



*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 - June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

### *World Environment Day: Reimagine, Recreate & Restore*

*Music: Morning has Broken* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Rh3coDCDqw>

#### *Acknowledgement of Country*

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' (Sunny)*

#### *Call to Worship*

Creator of the universe - land, sea and sky

**We praise you for the richness of the earth**

**Mountains unfolding to desert and plain,**

**Seas swaying to the rhythm of tides,**

**Skies reflecting the colours of light.**

We praise you for the creatures of land, air and sea:

Horses running for the joy of living,

Parrots chatting on roofs and branches,

Dolphins leaping from sea to sky.

**We praise you for the fruits of Earth,**

**Grasses bursting with nourishing grain,**

**Flowers exuding colour and fragrance,**

**Trees renewing the sweetness of air.**

We praise You for humankind,

They recall the power of Your love;

They emulate Your spirit of compassion;

They like You seek to embrace Earth and each other.

**For the beauty of the earth, we thank and praise You. Amen.**

*(Adapted from PCNV Earth Liturgy)*

*Song: All Things Bright and Beautiful*

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

#### *Opening Prayer*

God, our God,

Your greatness is seen in all the world.

**Your praise reaches up to the heavens.**

When we look at the sky, which you have made, and at the moon and the southern cross twinkling at night, all of which you have put into place

**We wonder who we are that you should care for even us.**

By your wonderful creation - kangaroo and crocodile, lyrebird and emu, barramundi and platypi, turtles and fairy penguins and all those in between.

**We are constantly surprised and delighted.**

We confess that we have neglected our responsibility to care for your beautiful and fragile creation. Sometime we have used and abused it.

**Help us to care for the earth and all that is within it.**

Remind us that you have given us the responsibility to look after it.

**We seek your forgiveness.**

Help us accept that we are forgiven and free and send us out to care for your world.

Amen.

*(Based on Psalm 8, adapted from Mediacom sheet)*

### *Bible Reading: Genesis 1:1-27 (NRSV)*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made

the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

**26** Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,<sup>[d]</sup> and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

**27** So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

### *Passing the Peace (Cheryl)*

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

### *Bible Reading: Romans 8:19-23 (NRSV)*

**19** For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; **20** for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. **22** We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; **23** and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

### *Children's Talk & Reflection: Old Turtle*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Um5VYcYCKf8>

### *Communion Song: As Bread that is Broken*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rg\\_1Nm-ZqqU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rg_1Nm-ZqqU)

### *Communion*

#### *Invitation*

Gather around this table, the place where believers have gathered for millennia.  
Come to the table all of you, those who come here often, those who are here for the first time.

Come to the table those who know God well and those who want to know him more.

Come to this, His table.

#### *Prayer of Preparation*

Lord God of life,

By your breath you spoke your word and all things came into being.

Sun, moon and stars, all flora and fauna.

You fashioned us in your image and placed us in your creation to tend it.

When we mis-stepped, you sent us a rainbow to remind us you would never abandon us.

In the sending of Jesus, you revealed the power of your love.  
Love made perfect in human weakness.  
Loving to the end He gave himself up to death for us and the entire creation.  
Rising, He continues to love and free us from all that binds us.

Spirit of God, we take these gifts of creation = bread and wine, grain and fruit as symbols of the blood and body of Jesus given for the life of the world.

Pour your Spirit on us and help us to care for the earth and all it contains

(Prayer adapted by one found at <https://atyourservice.arocha.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/WWW-Order-of-Service-Biodiversity-Communion.pdf> accessed June 1st, 2021)

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

<sup>22</sup> 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." <sup>23</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. <sup>24</sup> He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup> 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." <sup>26</sup> When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

### *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
- 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 – the sharing of the good news with the Ethnic Thai people of Thailand
- Baptist World Aid – give thanks for God's provision so we can care for those who are oppressed
- 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)*

Hear the prayers of our hearts for all we have mentioned

We continue to pray for your earth:

For its beauty and fragility – help us care for it

As we are nurtured by the planet – help us care for it

As it groans – help us care for it

When we have taken too much – help us pause our greed and destruction  
We pray for people who are suffering the effects of climate change – help us pause our  
greed and change our ways to make a difference  
We pray for decision makers – that they might hear the groans of creation and the voices  
of children and do what they can to change our behaviours and act for the common  
good.  
We pray for us all, that we might restore our relationships with each other and work  
together to heal the earth.  
Renew us in your grace, for the sake of your Creation. Amen.

*(Adapted from Uniting Justice World Environment Day 2016 resources)*

### 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: It's Not Too Late <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iuePsowQkU>

### Offering

Creating God,  
You have showered us with gifts of beauty. We can never repay your generosity. Take  
these offerings of money and lives and use them to foster beauty and generosity in our  
neighbourhood. 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

- **June 5<sup>th</sup> was World Environment Day**
- **Congratulations to our new deacons**
- **Infant Dedication** –next week (June 13), COVID pending
- **World Refugee Day** – June 20<sup>th</sup>, our guest speaker will be from Houses of Hope
- **Bible Studies** – if you are interested in joining a group, please let Cheryl know.
- **Reflective Prayer** – Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5pm via zoom. Speak to Ros or Cheryl  
if you are interested and we can send you an invite for our meeting
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no  
cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song: For the Beauty of the Earth

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

### Blessing

Walk softly upon the earth.  
May its beauty surround you  
May its wisdom delight you, its music invite you  
May you love and be loved,  
May you know peace and practice compassion  
Rejoice in the earth and in all of creation.

*(Prayer by Chris Rose, Amos Trus)*