



*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 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Opening Music: Ubi Caritas (Taize)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9e\\_QO1ATho](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9e_QO1ATho)

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

We walk in the footsteps of those who have gone before

**And know that we are not alone on this journey.**

We walk in the footsteps of God

**For the feet of our God have walked this way.**

May your footsteps become for us the Way, the Truth and the Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

*(from 'In This Hour - liturgies for pausing' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p,95)*

Song: For all the Saints <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzGveFp949k>

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

We thank you God for all the saints, past, present and future.

For those who were peacemakers, for those who hungered for righteousness and justice,  
for those persecuted for your sake.

For those who taught us to love you with all our heart, all our understanding and all our  
strength, and for those who showed us how to love our neighbour as ourselves.

For those who showed us how to care for others in need.

For those like Ruth and Naomi who taught us how to serve and how to laugh.

For those who led by example and stood up to injustice.

We remember with thanksgiving before you now, those people who have inspired us as  
we have sought to follow you. For these good companions who have loved us whom we  
name silently before you, we give you grateful thanks. For .....

We thank you for all who have down through the ages reflected your love and  
compassion. They are part of the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us on every side.  
May we honour them by following in their footsteps wearing our own shoes.

Draw us O God, into the future, with them, with you and with all the great company of  
saints yet to come.

In the name of Jesus, our great inspiration and friend we pray. Amen.

*(Written by Cheryl Williams, based on previous years)*

### Bible Reading: Ruth 3:1 - 4:17 (Selections) - NRSV

#### 3:1-3

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. <sup>2</sup>Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. <sup>3</sup>Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

#### 3:6

<sup>6</sup>So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her.

#### 3:9 -13

<sup>9</sup>He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant; spread your cloak over your servant, for you are next-of-kin.” <sup>10</sup>He said, “May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter; this last instance of your loyalty is better than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. <sup>11</sup>And now, my daughter, do not be afraid, I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman. <sup>12</sup>But now, though it is true that I am a near kinsman, there is another kinsman more closely related than I. <sup>13</sup>Remain this night, and in the morning, if he will act as next-of-kin for you, good; let him do it. If he is not willing to act as next-of-kin for you, then, as the LORD lives, I will act as next-of-kin for you. Lie down until the morning.”

#### 4:9 -10

<sup>9</sup>Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have acquired from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. <sup>10</sup>I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, to be my wife, to maintain the dead man’s name on his inheritance, in order that the name of the dead may not be cut off from his kindred and from the gate of his native place; today you are witnesses.”

#### 4:13 -17

<sup>13</sup>So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. <sup>14</sup>Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! <sup>15</sup>He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” <sup>16</sup>Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. <sup>17</sup>The women of the neighbourhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

### 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: Mark 12:38-44 (NRSV)

<sup>38</sup>As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Children's Talk: The Widow's Coins <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lC-E6dLvMs>

Song: I Sing a Song of the Saints of God  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK0pmGPp7SM>

Reflection: Saints and Widows

Communion Song: Come to the Banquet  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7nXzx7cBVI>

### Invitation

God of every age,  
The saints of every age have gathered around your table  
As we today gather around your table, may we have a foretaste of that heavenly banquet  
where we shall all gather and celebrate your very presence with us.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, November 1st, 2020)*

### Prayer of Preparation

Lord Jesus, as we break bread and drink from the cup, we remember we are in unusual company.

The company of every disciple, every outcast, every hesitant follower, with whom you broke bread and shared a meal.

The company of anyone who found in you grace and joy.

The company of the poor, the sick and the troubled with whom you wept, laughed and whom you healed.

The company of beggars, prostitutes, the disillusioned and condemned.

The company of Mary of Magdala – the subject of whispers whom you gave dignity.

The company of Zacchaeus, Matthew – hated, but whom welcomed you into their homes and had their lives transformed.

The company of Thomas the doubter – searching for truth.

The company of Peter the betrayer – reminded of your love for him.

The company of our friends who lived your way,

With the church through the ages, we join them today, sharing their needs and doubts, knowing their failures – we seek your grace and your scandalous love.

With awe and amazement, we break bread and share the cup, and we hear your words –  
Until I come.

We confess you, Lord, now and forever. Amen.

*(Based on prayer by Terry Falla in 'Be Our Freedom Lord' p.214/5)*

### 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." <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.

### Sharing Bread & Wine

The gifts of God for the people of God – the bread of life and cup of blessing

### 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
- Give thanks for the safe return of **Cleo Smith** to her family
- The people of **Ethiopia, Myanmar & Sudan**
- Those living in the **Pacific** fearful of rising sea waters
- The victims of the fuel tank explosion in **Sierre Leone**
- Family and friends of the young people killed at the concert in **USA**
- 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- work with the people of Papua New Guinea
- Baptist World Aid – As the pandemic affects children around the globe, pray that God would protect their childhood, keep them safe and provide opportunities for them to flourish
- 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 the world,

We live in a world of contrasts – male and female; wealthy and poor; well fed and hungry

We pray now for those who don't have the same advantages as us,

For: those who are survivors of injustice or violence – those in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar and Sudan

Those who go hungry each night  
Those who haven't had the opportunity to undertake education or meaningful work  
Those who haven't had the best health outcomes  
Refugees who languish in camps year after year  
Those cast aside because of their age, their race, their gender, their ability, their beliefs  
Those who can't afford to provide for their families  
Those who don't have adequate shelter or a safe place to stay

Use us O God, to show mercy, to act with compassion.  
Show us how to follow the example of generosity and self-giving of the widow and of Jesus.

We pray in the name of your dear Son, ever loving and ever giving. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, November 2021)*

*Song: The Lord's Prayer* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3XkNBGaPqU>

### *Offering*

Loving God,

We gather in this place today because of the love, dreams, work and sacrifices of those gone before. Accept these our gifts as a sign of our commitment to your future in this place and in this community. Amen

*(Prayer 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*

- **Baptist Historical Society** – we are hosting their meeting on Nov 13 at 10am where speaker will be talking about Joseph Goble and a minister he mentored. Help need to host – doing IT, sound etc.
- **IT Meeting Nov 13 at 1.30pm** – a meeting to discuss best ways to live stream services at the church. Expertise welcomed. You will need to be fully vaccinated to attend the meeting in person.
- **Deacon's Meeting** – November 14<sup>th</sup> following the service on zoom
- Planned return to face-to-face worship is on **Nov 21<sup>st</sup>** and hopefully we can livestream the service as well. To attend in person, you will be required to be fully vaccinated.
- **Christmas Arrangements**
  - a) **Christmas Party** – Dec 12 or 19<sup>th</sup>, please let me know
  - b) **Services on Christmas Day (Sat 25<sup>th</sup>)** - face to face or on zoom, please let me know
  - c) **Services on Boxing Day (Sun 26<sup>th</sup>)** – face to face or on zoom, please let me know
- **Reflective Prayer** –Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup> 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. If you would like to chat at another time, I

will set it up. Emails with invites will be sent out each week and posted on facebook.

Monday's at 2pm

Tuesday's at 7.30pm

Friday 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: Lord for the Years* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5cjOykt2ss>

### *Blessing*

We are the saints of God.

We are called to be the church.

Go forth in faith, in hope and in love!

And may the face of God be turned toward us,

The Spirit hover close as a covering of love

And Christ Jesus find us as we long to be found. Amen.

*(from Prayers for Life's Particular Moments by Dorothy McRae;McMahon, p. 67)*