**St. Cyprian’s Anglican Church**

**and Iona Presbyterian Church**
1080 Finch Ave East, Toronto, Ontario
Telephone: 416–494–2442

Church office hours: Tuesdays & Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship by Zoom and in person 10:30 a.m.



**Easter 2,**

 **April 27, 2025**

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

**Zoom Link for Sunday Worship:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2897790104?pwd=WTVXeWtJZWV2RW9JVGJGOE5VUVB1dz09

Or call: 647 374 4685 or 647 558 0588

Meeting ID: 289 779 0104 Passcode: 432441

**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.

**Morning Prayer**

**(from Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship* and the PCC “Worship Planner”)**

**Leader and Preacher: Rev. Kathy Brownlee**

**Welcome**

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

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider: May his grace and peace be with you.

**People: May he fill our hearts with joy.**

**Prayer Of Adoration**

Leader: Let us pray. God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,

we rejoice in this new day you have made.

We praise you for the abundant life with which you bless us,

and for all the beauty that surrounds us as spring takes hold again. We praise you for your Son, Jesus, and the power of new life promised in his resurrection. We praise you for your Spirit at work in human history, to restore and redeem our hope. God of steadfast love, we worship you with the Spirit and the Son, and claim your gift of new life in the face of any doubt or danger in the world you love. All praise, honour and glory be yours, Almighty God, now and evermore. **Amen.**

**Confession and Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Merciful God, in your gracious presence we acknowledge our own weaknesses and shortcomings. Trusting that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ, we freely confess the wrongs we have done against God and one another.

**All: God of mercy, as we gather to celebrate your gift of love,**

**we recall with sorrow the times when we forget you and are divided from one another. We regret how often our thoughts, words, and actions have betrayed the goodness you have shown to us. So we ask you to forgive us, merciful God, for all our sins of thought, word, and deed. Mend what is broken and heal the wounded relationships that separate us from you and from one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Leader: Loving God, we know that we can only be saved by grace through faith and this is not our doing, but your gift to us. We thank you that your mercy is from everlasting to everlasting and for the forgiveness, which we now humbly receive. And as we know the peace of Christ, we share it with one another in his name.

People: **All glory be to God. Amen.**

**The Peace**

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

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

**Offertory Invitation**

Leader: In this season of Easter, we celebrate God’s most precious gift to us in Christ’s dying and rising again for our sake. As we present our offering today, let us give with thankful hearts, trusting that God can do amazing things through the gifts we offer in Jesus’ name.

**Offertory Hymn #259: *This Joyful Eastertide***

**Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: Generous God, Along with our gifts we offer you our thanks for your steadfast love, our foundation when things around us seem uncertain. Bless these gifts and the ministry of our congregations; and bless the mission we undertake as part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and the Anglican Church of Canada. May what we offer spread the blessings we know to others, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer For Illumination**

Leader: O God of Resurrection, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us now,

so that as your Word is read and preached, we might hear, understand, and believe. **Amen.**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading: Revelation 1:4–8 – ???**

Reader: The first reading is from the first chapter of the Book of Revelation, beginning at the fourth verse.

**4**John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, **5**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, **6**and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**7**Look! He is coming with the clouds;
    every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
    and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

**8**”I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 150**

Leader: 1. Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy temple;

praise him in the firmament of his power.

**People: 2.** **Praise him for his mighty acts;**

**praise him for his excellent greatness.**

Leader: 3. Praise him with the blast of the ram’s-horn;

praise him with lyre and harp.

**People: 4. Praise him with timbrel and dance;**

**praise him with strings and pipe.**

Leader: 5. Praise him with resounding cymbals;

praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

**People: 6. Let everything that has breath**

**praise the Lord.**

**Hallelujah!**

Leader: Let us pray. Maker of the universe, Source of all life, give us grace to serve you with our whole heart, that we may faithfully perform your will and joyfully participate in your creation, to the praise and glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Gradual Hymn #78: *This Is the Day* (vv. 1–2)**

**Gospel Reading: John 20:19–31 – ???**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

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

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

**19**When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **20**After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21**Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” **22**When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

**24**But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25**So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

**26**A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **27**Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” **28**Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” **29**Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

**30**Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. **31**But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

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

**Gradual Hymn #78: *This Is the Day* (vv. 3)**

**Sermon:** “Famous First Words” – Rev. Kathy Brownlee

**Choir Anthem: ???**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

Leader: 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 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 the People**

Leader: We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**People: Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: We thank you, God, for the many ways you provide for our needs: for air and water, for food and shelter, for work to do and rest to sustain us. We pray for your creation, too often at risk because of the choices we’ve made. Help us care for the earth and all its creatures and relationships.

Show us how to cherish the gifts you have given and protect them for future generations.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**People: Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: We thank you, God, for family:

the families we were born or adopted into,

the families we married into, and other families who welcomed us into their midst as friends and neighbours.

We pray for those who have lost family members and relationships, and for any who know sickness, abuse and pain within our family circle, including those we now remember in our hearts

 *Brief silence*

God, we also thank you for friendship,

and for those who bring us joy and wise counsel.

Help us extend the gift of friendship

to those who are experiencing isolation, loneliness or grief.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**People: Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: We thank you, God, for the peace and freedom we enjoy in Canada, and pray that the conflict over what these gifts mean will be soothed with deeper understanding among us all. We pray for those who know neither freedom nor peace: those living under oppressive regimes or in conflict zones, and those who have fled their homelands, in search of safety. Give us courage to stand up for people who cannot stand up for themselves, so that they too will know peace and freedom.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**People: Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: We thank you, God, for your Church,

for our congregations and their leaders,

and for all who volunteer time, talent and energy

to the work we undertake in Jesus’ name.

By your Spirit, guide us and inspire us with new insight into mission and ministry. We pray for other churches in our community and the sense of mission that guides each one into service. Fill us with a deeper sense of unity

so that we can model relationships that transcend differences in this divided world.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**People:** Your steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: O God, thank you for the gift of your Son,

whose resurrection empowers us to look to the future with hope. Thank you for the gift of your Spirit

who draws us into unity with you and one another,

as together we offer the prayer Jesus taught us:

**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.**

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**.

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

Leader: Go into the world in peace.

Be of good courage. Hold fast to what is good.Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted.Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Love God and one another,

follow Christ, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;

and may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you this day and always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn #258: *Thine Be the Glory***

**Dismissal**

Leader: Alleluia! Allelulia! Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

 **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 Bible Study**

The **Sunday Bible Study** is on Easter break until **May 25**, when we will **resume with a new study** in the Fellowship Room**.**

**Emergency Pastoral Cover for St. Cyprian’s**

**Rev. John is on vacation until May 12. Emergency pastoral care** is **available** during his absence **from Rev. Sherri Golisky** of St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole**. She can be reached on (416) 880–4211.**

**Wednesday Noon Meditation**

The **Wednesday meditation continues** 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 meets on Fridays at 7 p.m. is on break until Friday May 23, when we will start a new study.** All are welcome at any time. You can join online at

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8517044556**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8517044556)

Meeting ID: 851 704 4556

You can also join the meeting by phone on 647–374–4685 or 647–558–0588. All welcome at any time!

**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**

**???**

 **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.**