



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 4th, 2021

Music: Gabriels Oboe (Cello) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dxxg6NenmBQ>

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

Lighting the Candle - Jesus said 'I Am the Light of the World'

Call to Worship

God's greatness is wondrous to behold.

Everywhere we look, we can see the imprint of God.

From the loftiest mountains to the crashing waters of the sea,

There God's greatness stands majestically.

God's greatness can be within the human heart.

Help us to receive God's word and direction for our lives.

Come, now is the time to worship.

Let us honour and praise God with acts of loving kindness and compassion. AMEN.

Song: I lift my eyes to the hills https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHYXP0tC_dE

Opening Prayer

Lord of mystery and community,

You have called us here this day to remind us of the mission journey you set before us.

Help us to pay attention to the words of Jesus as he sent out his disciples on a mission
of healing and compassion.

Remind us that success is not measured in the cures, but in the striving.

Enable us to truly be your disciples in this world. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

AMEN.

National Naidoc Week theme 'Heal Country, heal our nation 4th July – 11th July
The NAIDOC 2021 theme – Heal Country! – calls for all of us to continue to seek
greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural
heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

Jesus calls us as his hands and feet to take an active role in healing country by
protecting and restoring God's beautiful earth.

Bible Reading: Mark 6:1-13 (NRSV)

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary^[a] and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense^[b] at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 (NRSV)

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Induction of Diaconate

There are many gifts,
But the same Spirit who gives them.
There are many ways to serve God,
But it is the same Lord we serve.
Each of us is given a gift,

**To use for the common good.
We are the body of Christ!**

Becky, Ebi, Grace, Ini, Len, Marlene, Maxine & Ros

The Footscray Baptist Church has called you to serve as deacons in this multicultural community.

Will you, open to the prompting of the Spirit, to the love of God and to the leading of Jesus serve this community with care, creativity and compassion, with grace, humility and forgiveness, with enthusiasm, imagination and love, as together we welcome all into our midst no matter their race, religion, capability, gender or sexuality?

Deacons: We will.

Congregation gathered here – will you support and encourage Becky, Ebi, Grace, Ini, Len, Marlene, Maxine & Ros in their ministry amongst us?

Congregation: We will.

God of love,

As we dream together, struggle together, hope together

May we join hands with You.

Show us with your peace, with your love and with your presence

As we join You in Your mission of grace, forgiveness, justice, freedom and hope.

Amen.

(Based on Prayer in 'Be Our Freedom Lord' p. 368)

Accept this symbol as a reminder of the task you have been called to undertake on our behalf.

Thanking Retiring Deacons

Andrea, John & Tim,

We give thanks to you our God for the contribution they have made to this community as deacons.

We now release them from that task of pastoral oversight

We pray you will richly bless them in their future endeavours, grant them much love and laughter in the days ahead. Amen.

Accept this token of our gratitude for all you have done for us.

Song: Brother, Sister Let Me Serve You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07FBSrx5Oq4>

Children's Talk

Reflection - Go Simpy, Go Lightly

Communion Song: Come As You Are

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qD4KAq_W8tY

Communion

Invitation

Jesus who astounded all who heard him, calls us to this table.
Jesus who received all he was from God our Father, calls us to this table.
Jesus who was rejected by those he grew up with, calls us to this table.
Jesus a prophet without honour in his home-town, calls us to this table.
We are all welcome, none without a place, none ridiculed, all called to a place of honour around this table.
So let us come.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams 2003, based on Mark 6:1-13)

Prayer of Preparation

We have shared bread and wine many times in our lives, in many places, for many reasons.

The bread that we now break and the cup that we take are a sharing in the life of Christ.

May our acceptance of it today be a sign of our faith
In the ongoing goodness of a God who journeys with us,
In the power of love to remove any barrier within and among us,
In the mystery of the call given to each one here.
To make bread and life and beauty available to everyone.

We pray then, good and gracious God, that we might
Recognise you in this breaking of bread today.

It is the bread of heaven,
The bread of the poor,
The bread of our lives.

**May we recognise you
Every time we join someone on the journey
Every time we share a meal,
Every time we take bread into our hands.**

And may this recognition call forth such a joy in us
That we might never lose sight of your goodness.

**May it inspire such love in us that our hearts
Might continue to burn within us,
Keeping alive your memory and your promise.**

**And may it provoke such a longing for truth in us
That we will never be satisfied
Until the whole earth experiences
Your justice and your peace.**

**Let us share this bread and wine as Jesus taught us,
Knowing that our lives are forever changed
By this and every breaking of bread.**

(Prayer 'Recognition' in Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 216)

Words of Institution: (Mark 14:22 -26)

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." ²⁶ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas –
- Our new diaconate
- **Natalie and Tim** awaiting the birth of their baby
- The people of **Myanmar**
- The people of **Brazil, India, Iran, Papua New Guinea & the Philippines** – 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.
- Those affected by political unrest in especially **Chin State, Colombia, Kachin State, Karen State and Rakine State and all of Myanmar, Lebanon, Russia, Thailand, United States & Yemin**
- Global Interaction – pray for opportunities to share the good news with the Khmer of Cambodia
- Baptist World Aid – the two children and their communities we support in Bangladesh & the Philippines
- 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 grace,

We pray for the peoples of the world:

- For those who suffer from persecution and oppression
- For those who suffer because of the cruelty, greed or indifference of others
- For those persecuted for their faith
- For those who have wandered from you
- For those who are victims of ignorance or intolerance
- For those who are frightened, lonely or sad
- For those who we ignore or turn away from

Send us out proclaiming your gospel of peace, your gospel of justice, your gospel of reconciliation, your gospel of truth, your gospel of hope.

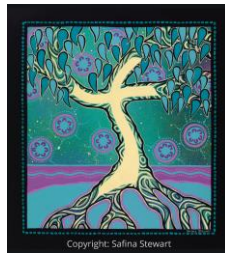
And may we all live together in harmony. Amen.

(Prayer based on one by Janet Nelson in 'Let Us Pray' p.216)

God of Mercy and Grace –
In your quest to bring about justice. Have mercy on us.
This Land weeps in sorrow. Have mercy on us.
We yearn for conciliation and peace in this place.
Enable all the peoples of this Country to desire, listen and understand the True History of this Land.
For only then can we walk this journey together.
Jesus, you are the tree life.
Help us to be your instruments of Truth, by the Power of your Holy Spirit.
We pray for discernment and wisdom to impart your Truth.

Bring about Healing to Country and our communities.
May all Creation, be healed to flourishing.
Strengthen us, lead us, inspire us into action, ignited by our faith in you Lord Jesus.
Help us not to lose Hope.
For it is only through justice, forgiveness and love can there be healing and peace.
Amen.

(Based on A Prayer for Healing Country, from Common Grace)



Title: Tree of Life Artist: Safina Stewart Country: Wuthathi Country and Mabuia Island Date: 2021

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=R5ml5RsD7jE>

Offering

Generous God,
Take these gifts of our money, lives and dreams.
Use them in unexpected places and in unexpected ways.
Amen.

- 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

- **Bible Studies** – if you are interested in joining a group, please let Cheryl know.
- **Reflective Prayer** – Thursday July 8th 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
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song: Sing Hey for the Carpenter

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdFVsRAnA_o

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

Go lightly,

Go in the love of God.

God following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Go embraced by the Spirit for the journey.

Amen.