



**TOORAK
UNITING
CHURCH**

We are a people
who follow Jesus.
His words and actions
inform our living.

03 9829 0300
office@toorakuc.org.au

To protect our community, if you have Covid or flu-like symptoms please wear a mask during worship, particularly when singing. Maintaining a distance of 1.5m from others is also recommended.

Order of Service

7 April 2024 – 10:15am Worship Service

Worship Leader – Rev Peter Whitaker

Organist – Elizabeth Buttery



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas
by Caravaggio 1571-1610

Introit

BWV 630 Heut Triumpieret Gottes

Johann S Bach

1685-1750

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN THIS PLACE

Call to Worship

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.

The Lord has made known his salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sign of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards
the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth;
break into singing and make music.

(Psalm 98)

Hymn 376 I know that my redeemer lives

Prayers of Approach

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Your word is a lamp to our feet:
and a light to our path.

Reading Acts 4: 32-37

Leonie Dillon

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Reading John 20: 19-31

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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."

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." 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."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 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."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.

Lord may your word live in us:
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Hymn 156 Morning has broken

Sermon The Idiosyncrasy of Christian Fellowship

Hymn 411 Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord

THE SERVICE OF RESPONSE

Dedication of Offering

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.*

Hymn 370 Christ the Lord is risen today

Postlude Prélude et Toccata sur Victimae Paschali Laudes

*Denis Bédard
1950—*

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 7 April 2024



office@toorakuc.org.au
www.toorakuc.org.au

Phone 9829 0300
Sunday services 9am & 10:15am

The deadline for Update submissions is 3pm on the Tuesday prior

Thank You!

March was a busy month at TUC.

I wanted to particularly thank the 4 'welcomers' who when approached to cover what would have been Anne's duties, did so without hesitation.

Anne usually found the readers for services but hadn't started filling the March slots. We give our sincere thanks to all the readers, and especially the 12 extra ones who stepped up to read at the 3 Easter services. Your kindness and willingness to assist when asked, was much appreciated.

Then I paused to reflect on how many give their time and talents to enrich and support our weekly services.

March was indeed a busy month: 3 ministers, 11 services, 1 organist and choir master, 1 pianist, 22 choristers, 20 readers, 10 'welcomers', 5 floral contributions, 1 'live stream' support and 1 assistant. 15 serving morning tea (including for a group of 100), 3 office staff, 1 church warden, several 'Good Friday' walk and morning tea organisers, all those who quietly contribute behind the scenes, and everyone who by their presence, are part of the TUC family.

Thank you.

Fiona

I Heard a Voice from Heaven **Sunday, 21 April at 2:00pm**

Immerse yourself in celestial sounds while backing a good cause! This beautiful concert of sacred vocal music by Bach, Bruckner, Fauré, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Rossini and others, is in support of Uniting AgeWell's *Music For David* program (which helps people with dementia through music therapy), and Kinross Arts Centre.

Tickets \$35/ \$30 concession (includes refreshments)

Book now: www.trybooking.com/CPMGA.

Tickets also available at the door.

For enquiries, please call **0429 907 908**

Art for the Music

Bronwen Gibbs

April 29—May 24

Art for the Music is a series of etchings that elegantly integrates poetic imagery to complement a musical journey. Inspired by the natural environment and muted hues of Western Port.

Opening Celebration: Friday, May 3. 6-8pm

Artist Talk: Tuesday, May 7. 11am



Image Credit: Bronwen Gibbs (2019), ***Limosna Bird 1***, [multilayered intaglio and watercolour], 22.5cm x 13cm. Courtesy the artist.

April Diary Dates

Sun	7 April	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev Peter Whitaker
Sun	7 April	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Peter Whitake
Mon	8 April	9:30am	Pastoral Care Group	Faichney Room
Tue	9 April	7:30pm	Discussion Group	Zoom
Sun	14 April	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev Gillian Crozier
Sun	14 April	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Gillian Crozier
Tue	16 April	7:30pm	Discussion Group	Zoom
Wed	17 April	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Sun	21 April	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev John Edwards
Sun	21 April	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev John Edwards
Sun	21 April	2:00pm	Music for David Concert	Worship Centre
Tue	23 April	7:30pm	Discussion Group	Zoom
Wed	24 April	10:00am	Prayers for Christian Unity	St Peter's Church
Wed	24 April	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Sun	28 April	10:15am	Combined Worship Service	Rev Peter Whitaker



Scan this QR-code for the Zoom link to the 7:30pm
Tuesday evening Discussion Group



The flowers in church today are from Judy Prasser

Your offering will be gratefully received via direct credit to
Account Name: Toorak Church
BSB: 033086 Account Number: 911892

Welcome to Toorak Uniting Church

Toorak Uniting Church acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We welcome all people irrespective of race, religion, political views, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or age. Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here at Toorak Uniting Church.

Toorak Uniting Church has been a proud member of the Toorak Ecumenical Movement since signing the Ecumenical Agreement in 1980. We pray for our partner churches: St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, St John's Anglican Church and the Swedish Church.