



**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 28 September, 2025**

**Pentecost 16**

**10:15am Combined Worship Service**

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

**MISSED  
OPPORTUNITY**

## Introit

Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord

Donald Joseph Cashmore

1926-2013

*Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.*

# Welcome

## Gathering Words

May there be peace and compassion in our lives today

***Peace for all, this day.***

May there be joy and resilience in our hearts today

***Joy for all, this day.***

May there be encouragement and faithfulness in our words and deeds today

***Faith for all, this day.***

May there be hopefulness and justice alive in our prayers and our songs today

***Hope for all, this day.***

Love is among us. God with us.

***God for us all. Amen!***

## Hymn 102     Praise to the living God

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

***God of wisdom, your mind is searching among the depths of our life with all its ambiguity and fears, its complex wanderings and lack of understanding. We thank you for your truth that opens us to the grounds of justice.***

***Listening God, you are tuned to all of us, never missing fragile voices or whispers of desperation. Thank you for listening to our silent sounds of longing, to the voices of caring and the voices of the little and the least.***

***Loving God, your heart feels for us, and reaches out touching all of us. Thank you for your healing love that lifts us to our feet, guides us on our journey and carries us to a safe place of new growth and transformation. Amen.***

**Reading**

Luke 16: 19-31

Alison Legge

Your word O Lord is a lamp to our feet  
***And a light to our path.***

There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'

In this is the word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Anthem**

Give Almes of thy goods

Christopher Tye

1497-1573

*Give almes of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor man,  
and then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.*

**Reflection**

Missed Opportunity

**Hymn 477**

Jesus calls us here to meet him

## Offering

Holy is the true light  
William Henry Harris

1883-1973

*Holy is the true light, and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict: from Christ they inherit a home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness ever more. Alleluia.*

## Prayer of Dedication

## Community News

## Prayers of the People

***Generous God, we give you thanks for all your blessings to us. May these gifts we offer with our lives be used as a sign of your great love for the world, so that all may know the abundance of your grace. 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 90**      I'll praise my maker while I've breath

## Blessing

Let us go in faith, determined to make a difference in our communities. May the goodness of God be found in the little and the least, Christ be present in the face of our neighbour, and the Spirit show us the way towards peace.

***The blessings of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us all, now and for evermore. Amen.***

## Postlude

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

# Update 28 September 2025

office@toorakuc.org.au  
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:  
9am & 10:15am

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



## **Kinross Café is moving!**

Kinross Café will be closed next week from **Monday 29 September - Friday 3 October** to move from its current location 30 steps across the way to Argyle House. We hope to reopen on Monday 6 October and look forward to welcoming you to our new space!

## **Correction to the next Coffee Club location**

Due to the Café closure, Coffee Club will be held in the Wettenhall Room instead. Please join us there on Friday, 3 October at 10am.

## **Big Hymn Sing**

On **Sunday, 5 October at 2pm** we are celebrating 150 years as a house of song with the Big Hymn Sing. The Tongan community will be in attendance to help us sing, and we invite you to join us for afternoon tea in the Hall following the concert. Come along for an enjoyable hour of all your favourite hymns, tickets not required.

## **Trialling a new microphone in the Church**

This Sunday we are trialling a new microphone during the 10:15am Combined Worship Service. We would especially appreciate feedback from those who sometimes find parts of the service difficult to hear. Please let Catriona know whether you feel the new microphone improves the sound.

If you don't see her in person, you can email your feedback to **property@toorakuc.org.au**. For the best listening experience, our sound engineer recommends sitting between halfway and two-thirds of the way down the central nave.

## **Euphony Australia & the Victorian Welsh Male Choir present A Musical Journey Down Memory Lane**

**Saturday, 15 November at 3pm | St Columba's UCA, Noble Park**

Join these two fantastic choirs following their sold-out concerts in Sri Lanka and enjoy choral arrangements and genres of all music that will take you down memory lane.

Light refreshments will be served upon conclusion of the concerts are tickets are **\$25 per head**. To purchase or inquire, please contact Yvonne from Euphony Australia on **0407 588 512** or email **pears\_53@hotmail.com**

## **Blessing of Animals Day**

Sunday, 5 October is the Blessing of Animals Day. Pets are welcome to join us for worship and blessings at the 10:15am service which is celebrating St. Francis Day and the UCA emphasis on the 'Season of Creation'.

## **John Mallinson Youth Band Concert Saturday, 4 October | 2 - 4pm Toorak Uniting Church**

Next Saturday, the John Mallinson Youth Band, conducted by Joseph Yu, will present George Gershwin's iconic Rhapsody in Blue, performed by pianist Ray Liang.

Also featured will be the world premiere of "Three Trails of the Chinese Countryside" for Hulusi and wind band, composed and conducted by Tony Gu.

Admission is free and there will be light refreshments in the Faichney Room following the concert.

## **Understanding our Bodies**

When we are busy engaging ourselves in our external environment, it may be a good time for us to sit down for a while to understand our bodies.

Thisby will be happy to share some ways to understand our bodies in a group setting:

**10:30am, Friday 10 October in the Faichney Room**

You are welcome to come as you are.

**Thisby - 0434 346 827**

## **September - October Diary Dates**

Fri	26 Sep	All Day	AFL Grand Final Holiday	TUC Office Closed
Sun	28 Sep	10:15am	Combined Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	28 Sep	11:15am	Special Morning Tea	Faichney Room
Mon	29 Sep	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Faichney Room
Mon	29 Sep	11:00am	TUC Sewing Circle	Wettenhall Room
Tue	30 Sep	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom
Wed	01 Oct	7:00pm	Handbells	Church Space
Fri	03 Oct	10:00am	Coffee Club	Wettenhall Room
Sun	05 Oct	9:00am	Worship in the Round	Rev Sylvia
Sun	05 Oct	10:15am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	05 Oct	11:15am	Morning Tea	Hall
Sun	05 Oct	2:00pm	Big Hymn Sing	Church Space
Sun	05 Oct	3:00pm	Big Hymn Sing Refreshments	Hall
Mon	06 Oct	7:30am	Kinross Café reopens	Argyle House
Mon	06 Oct	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Faichney Room
Tue	07 Oct	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom







The flowers in the Church today are provided by Fiona Thomas.

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.

**The way we produce the Orders of Service is changing, so you may notice some differences, and these changes will continue to evolve over time.**