard before and learn to follow Christ with deeper understanding and renewed commitment. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 12: 1–9 Alan Teare

Reader: The first reading is taken from the twelfth chapter of the Book of Genesis, beginning at the first verse.

“12 Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, ‘To your offspring I will give this land.’ So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹ And Abram journeyed on by stages towards the Negeb.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 121

Presider: 1. I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

People: **2. My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

Presider: 3. He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

People: **4. He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Presider: 5. The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

People: **6. The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

Presider: 7. The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

People: **8. The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.**

Presider: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
All: **As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world
without end, Amen.**

Gospel Acclamation CP#716: *Glory and Praise to You* (x2)

Gospel Reading: John 3: 1–15 Dorine Bourque

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the third chapter
of Saint John, beginning at the first verse.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ ³ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the

kingdom of God without being born from above.’⁴ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’⁵ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.’⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.”⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’⁹ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’¹⁰ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’¹¹ ‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony.’¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation CP#716: *Glory and Praise to You* (x2)

Sermon: “Abraham: On a Journey” Rev. Kathy Brownlee

Choir Anthem: “*The Love of God*” by Frederick Martin Lehman

The Apostles’ Creed

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say:

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand

of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Each Prayer will end with this response:

Presider: Lord in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

The prayers will end as follows:

Presider: Merciful Father,

**All: Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Presider: Our lives are blessed with the goodness that comes from God. Let us trust that goodness to sustain us and offer God our gifts with glad hearts to share with the world in need.

Offertory Hymn #478: *To Abraham and Sarah*

Prayer of Dedication

Celebrant: Generous God, we offer our gifts to you in gratitude for all that we have received in Christ and in creation. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that we can share in the building up of your kingdom in the world you love. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Celebrant: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God. People will come from east and west, and from north and south and sit at table in the Kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Saviour invites all those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared. O taste and see that the Lord is good.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: You call your people to repentance, to renew their covenant with you and to prepare for the joyful victory feast of the Lamb who is slain. How wonderful are your ways, almighty God. How marvellous is your name. You alone are God. Therefore with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space

All: We join with the whole creation to lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Sung (CP#735) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and Might , heaven and
earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna
in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: God of majesty and mercy, blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Sent to be our Saviour, he delivered us from sin and death, bringing us abundant life through his courage and compassion. Dying on the cross, he gave up his life so that we might live. By raising him to new life, you promise us life everlasting. Ascended to your right hand, he spreads his mercy throughout your whole creation. We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and said "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take this bread and this cup and give you praise and thanksgiving.

**All: Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Celebrant: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine, that we, and all who share this feast, may be one with Christ and he with us. Here we offer ourselves to be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. In your mercy, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Fill us with the joy of eternal life, that we may be your faithful people until we feast with you in glory. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, Almighty God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. (1 Cor. 10: 17)

When we break the bread, it is a sharing in the body of Christ.
(I Cor. 10: 16)

When we bless the cup, it is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
(I Cor. 10 :16)

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Communion: *All who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour are welcome to receive Communion. It will be administered to you, as you remain seated— first the bread, which we will all consume together after it has been distributed, then the cups, which we will also drink together.*

Communion Hymn: #204: *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne*

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Loving God, Christ our Lord, Holy Spirit, you have nourished us, body and soul, in this meal. We have heard your love, so send us out to speak it. We have seen your love, so send us out to show it. We have been fed by your love, so send us out to share it. And let all things be done for your glory, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Presider: Glory to God,

All: **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Announcements

Benediction

Presider: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #205: *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

Presider: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

Welcome to St. Cyprian's and Iona, as we continue our **combined worship and ministry at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays**. After today's service, we invite everyone to join a **joint fellowship time** together in the Iona space.

Sunday Study Series

Our Sunday series, "**A Life Worth Living,**" in the Fellowship Room at noon continues today, including a **Bible Study on Philipians 3 with Nicky Gumbel** on video. We aim to **finish by 1:30 p.m. All welcome!**

Iona Annual Meeting

Iona's Annual Meeting will take place after church today in the St. Cyprian's space at 12:30 p.m.

Noon Meditation

The **Wednesday meditation continues this week** with David Rudd and others **at 12 noon on:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9321564941?pwd=QmhLdDZ6ekQ2a1FLMmRWK2tXU0F0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 932 156 4941

Passcode: 1080

Friday Zoom Bible Study

Rev. John's **weekly Zoom Bible Study**, which generally meets on Fridays at 7 p.m., on Zoom, **is not meeting through Lent**. Instead, members are encouraged to join the Wednesday evening services online.

Wednesday Services in Lent

On Wednesday evenings through Lent, beginning February 25, there will be a Zoom-only Compline or Evening Prayer service at 8:00 p.m., using the Sunday Zoom link. All welcome!

Ministry Opportunities

There are ministry opportunities in a number of different areas, for which volunteers are welcome. To help, please contact Rev. John or one of the St. Cyprian's wardens or Iona elders.

Happy Birthdays

Shannel Leggard	March 1
Melissa Reid	March 2
Anna Wang	March 3
Aubrey McIntosh	March 5

**Happy birthday, Happy birthday, God loves you.
Happy birthday and may all your dreams come true.
When you blow out the candles, one light stays aglow.
It's the love light of our Lord for all to know.**