



**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 6 September 2026

Pentecost 15 – Season of Creation

10:15am Father's Day Worship Service

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



Making Love Real

Introit O come let us sing unto the Lord - Psalm 95:1
Richard C Baker

O come, let us sing let us sing unto the Lord, let us make a joyful noise unto the rock of our salvation.

Welcome

Call to Worship

God is here, present with us.

God, the source of all life, present in every part of the fabric of creation.

Christ is here, present with us.

Christ, the archetype of love, our teacher, guide and friend.

Spirit is here, present with us.

Spirit, breath of God in whom we live and move and have our being.

Let us worship with thanksgiving.

Hymn 158 God has spoken by his prophets

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, on this Father's Day, we give thanks for the gift of fathers – for those here today, for our own fathers, for those we remember, and we thank You, our Creating, Sustaining, Loving Father.

We give thanks for the gift of your creation, of which we gather as part of your community and garden of all creation. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop of water is a sacred testament of your love.

For the gift of life, for each other and our time of worship and fellowship, we give thanks. Amen.

Your word is a lamp to our feet: ***and a light to our path.***

Matthew 18: 15-20

Reproving Another Who Sins

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Romans 13: 8-10

Love for One Another

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

For words that stir our faith into action, ***we give thanks.***

Anthem

Cantate Domino - Come ye with joyfulness

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

1657-1743

Cantate Domino canticum novum: laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum.

Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum: et filiae Sion exultent in rege suo.

[Come ye with joyfulness, come sing ye. O come ye, sing a new song to your Maker. O praise him with the saintly congregation. Israel, be joyful and glad in him who made Israel, and children of Sion be joyful, rejoice and be glad in your King.]

Reflection

Making Love Real

Hymn Faith of our Fathers
Frederick William Faber

Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!

(Refrain)

*Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!*

Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free;
And blest would be their children's fate,
If they, like them should die for thee

(Refrain)

Faith of our fathers, we will strive
To win all nations unto thee;
And through the truth that comes from God
Mankind shall then indeed be free.

(Refrain)

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee, too, as love knows how
By kindly words and virtuous life

(Refrain)

Offering Ubi caritas et amor - Where charity and love
Maurice Durufle 1902-1986

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero, sincero.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen.*

*[Where there is charity and love, God is there.
The love of Christ's has gathered us as one.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Let us honour and love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love one other.]*

Prayer of Dedication

We bring our gifts with grateful hearts. May these gifts be symbols of our commitment to making your love real each day. Bless our living and our giving. Amen.

Community Notices

Prayers of the People

Jesus needed a time of peace, and so do we. Let us pray:

Breathe your Spirit into our busy lives, Loving God, and we will know your peace and all-embracing love.

We need peace in the world. Let us reflect quietly on the needs of our troubled world, divided by war, competition and power. How might we respond to those needs ... (silent reflection)

Breathe your Spirit into our busy lives, Loving God, and we will know your peace and all-embracing love.

We need peace in the church. The peace that comes through prayer, music, words of scripture, stories and news shared. The peace that comes through reflecting on how the challenges of the faith community may be met in the coming months. (silent reflection)

The peace that comes through meeting needs in the local community and beyond.

Breathe your Spirit into our busy lives, Loving God, and we will know your peace and all-embracing love.

Each one of us needs peace. The peace that is ours as we apologize for a word or action that has hurt or caused trouble. The peace that is ours when we offer or accept forgiveness. (silent reflection)

At peace we welcome fresh thoughts and words of inspiration. We are aware of those who are sick, and troubled, for whom peace is a rare commodity. And we bring to mind those who have lost loved ones ... (silent reflection)

Breathe your Spirit into our busy lives, Loving God, and we will know your peace and all-embracing love. Amen.

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 779 May the feet of God walk with you (sung twice)

Blessing

With the assurance of the presence of God with us always, let us go confidently into each new day, knowing that we are loved and blessed with enough to live life in its fullness.

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

Postlude Malo Sisu

Malo Sisu (x4)

[Thank you Jesus]

Fakafeta'i 'Eiki (x4)

[Praise you Lord]

Haleluia! (x4)

[Hallelujah]

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 6 September 2026

update@toorakuc.org.au
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

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



Music to Inspire

Replacement of the spire is scheduled to commence in early October. We are so lucky that David Ross-Smith has organized an exciting spire fund-raising concert for **Sunday, 11 October starting at 3 pm.**

Performers will include members of the choir, at least two other members of the congregation, as well as further wonderful musicians. One of our ministers has promised to perform *Nessun Dorma* if needed!

This inspiring music is not to be missed, and it will be followed by afternoon tea. Entry by donation.

Cranbourne Food Truck

We are asking for donations of any clean, warm clothing you might be able to donate to our Outreach Project, the Cranbourne Food Truck.

Many of their drop-in guests are either living rough or sometimes sleeping in their cars. Warm jumpers, windcheaters, jackets and coats, blankets and sleeping bags would be gratefully received.

Please bag them and drop them into Monique during office hours:
Monday 12:00 to 4:00, Tuesday through Friday 9:00 to 4:00.

Exploring the Bible

Our *Exploring the Bible* sessions continue each Monday at 10.30 am in Argyle House and each Tuesday at 7.30 pm by Zoom.

There will be an *Exploring the Bible* retreat on Sunday 20 September. This will be from 12 noon until 3.30 pm, and will comprise prayers and meditation. All are welcome. If you are able to attend only for part of the time, that would be quite in order. Further information from Rev Peter, on pcwhitaker@icloud.com.

Christian Meditation

Christian Meditation Group on 8 September will be at 7:30 pm by Zoom. For more information, contact April at lirpanotes@icloud.com.

TUC Directory

The church office is preparing a new edition of the TUC Directory for distribution later this month. If you're currently in the Directory and any of your contact details have changed, please send your updated details to the office via office@toorakuc.org.au.

If you're not currently in the Directory but would like to be, please let the office know. The Directory is only supplied to TUC congregation members who have chosen to have their details included, and is used exclusively for ministry and activities related to the church.

Fellowship at TUC

TUC is working towards establishing initiatives such as a Chatty Cafe and a Men's Group to provide more opportunities for fellowship and also reach out into the wider community. Rev Sylvia would be happy to hear from you if you would like to assist.

In the meantime, if you want to sample these kind of activities, Prahran Place Neighbourhood centre has a number on offer that may be of interest, as outlined below.

Come Say Hello at Prahran Place

Feeling like getting out and about? Prahran Place has something for everyone, whatever your age or interests. Our central location in Grattan Gardens is close to Prahran Market and the Prahran train station. Pop in for Chatty Cafe to grab a cuppa and a laugh, and join in on some games, or lace up for one of our morning walking groups, a lovely way to stretch the legs and chat along the way.

If you're navigating My Aged Care, we run regular information sessions and can also arrange a 1-on-1 chat to help you sort out what you need.

We also run monthly group outings for My Aged Care clients. Love getting creative? Try your hand at crochet, studio arts, sewing or hand ceramics - all welcoming groups for any skill level. Everyone's welcome! Give us a call on **9510 7052** or check out our website to find out what's on and when at prahranplace.org.au.

Intergenerate 2026

This gathering will inspire conversations about the flourishing of faith communities where all ages grow together. Come along to Manningham Uniting Church on Saturday 15 October, 9.30 am - 4 pm.

Blessing of the Animals

Our service at 10.15 am on 4 October 2026 (St Francis Day) will be conducted by Rev Barbara Allen and will include a Blessing of the Animals. For the Blessing, you are most welcome to bring along your pet, but please do not bring them if they are likely to be stressed by this event (this would apply to most cats). If this will be the case for your animal companion, then please bring a photo of them instead. We will also have a prayer of remembrance, so if your pet has died, please bring along a photo of them if possible, or have their name written down.

Agatha's Cantata, Vivaldi's Gloria

We mentioned last week that the **Australian Chamber Choir** with an orchestra of period instruments directed by Douglas Lawrence will present **Agatha's Cantata, Vivaldi's Gloria** at Scots' Church, Melbourne, 5 pm, Saturday 12 September. See previous *Updates* for details. Book at www.auschoir.org, or call 0452 531 750.

Morning Tea thanks

Special thanks to all who assisted by bringing plates or in other ways at last week's morning tea.

Diary Dates

Sun	6 Sep	9.00 am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	6 Sep	10.15 am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
			followed by morning tea	Faichney
Mon	7 Sep	10.30 am	Exploring the Bible	Argyle House
Tue	8 Sep	7.30 pm	Christian Meditation	Zoom
Tue	8 Sep	7.30 pm	Exploring the Bible	Zoom
Wed	9 Sep	7.00 pm	Handbells	Wettenhall
Thu	10 Sep	7.00 pm	Church Council	Argyle House
Fri	11 Sep	10.00 am	Digital Essentials Class	Faichney
Sun	13 Sep	9.00 am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	13 Sep	10.15 am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
			followed by morning tea	



Artwork: Sylvia Isaac

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 the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we worship, and we pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

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.