



TOORAK
UNITING
CHURCH

We are a people who follow
the way of Jesus of Nazareth.
His words and actions
inform our living today.

03 9829 0300

office@toorakuc.org.au

Order of Service

Sunday, 11 May 2025

10:15am Worship Service

Minister Rev Sylvia Akauola-Tongotongo

Director of Music Dylan Quinlan-Baskett



Introit

I am the good Shepherd

George Thomas Thalben-Ball 1896-1987

I am the good Shepherd; the good shepherd layeth down his life for the sheep. They shall be one flock, and one shepherd.

Welcome

Gathering

People of God, we gather today to celebrate and give thanks for the gift of life and for the gift of mothers.

We give thanks for mothers and their contributions to life, to families, and to communities.

Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we gather with thanksgiving to honour all mothers, past and present whose spirit, faith, voices, teachings and ways of being continue to live with us.

Gracious God, we thank you for your presence with us always. May our hearts and minds be opened to worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

Hymn 161 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Reading Proverbs 31: 10-31 Adelle Merrall

May the ear of our heart be attentive to these words

In these words may we hear the spirit

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen

garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Honour her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Anthem The Lord is my shepherd

Howard Goodall 1958 -

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want, He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters. Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, For you are with me, You will comfort me . Surely goodness and mercy, shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Reading Luke 1:46-50

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me – holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

For the words that speak to our realities

We give thanks.

Reflection Mother, the foothold of the child
 Tama tu'u he fa'e

Hymn Faith of our mothers, living still (tune on page 6)

Faith of our mothers, living still
In cradle song and bedtime prayer;
In nursery lore and fireside love,
Thy presence still pervades the air.
Faith of our mothers, living faith,
We will be true to these till death.

Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,
Oh, may the consecration prove
Source of a finer, nobler race;
Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
For youthful longing, youthful doubt,
How blurred our vision, blind our way,
Thy providential care without.
Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
We will be true to these till death.

Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
In truth beyond our stumbling creeds,
Still serve the home and save the Church,
And breathe thy spirit through our deeds;
Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Author: Arthur Bardwell Patten

Offering Mother of God, here I stand

John Kenneth Tavener 1944-2013

*Mother of God, here I stand now praying, Before this icon of your radiant
brightness, Not praying to be saved from a battlefield, Not giving thanks,
nor seeking forgiveness For the sins of my soul, nor for all the souls. Numb,
joyless and desolate on earth, But for her alone, whom I wholly give you.*

Dedication of Offering

Everyday offers us the opportunity to make a difference not just in our
own lives but in the lives of others.

May our gratitude for life be expressed in our generosity.

May our faith be expressed in commitment to justice.

***May our trust in God find expression in simple acts of kindness
lived out in our ordinary lives, Amen.***

Community Notices

Prayers

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 forever. Amen.

Honouring Mothers

Hymn 107 Sing praise and thanksgiving

Benediction

As we leave worship today, go confidently and in peace, knowing that you are loved and you are enough to live life in its fullness. And may the Lord continue to bless you, with:

the passion for living and loving;

the courage for daring and hoping;

the freedom for growing and changing; and

the strength for enduring.

Amen

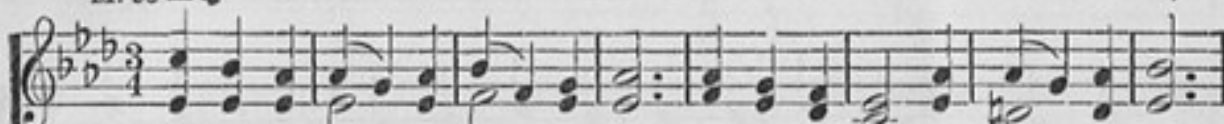

Postlude Récit de Nazard

Louis Nicolas Clérambault 1676-1749

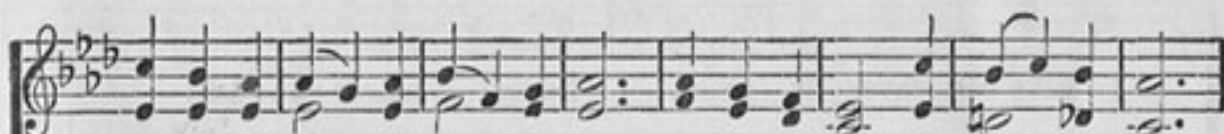
Faith of Our Fathers.

Frederick W. Faber.

Ad. by J. G. Walton.

M. 96 = 

1. Faith of our mo - thers, li - - ving still In cra - dle song and bed - time prayer
2. Faith of our mo - thers, lo - - ving faith, Fount of our child-hood's trust and grace,
3. Faith of our mo - thers, guid - ing faith, For youthful long - ing, youth-ful doubt,
4. Faith of our mo - thers, Christian faith, In truth be - yond our stum - bling creeds,



1. In nurs-ery lore and fire - side love, Thy presence still per-vades the air.
2. Oh, may the con - sec-ra - tion prove, Source of a fi - - ner, no - - bler race;
3. How blurred our vision, blind our way, Thy pro - vi - den - tial care with- out.
4. Still serve the home and save the Church, And breathe thy spirit through our deeds;



1. Faith of our mo - thers, li - - ving faith, We will be true to these till death.
2. Faith of our mo - thers, lo - - ving faith, We will be true to thee till death.
3. Faith of our mo - thers, guid - ing faith, We will be true to these till death.
4. Faith of our mo - thers, Christian faith, We will be true to thee till death



Peony pink by Sylvia Isaac



The flowers are given today in honour of our mothers and those of TUC members;
and with special thoughts of mothers struggling against
adversity and the survival of their children
(Christine and Garry Brown)

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 respects past and present 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.