



*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 - Mother's Day May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

### Music:

### 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!

### Covid

- Please sign in – manually or using QR code
- Please wear a mask whilst inside the church
- Please maintain 1.5m distance from others not in your household
- If you are unwell or have COVID symptoms or are awaiting a Covid test result or been told to isolate or quarantine, please leave the service and return home
- Please use hand sanitiser provided
- Please DO NOT shake hands, hug etc
- Please only sit where marked

### Welcome

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

### Call to Worship

We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

**Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love.**

We come with hope to this witness to God's power!

**Challenge and encourage our spirits to serve you, Lord.**

We come with a willingness to proclaim God's presence to all.

**We thank God for this invitation to worship, witness and serve.**

**AMEN.**

Song: ' How Deep the Father's Love for us'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzQj7XvKFmA>

Opening Prayer

God with a mother's heart,  
you gather us as your children.  
You comfort and hold us in your warm  
embrace.  
When we hurt your arms enfold us.  
When we are afraid your wings  
protect us.  
When we are hungry you feed us with  
the bread of life.  
God with a mother's heart,  
Your love surrounds and supports us,  
In good times and in tough,  
In the midst of joy and pain,  
Always and everywhere.  
You will never leave nor abandon us.  
God eternal and loving one,  
God with a mother's heart,  
We thank you this day,  
For being part of your family.

Prayer: Christine Sine <http://godspace-msa.com>  
Artist: Emmanuel Garibay



Bible Reading: John 15:9-17 (NRSV)

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant<sup>[b]</sup> does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup> I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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: 1 John 5:1-6 (NRSV)*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ<sup>[a]</sup> has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup> For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup> for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup> This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

*Children's Talk:* Love - for God, his Creation and each other

*Song:* 'Make me a channel of Your Peace' with Lyrics

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihhvm6eLWZI&list=RDihhvm6eLWZI&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihhvm6eLWZI&list=RDihhvm6eLWZI&start_radio=1)

*Reflection:*

*Prayers for the Church & World*

**Dear Lord we** lift all our spoken prayer request, and the silent prayers of our heart to you this morning. We know that we have done some things that have frustrated and disappointed you, but you continue to love us into wholeness. Be with us in our heart and in our spirit. Help us feel your presence and your love. Help us to be loving with others. In the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, we pray. AMEN.

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health – Al, Bruna, Hania Jacob, Ros, Vin, Zeny
- For those who wait to hear about their visas – Nia & family, members of the Persian congregation
- 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 and testing.

- Those affected by political unrest in especially **Chin State, Kachin State, Karen State and Rakine State and all of Myanmar, Lebanon, Russia, Thailand, United States & Yemin**
- Global Interaction – young people in Australia to engage in mission
- Baptist World Aid – mothers who are refugees in the Middle East and Africa
- 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)*

### 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: A New Commandment I give unto You ‘ song Lyrics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqM2Ujl7Aas>

### Offering

God of unimaginable love, we have known of your caring since we were babies in our mother's arms. We have been told the stories of your love, and we have sung songs about your love. These things bring us comfort. What challenges us is the command of Jesus, “As I have loved you, so you should love one another” – not just those who think as we do, pray as we do, and look the way that we do. Help us, through our giving, our living and our loving, to live up to the challenge of loving as you would have us love. In the name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen. ([John 15:9-17](#))

- 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*

- Please adhere to rules during **face-to-face worship**
- Volunteers needed following the service to clean pews and surfaces in preparation for the Persian service
- **Pastor's Leave** – Cheryl will be on leave from April 26<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, contact a deacon should you need pastoral care in that time
- **Annual General Meeting** – May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, immediately following the service
- **Bible Studies** – if you are interested in joining a group, please let Cheryl know.
- **Reflective Prayer** – Thursday May 13<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 the following week
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

*Song:* 'My Life is in You Lord'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0M0NALW7EM>

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

Friends and Beloved of Christ, you have been chosen to go into this world with the message of God's love. Bear fruit of hope and joy, peace and justice, with all that you meet. May God's peace be with you all.