



**TOORAK  
UNITING  
CHURCH**

We are a people  
who follow Jesus.  
His words and actions  
inform our living.

**03 9829 0300**  
**office@toorakuc.org.au**

To protect our community, if you have Covid or flu-like symptoms please wear a mask during worship, particularly when singing. Maintaining a distance of 1.5m from others is also recommended.

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# Order of Service

**Sunday 26 January, 2025**

**Summer Sundays Service**

**9:30am**

**Minister: Rev Sylvia Akauola-Tongotongo**

**Director of Music: Dylan Quinlan-Baskett**

***EQUIPPED FOR LIFE***

## Processional

### Welcome

### Call to Worship

Come as you are, beloved people of God.

We are loved as we are, with an unending love.

***May we listen with ears of hope. May we hear with ears of wisdom. May we learn with hearts of faith. May our minds and souls be open to the truth and beauty of creation. Amen.***

Hymn 217      Love divine all loves excelling

### Prayer of Awareness

***God of all peoples, in all places, at all times, we give thanks that you are present in us, and you are one with us. May we continue to show our one-ness with you in our everyday ordinary life. May we find strength, wisdom and courage to live life each day with our best. Amen.***

Reading      Luke 4: 14-21

Adelle Merrill

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me, to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed be free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Reading      1 Corinthians 12: 12-13, 27-31

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were baptised into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

For the stories of Jesus affirming our humanity and divinity and the words that bring new light and insights,

***We give thanks.***

*(Please remain seated as we sing and reflect on the words we've just heard and the words of the hymn).*

**Hymn 681** Lord let me see, see more and more

**Reflection** Equipped for Life

### **Offering and Dedication**

***Every day offers us the opportunity to make a difference not just in our own lives but in the lives of others. With our gifts and resources, we offer our hands, our minds and our hearts to help in making the world a loving community of hope. May our living and our giving bring hope to others. Amen.***

### **Community News**

### **Prayers of the People**

**Hymn 687** God gives us a future

### **Blessing**

May we leave with joy, knowing that we're gifted with freedom of choice and the gifts needed to live life to the best we can. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

**Recessional** Cornet Voluntary

John Travers 1703-1758



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

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

Toorak Uniting Church acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 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.