



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 - October 24th, 2021

Opening Music: See I Am Near (Taize)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_gfm2bySg

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)

The United Nations came into existence on October 24th, 1945. It was founded to maintain peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations and promote social progress, better living standards and human rights.

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

Call to Worship

In the midst of darkness, there is light.

In the midst of blindness, we will be given sight.

Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, brings healing love to us.

Let the light of Jesus' love, breakthrough our blindness and fill our world with glory.

Tear away the bonds that trap us in darkness, Lord.

Wipe away all our fears so that we may boldly proclaim your Love.

Give us courage to stand for truth and justice.

Give us wisdom to reach out in compassion to others.

Transform our lives.

Reform our souls.

Bring us to a new day in your kingdom, O Lord.

Bring us to a new way of serving you with great joy, O Lord.

(Prayer sourced by Marlene Hatty)

Song: Tell His Praise in Song and Story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_9MdqCwVY4

Opening Prayer

Great Triune God, through Jesus Christ, our great and eternal High Priest,
we give you praise and consecrate ourselves to follow you.

As we worship you and celebrate your glorious resurrection,
open our eyes so that we may see —

open the eyes of our mind to learning and understanding;

open the eyes of our heart, to love and compassion;

open the eyes of our soul, to see our spiritual selves during our time of worship.
Amen.

(Prayer sourced by Marlene Hatty, based on Hebrews 7 & Mark 10)

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9 (NRSV)

For thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,

“Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations^[a] I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

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 10:46-52 (NRSV)

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵² Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Children's Talk: 'Scrawny Cat' by Phyllis Root

Reflection: Seeing Again

Song: Lord Let Me See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocPvWHIM550>

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas –
- Those affected by the bombings and killings in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** and those affected by floods in the **Philippines** and **Thailand**
- Those living with the effects of lava continuing to spill out from a volcano on the **Canary Islands**
- The people of **Myanmar**

- The people of **Afghanistan**, those who are displaced, those that are fearful, those in danger, those who have fled
- Preparation for the **climate conference** in Glasgow next month
- 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
- Those living in lockdown in **Victoria** and increasing case numbers
- Global Interaction- the team working in Lebanon
- Baptist World Aid – In a time of great upheaval and uncertainty in Afghanistan that chaos & fear may be reduced and God's love will break through in the region
- 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,

On this 76th anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations we pray for people of every nation, help us see the needs of others in the world:

- where there is slavery, oppression and prejudice, grant us the compassion to work for freedom and dignity.
- Where there is cruelty, grant us the compassion to work for justice and equality.
- Where people need protection, grant us the compassion so they might find such safety in our land.
- Where there are few options for work and no fair pay, grant us the compassion to put it right.
- Where there is a lack of adequate health care, shelter, food, sanitation and education, grant us the compassion to make a difference.
- Where people are told what to think and how to express their thoughts, grant us the compassion to let them speak or even speak on their behalf.

We pray that people of every nation might reach their full potential that you intend for every part of your creation. Help us play a part in making this real for all who cry out for mercy and for all we encounter as we follow you along the way.

(Prayer written by Cheryl Williams for United Nations Day 2003)

Song: The Lord's Prayer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl7PgGP9iNI>

Offering

Holy Giver of all that we need, you have filled our hearts with joy and our hands with overflowing abundance.

With thanks and joy, we bring these gifts, offering ourselves in communion with you and with all creation. Amen.

(Prayer sourced by Marlene Hatty, based on Hebrews 1,2 psalm 26)

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

- **Breakout Rooms** – immediately after the service we will break into smaller groups to chat and then come back to the bigger group.
- **Christmas Arrangements**
 - a) **Christmas Party** – Yarraville Gardens on either Sunday Dec 12 or 19, use the chat function to let us know your preference
 - b) **Services on Christmas Day (Sat 25th) & Boxing Day (Sun 26th)** – would you attend a service on both days? If not, which day would you prefer to have a service? Would you like to have one in person and one on zoom, if so which in person and which on zoom? Again, let us know using the chat function.
- **Reflective Prayer** – Thursday October 28th 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. Based on attendance we will only continue the ones on Monday, Tuesday and 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.

Song: Christ Be Our Light <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlLgTyWidlw>

Blessing

May God the creator bless you and keep you;

May the beloved companion look into your eyes and have mercy upon you;

May the eternal Spirit's countenance be turned to you and give your peace;

May the Three in One bless you. Amen. *(From p. 238 BOFL)*