



**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 19 April, 2026

Easter 3

10:15am Worship Service with Holy Communion

Minister: Rev Sylvia Akauola-Tongotongo
Director of Music: Dylan Quinlan-Baskett



**A
REVELATORY
MOMENT**

Introit

O taste and see
Ralph Vaughan Williams

1872-1958

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
Blest is the man that trusteth in Him.*

Welcome

Call to Worship

With lives open to the gift of healing, the gift of forgiveness, the gift of renewal, the gift of life,

We gather in faith to worship God.

Hymn 393 Christ is alive
vv. 1, 3, 5-6

Prayer of Approach

***God of all time, may we live each day with your compassion.
Enveloped in your light, may we be beacons to those in search
of light. Sheltered in your peace, may we offer shelter to those in
need of peace. Embraced by your presence, so may we be
present to others. Amen.***

Reading Luke 24: 13-35 Keith Ferguson
The Walk to Emmaus

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Offering Verily, verily I say unto you
Thomas Tallis

1505-1585

Verily, verily I say unto you: except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.

Who so eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

Prayer of Dedication

God of our faith, we give thanks for the gift of life, and your abundant provision of what we need for life. We offer our lives and our gifts to be agents and channels of your love for the world. Bless our giving and our living. Amen.

Community Notices

Prayers of the People

Christine Brown

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.

Hymn 576 O for a closer walk with God
vv. 1-3, 6

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

'Come as you are' is the invitation to the table representing God's hospitality. You are all welcome at the Lord's table – where we share the elements of bread and wine that become for us the bread of life and the cup of endless love.

Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks for in its richness and for the earth and its abundance.

We give thanks for Jesus Christ, who models love and compassion for us followers.

We recall how Jesus shared a meal with his disciples. He took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "This is my body which is given for you." In the same way he took the cup, and after giving thanks, poured it out and gave it to his disciples saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God sealed with my blood."

With Holy Communion, we reaffirm our commitment to our relationship with God and with one another.

We are called to be the church in this place, and together we affirm the Church's faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

In Christ and through Christ we receive the generous hospitality of God with grateful hearts.

The bread of life given for you; and

The cup of love poured out for you.

Let us receive these gifts in faith with thanksgiving.

Distribution of Elements

Prayer after Communion

God of all, we give thanks that we have been nourished by these symbols of your love for us. May we continue to grow in love for each other. May we live each day with courage and in peace, as followers of Christ. Amen.

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter
Update 19 April 2026

office@toorakuc.org.au
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

Deadline for Update submission is 3pm on the Wednesday prior.



19 April – Communion Sunday

Each month on the third Sunday we come together to celebrate Communion. It is these Sundays we have the opportunity to donate towards our four Outreach programs we support. These programs are all under the umbrella of the Uniting Church and greatly rely on and appreciate our support. They are The Homework Hub in Pakenham, The Cranbourne Food Truck, the Boroondara Community Outreach in Kew, and SOSK (Skills, Opportunity and Survival in Kenya).

You may either donate cash into the Outreach offering bowl at the rear of the Church or you may donate electronically at any time to Toorak Uniting Church, marking your donation as "Outreach".

BSB: 033 086

Account Number: 911 892

Thank you for your heartfelt support!

26 April – Combined Service and ANZAC Sunday

Please note that Next Sunday, 26 April will be a Combined Service at 10:15am in the form of Worship used in the 9am Service, that is participatory in 'Conversation with Scripture'. The lectionary readings will be Psalm 23 and John 10: 1-10. Please read them and bring your questions and comments on what strikes you to contribute to the conversation. The service will include the Anzac Day remembrance, however as is customary in the 9am service, there will be no separate choral singing. We apologise that this exceptional service will not be able to be livestreamed and we invite our online worshippers to take the opportunity to revisit one of the previous Anzac Day services on our Youtube channel.

The service will be followed by a special morning tea in the Hall during which there will be an important update on developments in the campus renewal project. Contributions of Anzac biscuits to morning tea are most welcome!

All are welcome to attend our next Ecumenical Prayers for Christian Unity on **Thursday, 30 April** at 10:30am at St Johns Anglican Church in Toorak.

Church Council Membership

The congregation AGM will take place in May, most likely on Sunday, 31 May. New members of Church Council will be elected at that meeting. Church Council is the decision-making body charged with “upholding the congregation in faith and love”. Being on Church Council gives you the opportunity to assist with setting the direction for our community.

Current serving members: Barbara McKinnon (Chair), Chris Begg (Treasurer), Catriona De Vere, Tim Brown, Nina Mumford, Anne Marie Box, Christine Brown, Thomson Sennitt, James Barber, Jonathan Lancaster, Jenny Stewardson, David Fallick, Rev Sylvia and Rev John.

We are seeking a new Treasurer and Secretary. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church and distributed electronically with a formal notice of meeting in the next week.

Mozart Great Mass in C Minor Concert | 5pm on Saturday, 16 May at St Paul's Cathedral, Cnr Flinders & Swanston Streets

Victoria Chorale is excited to present the Great Mass in C Minor by much-loved audience favourite, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Described as ‘Great’ because of its sheer size, the Mass represents Mozart at his most daring and innovative. Soaring above the conventions of his time, he crafted the C Minor Mass to be a work of breathtaking scope and architectural grandeur featuring many virtuoso arias for soprano and mezzo soprano and a double choir with two separate four-part choirs (soprano alto, tenor, bass) that push the human voice to its limits.

Conducted by our exciting and innovative Musical Director, Mario Dobernig, we will be joined by the brilliant Art of Sound Orchestra and talented soloists, Molly Ryan, Soprano, Sally-Anne Russell, Mezzo Soprano, Jiacheng Ding, Tenor and Michael Lampard, Baritone.

A performance not to be missed!

Pensioner, student, and child discounts apply. To book, please visit trybooking.com/DJDIF

Sammy Stamp Fundraising

For those of us who have been saving their used stamps for “Sammy Stamp,” the Uniting Church fundraising initiative, would you please hand in your latest collections to the TUC Office during the week, or give them to Stan Laugher after church on Sunday. We’re planning to deliver all our stamps to the Sammy Stamp team in a fortnight’s time.

TUC Sewing Circle is taking place on **Monday, 27 April at 11am** in the Wettenhall Room. Come along and bring your latest project or just yourself! BYO lunch, coffee and tea provided.

Educate 10,000 initiative

In these times of heightened antisemitism, TUC's Church Council draws members' attention to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria's "Educate 10,000" initiative which aims to promote social cohesion and understanding of Australian Jewish identity and history, and to combat antisemitism.

As part of the JCCV's initiative, the Jewish Museum of Australia is offering free 2-hour introductory sessions at **1:30pm on Wednesdays and 10:00am on Thursdays until 30 April, 2026**. Sessions include an introduction to Jewish life and community demographics, a Museum tour, and an introduction to historical and current forms of antisemitism.

Further details can be found at <https://jccv.org.au/>. To book into a session, please visit <https://shorturl.at/rn7K1>. If you do attend, please let James Barber know via jbarber@vicbar.com.au as Church Council would like to be able to report to the JCCV how many of the TUC Congregation have participated.

Mozart's Requiem and Unsung Heroes (Michael Easton) | 2:30pm on Sunday, 3 May at Hawthorn Arts Centre, 360 Burwood Rd

To be performed by Camberwell Chorale, including members of the TUC congregation! Mozart's final and most profound work, his Requiem, is a powerful and moving choral work renowned for dramatic intensity, stirring sequences, and evocative use of choir and orchestra. Michael Easton's compelling Unsung Heroes is based on the poetry of six famous English poets who served in WWI, and is a personal reflection of the Composer on the horror of war and its ultimate uselessness.

Featuring distinguished soloists Lauren Oldham (soprano), Kerrie Bolton (mezzo soprano), David Hobson (tenor), Adam Miller (bass), and conducted by Douglas Heywood OAM. **For tickets, please phone (03) 9278 4770 or use the online booking link:**

<https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/events/mozart-requiem-and-unsung-heroes-michael-easton>

April Diary Dates

Sun	19 Apr	9:00am	Worship in the Round (HC)	Rev Sylvia
Sun	19 Apr	10:15am	Worship Service (HC)	Rev Sylvia
Sun	19 Apr	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Mon	20 Apr	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Argyle House
Tue	21 Apr	7:30pm	Christian Meditation Group	Church Space
Tue	21 Apr	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom
Wed	22 Apr	5:00pm	Worship Committee Meeting	Faichney Room
Wed	22 Apr	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Thu	23 Apr	7:00pm	Church Council	Argyle House
Sun	26 Apr	10:15am	Combined Worship Service	Church Space
Sun	26 Apr	11:15am	Special Morning Tea	Hall



Artwork: Angela Abbott

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

Welcome to Toorak Uniting Church

Toorak Uniting Church acknowledges and respects the past and present Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island 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.