



**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**

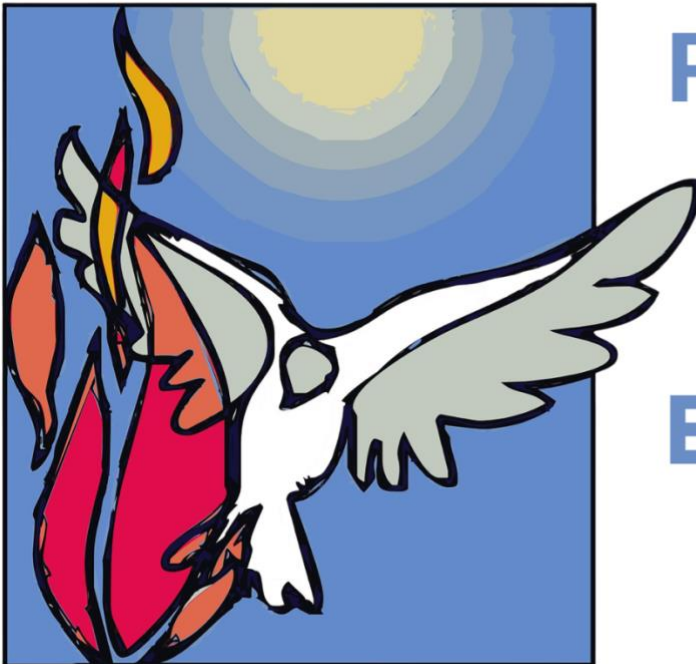
# Order of Service

**Sunday 24 May, 2026**

**10:15am Worship Service**

**Pentecost Sunday**

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



**PENTECOST  
IS ABOUT  
EVERYBODY  
ALWAYS**

**Introit** Pentecost  
Richard Proulx

1937-2010

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,  
kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Come, Holy Spirit, come, fill our hearts with your love.*

## **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

The Spirit moves like a rushing wind, sweeping into the quiet corners of our lives.

***Holy Spirit, fill this place with your power!***

The Spirit burns like tongues of fire, warming our hearts and lighting our way.

***Holy Spirit, set our lives ablaze with your love!***

From every nation, tribe and tongue, the Spirit of God gathers us together as one body.

***Let us open our hearts and worship God!***

**Hymn 398** Come down, O Love divine

### **Prayer of Approach**

***God of all people and of all time, we gather on this Pentecost Sunday with thanksgiving for the gift of life and for the gift of your Holy Spirit. May your Spirit flow through our lives stirring into flame compassion and courage to live lovingly. May we be united in love, renewed in faith and empowered in your Spirit to be your witnesses in the world. Amen.***

**Reading** Acts 2: 17-21 Hugh Luxford

"In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's



## Community Notices

### Prayers of the People

#### The Lord's Prayer

*Contemporary Version by Jim Cotter in NZ Prayerbook*

***Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is heaven –***

***The hallowing of your name echo through the universe; the way of your justice be followed by all peoples on Earth;  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on Earth.***

***With the bread we need for today, feed us; in the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us; In the times of temptation and test, strengthen us; From trials too great to endure, spare us; From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.***

**Hymn 687**    God gives us a future

#### Blessing

***May the Holy Spirit bless us all with peace, wisdom, and strength, renewing our hearts with grace and love, today and always. Amen.***

#### Postlude

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

# Update 24 May 2026

office@toorakuc.org.au  
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:  
9am & 10:15am

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



## TOORAK UNITING CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE \*\*\***

**To be held at 11:00am on Sunday 31st May 2026 (or so soon thereafter as the 10:15am service permits) in the Church**

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation will be held at 11:00am on Sunday 31st May 2026 (or so soon thereafter as the 10:15am service permits) in the Church.

The agenda will be as follows.

1. Election of Elders and members of Church Council.\*
2. To consider and if thought fit to receive the Annual Report for 2025.
3. To consider and if thought fit to approve the Annual Financial Report for 2025.

Copies of these reports have been sent out to members electronically. Please contact the Church office if you would like a hard copy.

To date nominations have been received from Jonathan Lancaster as Elder and for Anne Marie Box, Thisby Lau and Nicholas Tolhurst as members of Church Council.

Catriona De Vere and Nina Mumford have decided not to stand for renewed terms.

## **Stonnington Community Uniting Church Feast for Freedom 12pm Sunday, 31 May. 57-59 Burke Rd, E. Malvern (cnr Coppin St)**

Join us for a fundraising lunch to share recipes from around the world and listen to our guest speaker, a former asylum seeker from Iran. A warm, welcoming meal designed to spark understanding and inspire action. Bring a friend, share a conversation, and help raise awareness that here in Australia, everyone deserves a seat at the table.

This Feast for Freedom aims to raise money for the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre which provides food, shelter and health services for over 8,500 people who need support settling into Australia every year. Places are limited and registration is essential. For details, please visit <https://www.stonningtonchurch.org.au/event/feast-for-freedom/>.

## Ecumenical Prayers for Christian Unity

TUC is hosting Ecumenical Prayers for Christian Unity on **Thursday, 28 May at 10:30am**. This will be followed by fellowship and a light lunch in Argyle House. All are welcome to join.

## Book launch for *Red Ochre Theology* | 5:30pm Thursday, 18 June at Pilgrim Centre of Theology, 29 College Cres. Parkville

Join us to celebrate the launch of *Red Ochre Theology*, a new book from Auntie Prof. Anne Pattel-Gray, a scholar who has spent the past two decades decolonising biblical narratives and constructing a theology that draws on Australia's First Nations creation stories, customs, ceremonies, rituals, and philosophy.

The evening will feature reflections from theologian Garry Worete Deverell and Prof. Peter Sherlock, moderated by Robyn Whitaker. Registration is free and books will be available for purchase and signing on the night. For more information and to register, please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/red-ochre-theology-book-launch>.

## Exploring the Bible

Returning this week! In person on **Monday, 25 May** at 10:30am in Argyle House, and online on **Tuesday, 26 May** at 7:30pm. We look forward to gathering again soon.

## TUC Sewing Circle - 25 May at 11am in the Wettenhall Room

Come along and bring your latest project or just yourself!  
BYO lunch, coffee and tea provided.

To RSVP, contact either Margot **0409 361 877** or Angela **0407 887 596**.

## May Diary Dates

Sun	24 May	9:00am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	24 May	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	24 May	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Mon	25 May	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Argyle House
Mon	25 May	11:00am	Sewing Circle	Wettenhall
Tue	26 May	7:30pm	Christian Meditation Group	Online
Tue	26 May	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible	Zoom
Wed	27 May	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall
Thu	28 May	10:30am	Prayers for Christian Unity	Church Space
Thu	28 May	11:30am	Prayers for Unity Refreshments	Argyle House
Sun	31 May	9:00am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun	31 May	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	31 May	11:00am	TUC Annual General Meeting	Church Space
Sun	31 May	12:00pm	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 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.