

Ashburton-Burwood Uniting Church

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<https://ashburton-burwood.ucavictas.org.au/>



Minister: Rev Yoo Mi Park

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Purpose: *Welcome all. Nurture faith. Grow disciples.*

Vision: *A welcoming missional community, nurturing faith and growing disciples, sharing God's love intentionally, serving God's world compassionately and striving to be faithful followers of Jesus*

ONLINE SERVICE via YouTube channel. Link: <https://youtube.com/live/zlGX6mJuNyE?feature=share>

Minister: Rev Yoo Mi Park; Worship Leader: Mary Casey

Sixth Sunday of Easter Service

@ Ashburton-Burwood UCA

10th May 2026



We Gather

Opening Hymn: [Lynette Hurley](#)
"10,000 Reasons" (Bless the lord)

Welcome [Mary Casey](#)

Acknowledgement of Country

[Mary Casey](#)

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

We give thanks for their wisdom, and commit ourselves to truth, justice, and reconciliation.

Call to worship [Mary Casey](#)

If you came tired— you are welcome.
If you came unsure— you are welcome.
If you came carrying too much— you are welcome.

We come as we are.

Jesus says:

"I will not leave you."

Not later.

Not when you get it right. Now.

We are not alone.

God is not far away.

Not watching from a distance.

God is here.

God is with us.

God is in us.

So bring your whole self—
your questions, your faith, your doubts.

We come open.

We come ready.

Peace [Rev. Yoo Mi Park](#)

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

God,

You are here.

Not distant.

Not silent.

Not far away.

You are near to us.

Closer than we often realise.

You are the God who holds all things together.
The God who speaks life into chaos.
The God who does not abandon what You have made.

So we begin here— with worship.
Because You are worthy.
Because You are faithful.
Because You remain the same.

But God...
when we look at our lives in Your light,
we begin to see more clearly.
We see how often we live
as if we are alone.

We rush.
We worry.
We try to carry everything ourselves.
We forget Your presence even while You are near.

We rely on our strength even while You are within us.
We struggle to love well.
We become impatient.
We close off our hearts.
And in this quiet moment, we stop pretending.
We bring all of this to You.
Not to hide it.
Not to defend it.
But to place it in Your hands.

Forgive us.
For the ways we forget You.
For the ways we resist trust.
For the ways we try to live alone.
Teach us again to remain in You.
To slow down.
To trust.
To love.

Because You are not only the God we worship.
You are the God who stays with us
in our weakness and in our becoming.

So even here, even now, we return to You.
Not because we are strong.
But because You are near. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news:
Jesus says,
“I will not leave you as orphans.”
In Christ, you are not alone.
In the Spirit, God lives in you.

Your sins are forgiven.

You are renewed.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise: [Lynette Hurley](#)

TIS 693 “Come, as you are”

We Listen

[Alan Bailey, Tina Wong](#)

Your word is a lamp to our feet.

A light to our path.

John 14:15-21

1 Peter 3:13-22

Lord, may your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for your glory.

Sermon: “We Are Not Alone”

We Respond

Hymn of Response: [Lynette Hurley](#)

TIS 412 “God sends us the Spirit to befriend and help us”

Notices

Prayers of the People [Fran Willmott](#)

The Lord’s Prayer [Fran Willmott](#)

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,

Everything we have comes from You.

So we offer these gifts - not just what we give,
but who we are.

Take what we bring and use it for Your life in
this world.

Shape us, guide us, and let Your love flow
through us.

We give with trust, because You are already at
work. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

We are sent

Hymn of Sending: [Lynette Hurley](#)

“For you deep stillness”

Commissioning and Blessing

Go now,

not as those who are alone,

but as those who dwell in the life of God.

May the Spirit who abides in you

guide your steps,

steady your hearts,

and shape your lives.

And the blessing of God—
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
be with you,
and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Sung Blessing: Lynette Hurley

TIS 780 “May light come into your eyes”

Postlude

ROSTER SUNDAY 10 May 2026 – Easter 6 – Year A

Minister:	Rev Yoo Mi Park
Worship Leader:	Mary Casey
Prayers:	Fran Willmott
Narthex/Count Leader:	Graeme Stone
Door, Greeting, Offering:	Richard Hedding
Organist:	Colin Prohasky
Pianist:	Anne Forrest
Song Leader:	Lance Schlipalius
Readers:	Alan Bailey, Tina Wong
Computer/Sound:	Adrian Miller
Power Point:	Adrian Miller
Morning Tea/Clean Up:	Alison & David Wright, Elaine Gloster
Online Communications:	Christine Chappell /Dawn Sullivan

SUNDAY 17 May 2026 - Easter 7 at Ashburn Grove

10am: Rev Yoo Mi Park; Michael Donnelly and the Worship Team

Lectionary Readings: Acts 1:6-14 Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Pt 4:12-14, 5:6-11 Jn 17:1-11

ROSTER SUNDAY 17 May 2026 – Easter 7 – Year A

Minister:	Rev Yoo Mi Park
Worship Leader:	Michael Donnelly
Prayers:	Jenny Stone
Narthex/Count Leader:	Ian Willmott
Door, Greeting, Offering:	Ian Webb
Organist:	Colin Prohasky
Pianist:	Anne Forrest
Song Leader:	Lance Schlipalius
Readers:	Maree Silver, Graeme Silver
Computer/Sound:	Howard Hamlyn
Power Point:	Michael Donnelly
Morning Tea/Clean Up:	Pamela Degenhardt, Glen Schlipalius, Fran Willmott
Online Communications:	Christine Chappell/Dawn Sullivan

WE WISH A HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

to all those who carry out mothering duties caring for others both in homes and the communities in which we live.

The dictionary defines “mothering” as, relating to or characteristic of a mother, especially in being caring, protective, and kind, and to treat a person with great care and affection.

In Galatians 5 we see the fruits of the spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Isn't this also a description of mothering!!



Sadly, we share that Peter Hoadley, a long-time member of Burwood UC, prior to the family moving to Blackburn, died at the end of last month. His wife Anne and the family invite friends to join them at The Avenue UC, Blackburn, at 11am on Monday 11 May, for a celebration of Peter's life.

IMPORTANT SUNDAYS IN MAY

SUNDAY 24 MAY – DAY OF PENTECOST – Often referred to as the birthday of the church, it commemorates the Holy Spirit's descent on the apostles, as described in Acts 2:1–31.

SUNDAY 31 MAY – TRINITY SUNDAY - celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost to honour the Holy Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as one.

Prayer Points in the Sanctuary

Candle Prayer

You are invited to light a candle for those who are on your heart. Candles may be lit before and after the service as a quiet act of



prayer.

Kneeler Prayer (Wooden Prayer Bench)

As you enter the sanctuary, you will find a wooden prayer bench facing the cross. You are welcome to pause here for silent prayer at any time.



Opportunity to join the 111 Committee

What is 111? It is a service project of our congregation which has been going for a long time; a home for several people in our community who are intellectually disabled but able to live independently, sometimes with support. It is managed by volunteers from our congregation who ensure the home is in good condition, the residents are happy and know they are supported. We have a Landlord's Representative who lives in the house to act as liaison with the committee, raise any concerns, ensure the home operates smoothly, etc. We do not provide care for the residents; their families are responsible for making those arrangements if needed.

Due to some key people leaving our congregation, the committee has become very small - Alison and Libby are the two remaining members. We are inviting others to join us and share the responsibilities; a committee of four is ideal. We meet approximately every 6 weeks, often by Zoom but occasionally in person to review maintenance and other issues; we also organise social dinners with the residents about twice/year and working bees when needed.

If you are interested in becoming involved with this project, please speak to Libby or Alison. We will be very happy to have you join us!

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

We have been approached by Elizabeth Gardens Burwood (Royal Freemasons), who are looking for a Uniting Church team to lead worship at their site on a regular basis. If you are interested in being part of this outreach opportunity, or have questions about what might be involved, please contact Fran.

ROSTERS FOR JUNE & JULY 2026

Could you please advise me by Sunday 17 May by email (preferred) or written note of dates on which you will not be available for duty between the beginning of June 2026 and the end of July 2026 inclusive in order that the next roster can be prepared and issued before the end of May. Thank you. *David Wright* dwright3761@gmail.com

WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD

The new Pentecost edition of With Love to the World is now available! Vol 18, No 3, 18 May - 16 August 2026. A great way to stay in touch with God's Word everyday! Still only \$7, get your copy from The LightHouse. Please pay to the Church account or see Michael. (BSB 033106; A/c No. 121266 – Reference "LoveWorld" A/c Name: Ashburton Uniting Church).

PEW SHEET: Please forward all notices to Dawn das42ul@gmail.com by Wednesday 5.00pm. Please state for which date/s you need your notice to be listed. **The pew sheet is posted online on the Communications page at <https://ashburton-burwood.ucavictas.org.au/>**

ABUC UPCOMING EVENTS and SERVICES are listed on the **May-July Quarterly Calendar now on the Communications page on the ABUC website.** Also refer to 'Views from the Lighthouse'.

Caring for One Another

As a church, we want everyone to feel cared for and connected. To support this, we are introducing a simple pastoral care structure.

Buddy Groups

Everyone will be part of a small group of 2-4 people. This will be the main place for connection, encouragement, and care.

Wider Gatherings

At times, several groups will come together for meals or fellowship, helping us stay connected as a whole church.

Coordinators

A small team will help keep people connected, encourage participation, and notice when someone may need extra support.

Pastoral Care Support

When needed, coordinators will work with pastoral care leaders (Fran Willmott and Patsy Donnelly) and Rev. Yoo Mi to ensure appropriate care is provided.

The Minister's Role

Rev. Yoo Mi will continue to offer care in significant situations, visit those who are unwell, and support the whole system.

Our Goal

This is not about adding more programs, but about being a church where no one is overlooked, no one is alone, and care is shared by all.

SOME EVENTS IN MAY

MENS FELLOWSHIP MEETING - MONDAY 11 MAY - Men's Fellowship will next meet on Monday 11 May at 1.30pm in the Wesley Room at our Burwood site for an informal chat then we will have coffee on site or visit a coffee shop in Burwood. Suggested topic for discussion – 'my first car' OR other topics of interest and any concerns also welcome. Contacts: Graeme Stone M. 0431 915 198 grajenstone@bigpond.com OR Kevin Hurley kandlhurley@gmail.com M. 0417 570 524 (Coordinators)

LADIES FELLOWSHIP - MONDAY 11 MAY Do come and share 'the special something you do'. It might be a craft, an activity, a special interest. This is another opportunity to grow to know each other better. Monday 11 May 1.30pm @ Hyslop St in Barry's Place.

TUESDAY MEN'S GROUP: Meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8pm on Zoom. Please contact Paul Mattiske or Michael Donnelly M. 0438 674 247.

WEDNESDAY MORNING STUDY GROUP using "With love to the World" meets weekly in Barry's Place from 9am to 10am.

EVERY THURSDAY - BARRY'S PLACE: Open from 10 to 11.30am. An opportunity to share in conversation, morning tea and prayer. Drop in, relax and enjoy.

BADMINTON: If you feel like playing badminton at BUC please contact Miff mschlipalius@hotmail.com for details

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY – 10.30am SPECIAL MORNING TEA in the Lighthouse. Come to enjoy some conversation, fellowship and friendship along with tea or coffee.

WEDNESDAY 27 MAY – 6pm SUPPER at 6 in the Lighthouse. Another occasion for good conversation, a nice meal and some friendly fellowship.



PRAYER NETWORK: During May please forward prayer requests to be shared to Jenny at grajenstone@bigpond.com or Dawn at das42ul@gmail.com by midday on Mondays. Additional prayers will be circulated as needed. (If email not available: 0434 007 463).





There is a small pile of firewood available at the Nerissa St Manse, conveniently cut to fireplace size. If you would like some, please stop by at any time - it is in the back, inside the gate - 23 Nerissa St.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: Some things in the storeroom are available if anyone wants them or knows of someone who might be able to use them. There are **many, many paper cups** and some **lightweight plastic stools**.



Prayer Focus: Loving God, help our church to be inwardly supportive and outwardly focused.

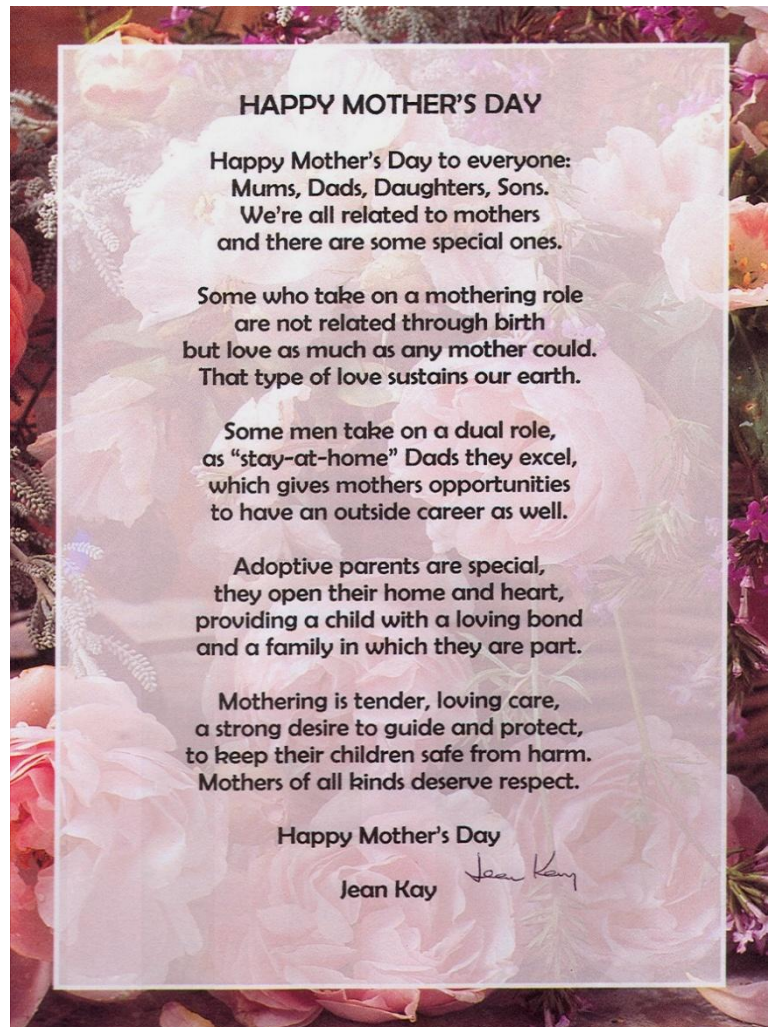
Prayer Points:

- Staff and volunteers of Uniting's community agencies who support those affected by domestic and family violence.
- All those working to address enduring inequalities and injustices faced by First Nations Peoples.
- The vital work and ministry of Frontier Services as it continues to make a life-changing difference to people in rural and remote Australia.

WCC Prayer Cycle: 10-16 May 2026 – [India](#), [Pakistan](#), [Sri Lanka](#)

- efforts to build understanding and harmony among peoples across religious, caste and ethnic identities

Thank you, Fran, for passing on this poem which is so apt for the times we are living in. →



WORDS OF WISDOM

*You are my place of quiet retreat
I wait for your Word to renew me.
Psalm 119:114 The Message*

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

I was setting a voice recognition password for my new phone and a nearby dog barked and ran away. Now I am still looking for the dog to unlock my phone.