

**St. Cyprian's Anglican Church
and Iona Presbyterian Church**
1080 Finch Ave East, Toronto, Ontario
Telephone: 416-494-2442

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



**Lent 4,
March 30, 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

Zoom Link for Sunday Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2897790104?pwd=WTVXeWtJZWV2RW9JVGJGOE5VUdVb1dz09>

Or call: 647 374 4685 or 647 558 0588

Meeting ID: 289 779 0104

Passcode: 432441

**March 30, 2025
Lent 4,
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.

Please stand

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #522: *Rock of Ages*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: 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.**

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)

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

#86: *More than We Can Ask or Imagine*

You Are My All in All

Verse 1

**You are my strength When I am weak You are the treasure That I seek
You are my all in all Seeking You as a precious jew'I Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all**

Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name

Verse 2

**Taking my sin My cross my shame Rising again I bless Your name You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up When I am dry You fill my cup You are my all in all.**

Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name

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PSALM 32

Leader: 1. Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

People: **2. Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

Leader: 3. While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

People: **4. For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Leader: 5. Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

People: **6. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Leader: 7. Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

People: **8. You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

Leader: 9. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

People: **10. Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

Leader: 11. Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

People: **12. Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

Leader: Let us pray. Watch over us, loving God, and when we fall into sin teach us to acknowledge our guilt. May we forgive and be forgiven, for the sake of the one who was wounded for our transgressions,
Jesus Christ your Son our Saviour. **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16–21 – Una Ford

Reader: The first reading is taken from the fifth chapter of the second Epistle to the Corinthians, beginning at the sixteenth verse.

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin¹ for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG: *He Has Made Me Glad*

*I will enter His gates With thanksgiving in my heart I will enter His courts with praise I will say this is the day
That the Lord has made I will rejoice For He has made me glad*

Chorus

*He has made me glad He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad
He has made me glad He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad*

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Gospel Reading Luke 15:1–3, 11–32 – Hanson Lam

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

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

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering round to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.'³ Then Jesus told them this parable:¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.¹³ Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild

living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father. 'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him. ²¹ 'The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'²² 'But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.²⁵ 'Meanwhile, the elder son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ 'The elder brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

After the reading

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SONG: *He Has Made Me Glad*

*I will enter His gates With thanksgiving in my heart I will enter His courts with praise I will say this is the day
That the Lord has made I will rejoice For He has made me glad*

Chorus

*He has made me glad He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad
He has made me glad He has made me glad I will rejoice for He has made me glad*

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SERMON “The Prodigal” John Oakes

CHOIR ANTHEM “Jesus, Remember Me” (Jacques Berthier/Taizé Community)

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: For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For Bishops Andrew, Keviu and Riscylla, for Interim Moderator Alex, and for John, our priest and pastor, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For peace in the world, especially for those nations riven by war and conflict, including Ukraine, Russia, Israel and other countries, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all who are in sorrow, sickness or any kind of trouble, including Diane, Edna, Judy and for others whom we now name . . . , that they may find comfort, healing and relief, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

COLLECTS

Leader: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from the assaults of our enemies, that we may trust in your defense, and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world, evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him, 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.

Please stand

OFFERTORY HYMN #455: *Dear God, Compassionate and Kind*

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Leader: God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. Accept all we offer you this day, in the name of Jesus Christ the 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN #564: *Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us*

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!
All: **Thanks be to God.**

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship.

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 special joint fellowship time together in the Iona space.

Sunday Bible Study

The **Sunday Bible Study** continues **today at noon** in the Fellowship Room **with our study for Lent.**

Wednesday Noon Meditation

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9321564941?pwd=QmhLdDZ6ekQ2a1FLMmRWK2tXU0F0Zz0>

9

Meeting ID: 932 156 4941

Passcode: 1080

Wednesday Evening Lenten Services

Rev. John is offering an online Zoom Compline or Evening Prayer service at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday through Lent. The link is the same as 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

Devotional Guide for Lent

The Diocese of Toronto has made available a good devotional guide for Lent in the form of **#LiveLent: God's Story, Our Story** —a resource developed by Dean Stephen Hance of St. James Cathedral, when he was the Evangelism and Discipleship Lead for the Church of England. The guide can be downloaded here: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Live-Lent-Small-Group-Guide.pdf>. We are also basing our Bible studies on related material this Lent.

Friday Zoom Bible Study

Rev. John's **weekly Zoom Bible Study meets on Fridays at 7 p.m.** to continue a **new study for Lent.** 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. 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.**

Easter Flowers

We will be purchasing memorial flowers for the Easter service.

If anyone from St. Cyprians or Iona would like to remember someone in this way, **please donate by Wednesday April 9.** On your donation envelope, please clearly print the following

information:

- 1) Your name or family name (i.e., how you wish it to appear in the bulletin)
- 2) The name(s) of those you wish to remember/honour.

If preferred, write-ups may be emailed to Stacey at: Stacey.leslie.2993@gmail.com

Happy Birthdays

Joyce Brome Mar 31

**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.**