



The Footscray Baptist Church celebrates the God-given diversity of cultures. We welcome you to join us in the journey of faith, whatever your race, religion, capability, gender or sexuality.

Order of Service - July 18th, 2021

Opening Music *Come and Tear Down the Walls*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJt0eEXZeZM>

Acknowledgement of Country (Cheryl)

For thousands of years Indigenous people have walked
in this land, on their own country.

Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives.

We acknowledge the Wurrundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and their stewardship
of this land throughout the ages.

We honour their history, their elders, past, present and emerging and commit to work
for reconciliation between all people, God and the land.

Welcome everybody to worship!

Welcome (Cheryl)

Lighting the Candle - *Jesus said 'I Am the Light of the World'* (Sunny)

Call to Worship

Loving God, like a shepherd you guide us

You renew and refresh our lives

You steady our steps

In our times of darkness, you strengthen us

In times of trouble your presence comforts us

May your mercy and loving kindness be with us each day

May your Spirit dwell in us and the whole world

May we dwell in your house and presence always. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams based on 'The Shepherd and the Host' in Psalms for a Pilgrim People by John Cotter, p.50)

Song: Gather Us In <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar0BXa82F9M>

Opening Prayer

God of peace,

We give thanks to you for places of serenity and rest.

For soothing gentle music;

For the calming motion of the sea waves crashing upon the shore;

For a comfy chair in front of a roaring fire;

For moments of golden silence.

We give thanks for those who make peace.

For parents and teachers who help resolve our conflicts;

For wise ones who calm our fears and anxieties;

For inspirational leaders who worked to bring reconciliation between nations and peoples.

Above all we give thanks for the Prince of Peace.

The one who calmed the storms and our fears;

The one who broke down walls of hostility;

The one who spoke gently with compassion;

Grant to us your promised peace, that peace that passes all understanding.
We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, July 2021)

Bible Reading: Mark 6:30-34 & 53-56 (NRSV)

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴ When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵ and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Passing the Peace

Shalom my friends
God's peace my friends
Go with you now
And stay with you
In all you do
Shalom, shalom.

Bible Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22 (NRSV)

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Children's Talk: The Sneetches by Dr Seuss

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdLPe7XjdKc>

Song: The Lord's My Shepherd <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3hNZT6ddJg>

Reflection - Tear Down That Wall (Cheryl)



Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- **Natalie and Tim** awaiting the birth of their baby
- **Rohan Hatty** (Marlene's son) – recovering after a bad car accident
- Victims and families affected by floods in **Germany, Belgium & Netherlands**
- Unrest in **South Africa**
- The people of **Myanmar**
- The people of **Brazil, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Papua New Guinea, Philippines & Thailand** – as they struggle with ever increasing Covid cases
- For our neighbours at Westhaven
- Those who have Covid 19 – the vaccine rollout, treatments, testing, those living in lockdown in New South Wales and Victoria.
- Those affected by political unrest in especially **Chin State, Colombia, Haiti, Kachin State, Karen State and Rakine State and all of Myanmar, Lebanon, Russia, Thailand, United States & Yemin**
- Global Interaction- for the team working with the Khmer of Cambodia
- Baptist World Aid – for families in developing countries, that they might flourish
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray
- Our friends in Kenya as they continue to grow their church

Silence – in the silence and through our minds and imaginations we bring prayers which words cannot contain:

(p. 56-7 A Wee Worship Book)

God of the universe,

As the people brought those in need to Jesus for healing, we now bring the needs of the world to you.

We pray for:

- Those who are ill with Covid
- Those who need rest
- Those who are excluded
- Places where walls divide
- Places where hostility exists
- Places where suspicion reigns
- Those who are lonely and unloved
- Those who experience prejudice
- Those who are overwhelmed by life
- Places where there is pain
- Places where there is distrust
- Places where there is fear

Bring comfort;
Bring rest;
Bring peace
Until all know themselves to be citizens of your household, no longer strangers to each other or to you.
We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught his family to pray ...

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**

Song: Don't Be Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXCMv51F-TM>

Offering

Take the money and lives we offer back to you. Use it and us to be your compassionate love in the world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, July 2021)

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plates at entrances and exits of the church

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Thank You** – to all who have helped clean out the Blue Room and Storage Rooms in the Hall in recent weeks
- **Reflective Prayer** – Thursday July 22nd at 5pm via zoom. Speak to Ros or Cheryl if you are interested and we can send you an invite for our meeting the following week
- **Bible Studies** – if you are interested in joining a group, please let Cheryl know.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song: Take This Moment https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymXD_4R292Q

Blessing (Sunny to help with blessing & then extinguish candle)

On our heads and our houses – the blessing of God
In our comings and goings - the peace of God
In our life and believing - the love of God
As our end of new beginnings - the arms of God to welcome us and bring us home.
Amen.

(Prayer from 'A Wee Worship Book' by Wild Goose Worship Group, p. 66)