

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.



Pentecost 14 Sunday, August 30, 2026

Minister: Every member of the congregation

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, Bob Williams

Director of Music: Laura Hope

Office Administrator: Bob Williams

Lay Administrator: Hank Huang

Zoom Link for Sunday Worship

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

Meeting ID: 289 779 0104

No Passcode Needed

10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
from the *Book of Alternative Services*

Leader and Preacher: John Oakes

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.

WELCOME

SCRIPTURE SENTENCES

Leader: "The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." (Psalm 51: 18)

"Seek the Lord while he wills to be found, call upon him when he draws near; let the wicked forsake their ways, and the evil ones their thoughts; and let them return to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon." (Isaiah 55: 6–7)

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1: 8–9)

OPENING HYMN #602: *Lift High the Cross*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

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.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Please sit or kneel.

All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Leader: God rules over all the earth: O come, let us worship.

Please stand.

SONGS OF WORSHIP

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Chorus

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You I want to see You**

Verse

**To see You high and lifted up Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love As we sing holy holy holy**

Bridge

**Holy holy holy Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy I want to see You**

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In Christ Alone

**1. In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All Here in the love of Christ I stand**

**2. In Christ alone who took on flesh Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live**

**3. There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ**

**4. No guilt in life no fear in death This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home Here in the power of Christ I'll stand**

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The Goodness of God

**1. I love You Lord Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God**

Chorus

**All my life You have been faithful All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God**

**2. I love Your voice You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a father I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God/Chorus**

CCLI Song # 7117726
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PSALM 26

**1. Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.**
2. Test me, O Lord, and try me; *

examine my heart and my mind.

3. For your love is before my eyes; *

I have walked faithfully with you.

4. I have not sat with the worthless, *

nor do I consort with the deceitful.

5. I have hated the company of evildoers; *

I will not sit down with the wicked.

6. I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, *

that I may go in procession round your altar,

Leader: Let us pray. God of love and mercy, give us clean hands and pure hearts, that we may walk in innocence and come to your eternal dwelling, to praise you in the company of your saints forever. **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Romans 9: 12–21 Norma Halstead

Reader: The first reading is taken from the ninth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, beginning at the twelfth verse.

¹³ Just as it is written: ‘Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.’ ¹⁴ What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses, ‘I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.’ ¹⁶ It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God’s mercy. ¹⁷ For Scripture says to Pharaoh: ‘I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.’ ¹⁸ Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. ¹⁹ One of you will say to me: ‘Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?’ ²⁰ But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? ‘Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, “Why did you make me like this?”’ ²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL #712: *Alleluia!* (x2)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16: 21-28 Hank Huang

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the sixteenth chapter of St. Matthew, beginning at the first verse.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

“²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ‘Never, Lord!’ he said. ‘This shall never happen to you!’ ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.’

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. ²⁸ ‘Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.’”

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GRADUAL #712: *Alleluia!* (x2)

SERMON: “Why So Much Suffering?” John Oakes

SONG OF RESPONSE: *Blessed Be Your Name*

**1. Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name**

**2. Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name**

Chorus

**Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord Still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name**

**3. Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name**

**4. Blessed be Your name On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be Your name**

Bridge

**You give and take away You give and take away
My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name**

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Please stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Leader: Let us confess our faith, 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 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: As we rest in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy." For the whole People of God and our leaders, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ—especially for Bishops Andrew, Kevin and Riscylla, for Interim Moderator Alex, and for John, our priest and pastor—we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring us to true knowledge of himself, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, we pray to you Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For those who are lonely or sick, including Diane, Edna, Judy, Margaret, Jessima, and all others whom we now name . . . ; for the hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord bring them healing, comfort and peace, we pray to you Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the whole human family, especially for those nations riven by war and conflict, including Ukraine, Russia, and other nations in the Middle East and elsewhere, that we may live together in justice and peace, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

COLLECTS

Leader: Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All: Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, or be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Almighty and everliving God, increase in us your gift of faith, that forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY HYMN #349: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Leader: Merciful God, receive all we offer you this day. Give us grace to love one another that your love may be made perfect in us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Leader: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN #423: *How Great Thou Art*

DISMISSAL

Leader: Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship.

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.

Noon Meditation

The **Wednesday meditation meets** with David Rudd and others **at 12 noon** on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9321564941?pwd=QmhLdDZ6ekQ2a1FLMmRWK2tXU0F0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 932 156 4941

Passcode: 1080

News from St. Christopher's

St. Christopher's invites us to join their **35th Anniversary Thanksgiving Eucharist on Sunday, September 20 at 3:30 p.m.** at 459 Crosby Ave., Richmond Hill.

Afterwards, at 6 p.m., they will host **a fundraising dinner for the Anniversary Thanksgiving** at Golden Palace Banquet Hall (3225 Hwy 7 & Woodbine). Tickets are on sale for \$90 each. A \$25 donation receipt will be issued for each ticket.

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

Shobana Anand	September 1
Loretta Bucchan	September 2
Sadie Wiltshire	September 4

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.