

St. Cyprian's Anglican Church & Iona Presbyterian Church

1080 Finch Ave East, Toronto, Ontario

Telephone: 416-494-2442 Email: postmaster@tri-church.ca

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 at 10:30 am



Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24, 2025
7:30 pm

Minister: Every member of the congregation

Priest-in-Charge: 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

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

Or call: 647 374 4685 or 647 558 0588

Meeting ID: 289 779 0104

No Passcode Needed

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 ensure that your cell phone is switched off or set to "airplane" mode to conserve the wifi service for our Zoom broadcast. Many thanks!

Family Candlelight Communion (BAS) **Hymns are from *Common Praise***

Welcome

Opening Sentence

Presider: "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."
(Luke 2: 10–11)

Gathering of the Community

Processional Hymn #118: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vv. 1–3)

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.**

Presider: Almighty God,

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Norma Leggard

Reader: Unto us a child is born.

People: **Unto us a Son is given.**

Reader: “The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to humankind. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out. The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son.” (John 1:4–5, 14)

The white Christmas candle is lit while saying...

Reader: We light this candle to remind us of the great light that comes at last with the birth of Jesus, the Word of God made human for us. As we welcome him in the poor stable in Bethlehem, we offer ourselves to bring his transforming love to birth in all dark places, and to serve him in all our brothers and sisters.

Let us pray.

All: **O God your love was so great for us that
you gave us your Son to shine out in our darkness. Help us to
make that love known to all the world, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.**

Wreath Candle Lighting Hymn: *Light One Candle* (Natalie Sleeth) (v. 1–5)

**1. Light one candle for Peace
One bright candle for Peace
Christ brings Peace to every heart
He comes, He comes**

2. Light one candle for Hope
One bright candle for Hope
Christ brings Hope to every heart
He comes, He comes

3. Light one candle for Joy
One bright candle for Joy
Christ brings Joy to every heart
He comes, He comes

4. Light one candle for Love
One bright candle for Love
Christ brings Love to every heart
He comes, He comes

5. Light one candle for Christ
One bright candle for Christ
He's the greatest gift of all
He comes, He comes

© Hinshaw Music, 1976. Verse 5, written by John Oakes.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Hebrews 1: 1–4 – Norma Leggard

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

¹In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

After the reading

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #138: ***Hark the Herald Angels Sing*** (vv. 1–2)

Gospel Reading: John 1: 1–14 – John Oakes

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

After the reading

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #138: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (v. 3)

Message "What If God Was One of Us?" — Rev. Dr. John Oakes

Candlelight Carols

#126: *Away in a Manger*

#119: *Silent Night*

Please stand.

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 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: In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

Leader: By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the mystery of the word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming sinners and inviting them to this table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Presider: Most merciful God,

All: **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.

Presider: 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.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

You are invited to greet those around you in the name of Christ.

Offertory Solo: “O Holy Night” (sung by Laura Hope)

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

Presider: It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us. When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation. Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All(sung): (#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.**

Presider: Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider: Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Eucharistic Prayer 1 from *The Book of Alternative Services* © Anglican Book Centre, 1985)

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 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

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and
life.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

All (#745) (sung):

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us
peace. Grant us peace.

Communion: *All who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour are welcome
to receive Communion. You may choose between the common or an individual
cup. If you would rather not receive either, simply push out your hand. If
you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms when you approach
the Communion station.*

Communion Hymn #136: *While Shepherds Watched*

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #154: *Joy to the World*

Dismissal

Presider: Alleluia! Let us go in peace to love and serve the new-born King.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*John Oakes, the Staff, Wardens, and Elders of St. Cyprian's
Anglican Church and Iona Presbyterian Church
wish you a Joyful and Blessed Christmas!*