



**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 7 June, 2026

10:15am Worship Service

Pentecost 2

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

RESTORATIVE
INCLUSION AND
TRANSFORMATIVE
FAITH



Introit Christ Was the Word
Antony Baldwin

1957-

*Christ was the Word who spake it. He took the bread and brake it.
And what His word doth make it, that I believe and take it.*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Come as you are, and let us gather in prayer with thanksgiving.

***Creator Spirit, our centre and friend,
awaken our spirit to your presence.***

Eternal Spirit, in whom we live and move and have our being,
***well up within us that we may love and praise in deed
and in truth.***

Hymn 547 Be thou my vision

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Living and loving God, our origin, our depth, our companion for
the journey, we are truly grateful. We give thanks that you love
us because we are us. Your love is total, unconditional, and free,
never based on our behaviour or capacity. May we be more alert,
aware and grateful for your love that enables life to begin again
in a new way each day. Amen.***

Reading Matthew 9: 9-13,18-26

Adelle Merrall

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

Community Notices

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
forever. Amen.***

Hymn 599 Take my life, and let it be
 vv. 1, 2, 5-6

Blessing

Go forth in brave faith and hope, knowing that we are loved and
blessed with enough to live life with our best.

***May we go with passion for living and loving;
courage for daring and hoping;
freedom for growing and changing;
and the strength for enduring. Amen.***

Postlude

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 7 June 2026

office@toorakuc.org.au
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

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



TUC Family Conversations: 14 June – 26 July

Over the next two months, we will be holding four intentional conversation sessions during morning tea after the 10:15am services.

These gatherings will provide an opportunity for fostering our relationships, clarifying our identity, refocusing our purpose, and discerning where to go from here.

Dates and Topics:

- **14 June** – Who are we as Toorak Uniting Church Family?
- **28 June** – Pathways & Potholes: Celebrating signs of life and identifying challenges
- **12 July** – What is God calling us to? Exploring our purpose and mission
- **26 July** – Sharing insights and discerning the future direction of our Church Family

Your voice is important and everyone is warmly invited to join the conversations for thoughtful discussion, fellowship and food.

Visit to TUC from Korean Presbyterian Church

On Friday, 15 May, a group from the Gwacheon Presbyterian Church (GPC) in Korea visited and worshipped at TUC. They sought to retrace the steps of missionaries, including Joseph Henry Davies, the first missionary sent to Korea by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

The group included 42 visitors from GPC and 5 local Korean leaders. Worship was led by the former General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Korea, Rev Chang-bae Byun, who is now Team Leader for Casey Cardinia Regional Mission.

The group gifted two books (in Korean) and mementos to the office and were presented with a wooden cross from TUC by Rev Sylvia.



Welcoming and Reading Roster for the 10:15am Sunday Services

Fiona will soon be preparing the rosters for welcoming and reading at the 10:15am Sunday services for the rest of 2026. The roles are Reader, Welcome Leader and Welcome Support and the tasks are:

Reader:

- Read the specified readings during the service from the lectern
- The readings are emailed to the reader during the week

Welcome Leader and Welcome Support:

- Arrive between 9:45-10am and assist with any outstanding tasks for preparing the church for the service
- Greet worshippers as they arrive and hand over an Order of Service
- Assist with the offering
- If communion is served, assist with distributing the elements
- After the service, clear the communion table, straighten hymn books and collect any orders of service left behind

The Welcome Leader in addition:

- Check Bible, candle and cross are on the communion table with candle lit
- Collect orders of service from the session room
- Ask the Minister if any particular assistance is needed
- Share community news with the congregation from the lectern
- If communion is scheduled, prepare elements and clean up afterwards
- Close church after service, turn off lights and lock doors

These tasks are not onerous and are a vital part of our Sunday worship, supporting the Ministers, congregation and especially welcoming all to the service. Perhaps there is a special Sunday when you would like to read or help with the service? **If you would like to assist with one of these tasks, or need further information, please contact Fiona (contact details in the church directory or through the office).**

This is the last time Fiona will be preparing these rosters and is looking for 1 (or 2) people who would be willing to take over the preparation of the rosters from January 2027 onwards.

Nominations for the **2026 Stonnington Volunteer Awards** are now open at stonnington.vic.gov.au/volunteer-awards. Celebrate outstanding volunteers and community groups that help make Stonnington more inclusive, connected and vibrant. Please share this and consider nominating someone who makes a difference. Thank you for helping us recognise people who strengthen our community.

Digital Essentials: Smart Devices Class
10am-12:30pm on Fridays during Term 3 at TUC

This is a beginner friendly class designed to help improve confidence in using your own smart phone or device in a supportive classroom environment. Topics will include communicating with others via SMS and What's App, navigating the internet, using email and social media including apps such as PTV and MyGov, and staying safe online.

Classes will run for 10 weeks from 17 July - 18 September in the Faichney Room and fees start at \$87.

To register your interest or find out more, please call **03 9510 7052** or visit **socialplanet.com.au/activity/view?id=49580**.

The Dignity We Share: Interfaith Conference | Mon 29–Tue 30 June at Trinity College Theological School, 100 Royal Parade, Parkville

The Dignity We Share: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives on Faith, Identity, and Human Worth is an interfaith conference exploring how our traditions affirm human dignity—and where they have struggled to uphold it. Featuring keynote speakers Rabbi Allison Conyer, Dr Joshua Ralston, and Dr Jerusha Rhodes, the program includes an opening dinner on 29 June and a full conference day on 30 June with keynote addresses and panel discussion. For information and to book, please visit **trybooking.com/events/landing/1567886**.

Yarra Arts Trio Fundraising Concert | 2pm on Sunday, 28 June at Burwood Heights Uniting Church Cnr Burwood Hwy, Blackburn Rd

Please join us for a musical concert to support Burwood Heights congregation member Saane in raising the \$10,000 required for her to return home to Australia from Tonga. The concert will feature Edith Ellis on Piano, Shelley Heath on Violin, Anna Daniel on Cello and the afternoon will also include a craft stall. Entry is by donation. Come along to support the congregation in bringing Saane home.

June Diary Dates

Sun	7 Jun	9:00am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	7 Jun	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	7 Jun	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Mon	8 Jun	All Day	King's Birthday Public Holiday	TUC Office Closed
Tue	9 Jun	7:30pm	Christian Meditation Group	Online
Wed	10 Jun	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall
Sun	14 Jun	9:00am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	14 Jun	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	14 Jun	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Mon	15 Jun	9:30am	Pastoral Care	Faichney
Mon	15 Jun	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Argyle House



Artwork: Angela Abbott

The flowers in church today are in loving memory of June De Vere
and her mother, Mrs C M (Maime) Macleod from her family,
Richard, Tim, Catriona and Stan.

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 continues to be 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.