



The Uniting Church in Australia  
Synod of South Australia

Dear Rev. Dr. Sung Tai Choi

We write to express the solidarity of the Uniting Church South Australia with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) during the COVID-19 outbreak. With heavy hearts, we have learned of the large magnitude of COVID-19 cases in South Korea. We grieve the toll the virus takes on all aspects of life.

Rev. Do Young Kim has kindly updated us with news from South Korea. We are saddened to hear about the suspension of worship services as a community. It is encouraging to know that PROK churches moved worship online. We commend this important service as parishioners feel God's presence in their homes. We admire the spirit of collaboration and innovation in South Korea. We pray for PROK members during this challenging season.

Significant cases of COVID-19 are also prevalent in Australia. The Australian Government have enacted strict protocols for self-isolation and social distancing. All places of worship are mandatorily closed. Many churches are utilising online streaming platforms to provide worship services to the faithful. Congregations are being innovative in providing pastoral care. One member of the Uniting Church South Australia PROK Support Group shared that her congregation has a pastoral care buddy system. Members of the congregation pair up. They are responsible for communicating by phone and offering pastoral care to one another. We are sure to see more examples of these acts of generosity.

The Australian Government has also enacted strict travel conditions. This includes prohibitions on travel to and from Australia. Unfortunately planning for our anticipated trip to Iksan in November cannot take place. We are deeply saddened that we will not travel to South Korea this year. We are confident that the strength of our longstanding partnership will withstand this postponement.

We remember the words in the memorandum of understanding between our churches, "To journey together through life's pains and joys as we faithfully await the final fulfilment of God's reign." Although we are in a time of uncertainty, our faith will lead us to a time of celebrating our partnership together with our Lord. Please be assured of our sincere expression of solidarity and friendship extended on behalf of the Uniting Church South Australia.

Yours sincerely in Christ

**Bronte Wilson**  
Moderator

**Tarlee Leondaris**  
International Mission Officer  
On behalf of Uniting Church South  
Australia PROK Support Group

**We seek to be an innovative, growing church proclaiming Jesus Christ, empowered by the Spirit to transform God's world**

**STREET ADDRESS** | Level 2, 212 Pirie St, Adelaide

**POSTAL ADDRESS** | Uniting Church SA, GPO Box 2145, Adelaide SA 5001

**TEL** | 08 8236 4200 **COUNTRY CALLERS** | 1300 766 956 **FAX** | 08 8236 4201 **WEB** | [sa.uca.org.au](http://sa.uca.org.au)