



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 - November 14th, 2021

Opening Music: Mary's Song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4vVefHMHhg>

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

There is no holy One like the Lord, no rock like our God who causes our hearts to rejoice
and our strength to increase,

For the Lord is a God of knowledge, who judges our actions.

Who breaks the power of the mighty, and clothes the feeble with strength,

The Lord makes rich and makes poor, brings low and lifts up.

Raising up the poor from the dust and the needy from the ash heap;

Giving them seats of honour and guarding the feet of those who are faithful.

While the wicked and those who rebel against the Lord will be shattered.

Let us worship and praise the Lord – judge of all the earth!

(Based on prayer written by Moira Laidlaw which was based on 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

Song: Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8mti7VL3gg>

Opening Prayer

God of love and justice,

Your prophet wrote that those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky
and those who work for righteousness like the stars forever and ever.

We give you thanks for the wise ones amongst us:

- Poets
- Scientists
- Artists
- Little children
- Widows
- Teachers
- Comedians
- Judges
- Academics

We give you thanks for those who work tirelessly for righteousness and justice

- Social workers
- Children protesting lack of action on climate change
- Journalists
- Nurses
- Counsellors
- Red Cross
- Amnesty
- Baptist World Aid
- World vision
- Those who work with asylum seekers and refugees

May they continue to shine brightly and may we join them in their endeavours to bring peace, joy and justice on earth. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, 2021 based on Daniel 12:1-3)

Bible Reading: 1 Samuel 1:4-20 (NRSV)

4 On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; **5** but to Hannah he gave a double portion,^[a] because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. **6** Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. **7** So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore, Hannah wept and would not eat. **8** Her husband Elkanah said to her, “Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?”

9 After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD.^[b] Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. **10** She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly. **11** She made this vow: “O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a Nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants,^[c] and no razor shall touch his head.”

12 As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. **13** Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore, Eli thought she was drunk. **14** So Eli said to her, “How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.” **15** But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. **16** Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.” **17** Then Eli answered, “Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.” **18** And she said, “Let your servant find favour in your sight.” Then the woman went to her quarters,^[e] ate and drank with her husband,^[f] and her countenance was sad no longer.^[g]

19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. **20** In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, “I have asked him of the LORD.”

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 Readings: 1 Samuel 2:1 -10 (NRSV)

Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in my God.

My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory.

² “There is no Holy One like the LORD, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

³ Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

⁴ The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.

⁵ Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn.

⁶ The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

⁷ The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts.

⁸ He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD’s, and on them he has set the world.

⁹ “He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail.

¹⁰ The LORD! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High^[d] will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.”

Children's Talk: Hannah and God

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvVfSeG_1Ts

Reflection: Hannah

Song: Beauty for Brokenness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kVHKuldZyw>

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- Students doing end of year exams
- The people of **Ethiopia, Myanmar & Sudan**
- Those living in the **Pacific** fearful of rising sea waters
- The people of **Afghanistan**, those who are displaced, those that are fearful, those in danger, those who have fled
- Ongoing work after the **climate conference** in Glasgow
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- The increasing numbers of people in Australia who have Covid 19 – the vaccine rollout, treatments, testing
- Doctors, nurses, ambulance officers and welfare workers, all working to provide assistance in this pandemic
- Global Interaction – their work in India and Bangladesh

- Baptist World Aid – As we focus on World Children’s Day (20 November), pray for Baptist World Aid Child Sponsorship programs, the Children and Youth Clubs our partners run, supporting tomorrow’s leaders
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray

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 all the world, we know that there are many in this world who cry out in pain like Hannah and it is for them we pray.

For those who grieve –

who grieve lost friendships,

who grieve lost family members

who grieve lost homelands,

who grieve lost dreams and opportunities

Provoke us to love and good deeds that they might find peace, security and a place to belong.

For those who feel nothing but emptiness –

empty because they have lost hope,

empty because they have lost love or are depressed and despairing.

Provoke us to love and good deeds that they might find purpose and the joy of life.

For the childless and the deep sadness that goes with that.

Provoke us to love and good deeds that they might know that their pain is understood and shared.

For those who have given up –

given up on their deepest desires because they cannot wait any longer

given up because they no longer believe good things can happen to them.

Provoke us to love and good deeds that they might know themselves to be precious and valued greatly.

For those who are ridiculed or disadvantaged –

made fun of because of their circumstances – the unemployed, the single parent, the indigenous person, the mentally ill, the disabled.

Provoke us to love and good deeds that they too might know they bear the very imprint of you, our God.

Hear our prayers for them all. Amen.

(Prayer written by Cheryl Williams, 2003)

Song: The Lord's Prayer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBoJ3s7ox8c>

Offering

Loving God,

Your servant Hannah offered for your service the greatest gift she could – her much waited for and loved child Samuel. Accept these gifts we bring and all the hopes, dreams and lives which they symbolise. Take them and us and use them to spread your love into all the world. Amen. *(Prayer written by Cheryl Williams. 2003)*

Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plates at entrances and exits of the church when we return to face-to-face worship

Footscray Baptist Church
BSB: 083 437
Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Deacon's Meeting** – today following the service on zoom
- **Return to face-to-face worship** on **Nov 21st** and hopefully we can livestream the service as well. To attend in person, you will be required to be fully vaccinated.
- **Quarterly Members Meeting** – November 28th after face-to-face worship, papers will be sent out shortly
- **Christmas Arrangements**
 - a) **Christmas Party** – Dec 12 or 19th, please let me know
 - b) **Services on Christmas Day (Sat 25th)** - face to face or on zoom, please let me know
 - c) **Services on Boxing Day (Sun 26th)** – face to face or on zoom, please let me know
- **Reflective Prayer** –Thursday November 18th at 5pm on zoom. Contact Ros or Cheryl for an invite.
- **Chat Groups** – whilst in lockdown an opportunity to catch up with each other on zoom on Monday, Tuesday or Friday. Emails with invites will be sent out each week and posted on facebook. These will conclude on Friday November 19th.
Monday's at 2pm Tuesday's at 7.30pm Friday's at 5.30pm
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals. Perhaps we can add in some Christmas treats – eg. Biscuits, chocolates etc

Song: Be Thou Our Vision <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optrm71F16s>

Blessing

Go in peace, and may your prayers be answered.
May the holy God surprise you on the way,
Christ Jesus be your company
and the Spirit lift up your life. Amen.

(p. 240 Be Our Freedom Lord)