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 22 November 2026

10:15am Worship Service and
Baptism of Clementine Rose Mayes

Ministers: Rev Gillian Crozier
and Rev Sylvia Akauola-Tongotongo
Director of Music: Dylan Quinlan-Baskett



THE GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION

Introit I was glad when they said unto me
Eric Harding Thiman 1900-1975

I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Lighting the Candle

Welcome & Community News

Call to Worship

Hymn 12 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high

Opening Prayers

Before God and with the people of God we confess to our brokenness, to the way that we wound our life, the life of others and the life of the world.

Silence

Prayer

May God's gracious love renew us, empower and enable us to live in love and peace.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Responses: ***We do and we will with God's help.***

ENGAGING WITH THE WORDS OF SCRIPTURE

The words of scripture are a lamp to our feet: ***a light to our path.***

Reading John 18: 33-37 Chris Callahan

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed

over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

As we ponder these treasured writings from the past, may we discover Your words for us today. ***Thanks be to God.***

Anthem Christus Factus Est - Christ was made obedient
Felice Anerio 1560-1614

[Christ was made obedient even to death, death on the cross. God therefore exalted him and gave him a name excelling all others.] (Philippians 2: 8-9)

Reflection A Very Special Day!

Hymn 216 Rejoice, the Lord is King

OUR RESPONSE

MINUTE OF APPRECIATION – PAMELA WILSON

Prayers for Others

Silence

God, give us grace to accept with serenity
the things we cannot change,
courage to change the things that should be changed,
and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Offering God omnipotent reigneth
Charles Wood 1866-1926

God omnipotent reigneth, clad in apparel bright;
Sov'ran King He remaineth, girded about with might;
By him the world alone immutably was grounded;
In heav'n hath He His throne, from everlasting founded.

Ocean billow and breaker uplift the voice of pride;
But their mightier Maker Governeth wind and tide.
His laws and sure decree of holiness are telling,
Which evermore shall be sole inmate of His dwelling. Amen.

Dedication

Hymn 629 When I needed a neighbour

Blessing

Postlude

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 22 November 2026

update@toorakuc.org.au
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

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



TOORAK UNITING CHURCH
GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

A General Meeting of the Congregation will be held **at 9:45am on Sunday 29th November 2026 in the Faichney Room**.

The agenda will be as follows.

1. Election of two representatives to Presbytery for 2027.*
2. To consider and if thought fit to approve the Operating Budget for 2027.
3. To consider and if thought fit to approve the appointment of Accru Melbourne as Church Auditors.

Copies of the Budget have been sent out to members by email. Please contact the Church office if you didn't receive it or would like a hard copy.

* Nominations may be made on the form available from the Office.

Save the Dates - Christmas at TUC!

Make a note of these special services at TUC for the festive season!

Sunday 13 December - 8 pm Lessons and carols (an evening service in addition to the normal 9 am and 10.15 am services on that day).

Christmas Eve 24 December - 6 pm (Christmas carols) and also 8 pm (service featuring John Rutter's *Gloria*).

Christmas Day 25 December - 10.15 am Worship Service.

Sunday 27 December - Summer Sundays services begin, at 9.30 am.

Seeking volunteers for Summer Sunday services

TUC's Summer Sunday services will be taking place at 9:30am from 27 Dec - 31 Jan inclusive, in lieu of our usual two services.
We seek volunteers to serve as Leaders, Welcomers, Readers and on Morning Tea during January. If you're going to be around during the summer, please consider putting your hand up as your service will provide our usual volunteers with a well-earned break. Please let Rev Sylvia know or contact office@toorakuc.org.au to volunteer. Thank you!

Ecumenical Prayers

Join us for the Ecumenical Prayers for Christian Unity at St John's Anglican Church Toorak, on Thursday 26 November 2026 at 10:30 am.

Food for Friends Appeal 2026

Our annual Food for Friends appeal of the Toorak Ecumenical Movement is upon us. These funds enable us to assist local agencies in providing support to those in need at this time of the year. We use your donations to purchase nonperishable groceries and personal items to supply to our chosen charities for sharing with their clients.

Please make your donation direct to:

Toorak Ecumenical Fund

BSB: 063 177
Account Number: 1002 6147

Toorak Branch,
Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Please mark this donation Food 4 Friends. We thank you for your support and generosity.

The Seven "O" Antiphons of Advent

St Peter's, Toorak will present a Holy Hour with Sacred Music on Friday 27 November 2026 at 7.00 pm. The night will include new settings of the ancient Antiphons and will be sung in Latin and English, accompanied by a chamber ensemble. See more about this profound musical experience at https://armadaletoorak.org.au/parishevents/sept-concert-ryckp.
Free Admission (donation on entry) but booking appreciated for catering purposes: **trybooking.com/1540853**

Monday 23 November - TUC Sewing Circle

Whether you're new or a seasoned stitcher, TUC Sewing Circle is a place for sharing ideas, learning new skills or just having a chat. Come along and bring your latest project or just yourself!

Please arrive between 11-11:30 am with a finish time of 2:30 pm. BYO lunch, coffee and tea provided. To RSVP, contact either **Margot 0409 361 877** or **Angela 0407 887 596.**

Men's Lunch

We're planning our next informal lunch on Thursday 3 December, so if you'd like to join us please speak to Rob Ahin or email him at robinahin@optusnet.com.au

NCLS Survey

If you didn't get a chance to complete the National Church Life Survey in person on 8 November, you can still do so online via https://mysurveys.ncls.org.au/start/attender using TUC's unique church code. Please contact the office to be given the code, and thanks to all who have participated in the Survey.

Faithful Futures

The Synod and Presbytery have (as noted in previous *Updates*) entered into a process for determining priorities and future directions which involves obtaining feedback from Church Councils and congregations.

The TUC Church Council will be meeting to respond next Thursday, 26 November. Church Council's response will be circulated to the congregation for comment and feedback on 29 November following the 10:15 am service. For more information about the Faithful Futures project, please visit https://victas.uca.org.au/faithful-futures/#about

Baroque Christmas 2026

Composers throughout history have pulled out all the stops to produce their most buoyant and engaging music for the Christmas season. This year, the Australian Chamber Choir conducted by Douglas Lawrence (former Director of Music at TUC) is presenting a concert in Melbourne (Middle Park) on Sunday 6 December 2026 at 3:00 pm, as well as on other dates at Terang, Macedon, Dunkeld (package available including accommodation at Royal Mail Hotel) and Geelong.

For further details, and to buy tickets, see auschoir.org/buy-tickets/ and quote "TUC" for 10% off regular tickets.

Diary Dates

Sun 22 Nov	9.00 am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Gillian
Sun 22 Nov	10.15 am	Worship Service	Rev Gillian
		followed by morning tea	Faichney
Mon 23 Nov	10.30 am	Exploring the Bible	Faichney
Mon 23 Nov	11.00 am	Sewing Circle	Wettenhall
Tues 24 Nov	7.30 pm	Christian Meditation	Zoom
Tues 24 Nov	7.30 pm	Exploring the Bible	Zoom
Wed 25 Nov	7.00 pm	Handbells	Wettenhall
Thur 26 Nov	10.30 am	Ecumenical Prayers	St John's
Sun 29 Nov	9.00 am	Worship with Conversation	Rev Sylvia
Sun 29 Nov	9.45 am	Congregational Meeting	Faichney
Sun 29 Nov	10.15 am	Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
		followed by morning tea	Faichney
Mon 30 Nov	10.30 am	Exploring the Bible	Faichney
Tues 1 Dec	4.00 pm	PCG Meeting	Faichney
Tues 1 Dec	7.30 pm	Exploring the Bible	Zoom
Tues 1 Dec	7.30 pm	Christian Meditation	Church
Wed 2 Dec	5.00 pm	Worship Committee	Faichney



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 live, work and worship, and we pay respect to their elders past and present.

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.