



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

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**Please sign in using the QR code. If you do not have mobile phone access, the elder on duty can assist. Masks must be worn at all times, including while singing.**

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# Order of Service

**Sunday 26 December 2021**

**10:15 am Worship Service**

**Worship Leader**

**Rev. John Edwards**

**Organist**

**Thomas Man**



**Prelude**

**Bring Your Thanks to God**

*Paul Taylor*

**Welcome and community news**

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created, and he established them for ever and ever—he issued a decree that will never pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and women, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendour is above the earth and the heavens. And he has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to his heart.

Praise the Lord.

**Hymn 15**      God is my strong salvation

### **Prayers of confession and gratitude**

**Reading**      Philippians 3: 7-14

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

**Sermon**            Where to in '22?

**Hymn 168**        For the fruits of all Creation

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

### **Prayers for others and ourselves**

**Hymn 106**        Now thank we all our God

### **The Blessing**

**Postlude**        Christmas Postlude on "In Dulci Jubilo"  
*Gilbert M. Martin 1936-2015*



The flowers in the church today are from Anne Smith

### **Welcome to Toorak Uniting Church**

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.