

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.



Christmas 1
Sunday, December 28, 2025

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

Director of Music: Laura Hope

Office Administrator: Bob Williams

Lay Assistant: Hanson Lam

Zoom Link for Sunday Worship

<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 (BAS) **Hymns are from *Common Praise***

Presider & Preacher: Rev. Dr. John Oakes

Welcome

Opening Sentence: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." Colossians 3: 15-16

Processional Hymn #145: *Good King Wenceslas*

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Hebrews 2: 10–18 Janet Mitchener

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

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises."¹³ And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them,^[e] fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 148

Presider: 1 Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

People: 2 **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

Presider: 3 For the Lord is a great God,
and a great king above all gods.

People: 4 **In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

Presider: 5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

People: 6 **Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

Presider: 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the
sheep of his hand.

Let us pray.

Creator of all, we give you thanks for a world full of wonder,
but above all because you have called us into a holy fellowship
with you and with each other. Guide us in the ways of this your
new creation, rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gradual Hymn #153: *Good Christians All, Rejoice* (v. 1)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2: 13–23 Hanson Lam

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the second
chapter of Saint Matthew, beginning at the thirteenth verse.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” ¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarean.”

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #153: *Good Christians All, Rejoice* (vv. 2–3)

Sermon: “Life over Death” Rev. Dr. John Oakes

The Apostles’ Creed

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

Do you believe in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God, The Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: **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.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: **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 the People

Intercessor: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: **For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those
who are alone.**

Intercessor: For this community, our country, and the world, and especially for
those nations riven by war and conflict, including Israel, Palestine,
Ukraine and Russia;

People: **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Intercessor: For all who are in danger, sorrow, sickness, especially Diane, Edna,
Freda, Judy, and all others whom we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

For those in any kind of trouble;

People: **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: **For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

Intercessor: For Andrew, Kevin and Riscylla our bishops, for John our priest and pastor, for Alex, our interim moderator, for our elders and wardens, and for all other ministers;

People: **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Intercessor: For our own needs and those of others, especially those which we now remember before you.

The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our king;

People: **And praise your name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor: We remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.

The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

People: **Who put their trust in you.**

Intercessor: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

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.

All: And also, with you.

Offertory Hymn: *Unto Us A Boy Is Born* (Tune #155)

1. Unto us a boy is born! The King of all creation,
Came he to a world forlorn, The Lord of ev'ry nation.
2. Cradled in a stall was he With sleepy cows and asses;
But the very beasts could see That he the world surpasses.
3. Herod then with fear was filled: "A prince," he said, "in Jewry!"
And all the little boys he killed At Bethl'hem in his fury.
4. Now may Mary's son, who came So long ago to love us,
Lead us all with hearts aflame Unto the joys above us.
5. Alpha and Omega he! Now let the organ thunder,
While the choir with peals of glee Shall rend the air asunder.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory.
May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Communion Prayer

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, our duty and joy, that we should always and everywhere give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, mighty Creator, and eternal God. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with the whole company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and singing:

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: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in your tender mercy you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there, by his once and for all offering of himself, a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, atonement and satisfaction for

the sins of the whole world. He instituted and in his holy gospel commands us to continue a perpetual memorial of his precious death until he comes again. Hear us, O merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we who receive this bread and wine according to your Son Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood. On the night that Jesus was betrayed he took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. **Amen.**

(The above is a modern translation from the BCP Communion Prayer)

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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

**People: 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. If you would rather not receive the cup, 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: ***Let Us Break Bread Together***

1. Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

**When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

3. Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life
always follow the way of your Son.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **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

Blessing:

Presider: The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and
love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
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: *Another Year Is Dawning* (Frances Havergal: Tune: #434)

1. Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be,
in working or in waiting, another year with thee;
another year of leaning upon thy loving breast,
another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.

2. Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace;
another year of gladness in the shining of thy face;
another year of progress, another year of praise,
another year of proving thy presence all the days.

3. Another year of service, of witness for thy love;
another year of training for holier work above.
Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be
on earth, or else in heaven, another year for thee.

Presider: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**John Oakes, the Staff, Wardens, and Elders
of St. Cyprian's Anglican Church and Iona Presbyterian Church
wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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 now taking a **Christmas break
and will resume in January at noon** in the **Fellowship Room.**

All are **welcome**, including newcomers.

Please bring your own lunch, if you want one.

Wednesday Noon Meditation

The **Wednesday meditation** is taking a **break for Christmas
and will resume in January** with David Rudd and others **at 12 noon.**

It is **20 minutes long** and a **helpful way to nurture your faith**
through the practice of silent prayer.

<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** on
Fridays at 7 p.m. is now taking a **Christmas break
and will resume in the New Year.**

All are welcome at any time. You can join online at:

<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

Happy Birthdays

Carol Clarke December 30

Lyn Lowry January 1

**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 is the love light of our Lord for all to know.**