



**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](mailto:office@toorakuc.org.au)

# Order of Service

Sunday 1 March, 2026

10:15am Worship Service

Lent 2

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

**Doubt**  
**Boldly**

**Introit**            Teach me thy way, O Lord  
                         William Fox

-1579

*Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in Thy truth; O knit my heart unto Thee that I may fear Thy name. I will thank Thee, O Lord, my God, with all my heart, and will praise Thy name forever more. Amen.*

## **Welcome & Community Notices**

### **Call to Worship**

People of God, come as you are. Let us give thanks for life, for each other and all that we are blessed with each day.

***May our day begin with peace of mind, love in our heart and happiness in our soul. Amen.***

**Hymn 246**      Christ is the world's light

### **Reflective Prayer**

***Loving God, as we make our Lenten journey to new life, may we recognise, accept and appreciate your constant care for us. Lent is a time for us to learn to travel light, to clear the clutter from our lives and make space for grace. May we open our hearts to your guiding light, so we know what clutter we need to release from our lives. Amen.***

**Reading**            John 3: 1-17

Adelle Merrall

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes



## 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 583     Take up your cross

### Blessing

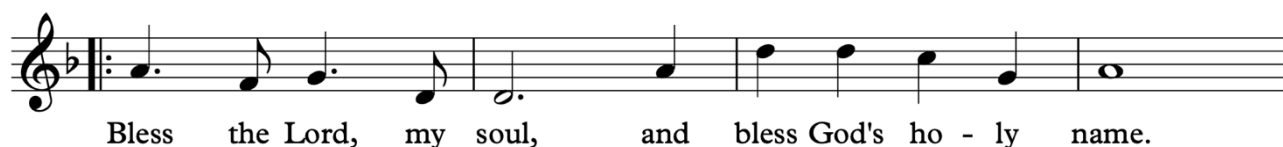
*Let us go boldly into the season of Lent and may the life  
renewing love of God give us the passion for living and loving;  
the courage for daring and hoping; the freedom for growing and  
changing; and the strength for enduring.*

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the  
fellowship of the Holy spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.*

Chant             Bless the Lord, my soul

Jacques Berthier

1923-1994



From the Taizé Community, 1978.

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter  
**Update 1 March 2026**

office@toorakuc.org.au  
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:  
9am & 10:15am

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



### Reflections on the Meaning of the Cross

The Toorak Ecumenical Movement warmly invites all to join in a meaningful period of reflection during Lent. This gathering brings together the congregations of the four churches in Toorak, offering an opportunity to deepen spiritual understanding and community connection in this sacred season.

The Lenten studies will be led by Revd Peter Whitaker, who will guide participants through the theme “Reflections on the Meaning of the Cross.” All sessions begin at 7pm on Tuesday evenings as follows:

- 3 March** at St Peter’s Catholic Church
- 10 March** at Toorak Uniting Church
- 17 March** at The Swedish Church
- 24 March** at St John’s Anglican Church

For more information, please speak with Rev Sylvia or Stan Laugher.

### Argyle House Garden Watering

Barbara McKinnon, Mary Davidson and Stan Laugher gave the Argyle House garden some love on Sunday, 15 February with some watering, weeding, and trimming of the hedges. The watering system has failed so there is a need for some volunteers to form a watering roster.

Please reach out to Barbara McKinnon if you’re interested in helping.

### World Day of Prayer

The 2026 Ecumenical World Day of Prayer is being held at St Peter’s Catholic Church on **Friday, 6 March at 2pm**. Everyone is welcome to join.

Christian Meditation will not be running on Tuesday, 3 March as the group leader, April Blackwell, is away on retreat. We look forward to meeting again on Zoom on **Tuesday, 10 March at 7:30pm**.

### March Diary Dates

Sun	01 Mar	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev Sylvia
Sun	01 Mar	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	01 Mar	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Mon	02 Mar	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Kinross Café
Tue	03 Mar	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom
Wed	04 Mar	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Fri	06 Mar	10:30am	Coffee Club	Kinross Café
Sun	08 Mar	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev Sylvia
Sun	08 Mar	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	08 Mar	10:15am	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.