



*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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021*

Opening Music: Let Love Rule [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TH\\_zlvxNIQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TH_zlvxNIQ)

### 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

God of the world,

We come today to praise you and celebrate your love for us.

**We choose to walk in your way of love**

**We seek you with all our heart**

**We hear your word and try to live it out**

Keep us in your steadfast love

Keep us in your Spirit

Keep us in your way.

Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, October 2021, based on Psalm 119:1-8)*

#### Song: Love Divine All Loves Excelling

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

#### Opening Prayer

Eternal God,

We lift up our hearts and praise you.

For the unlimited power of your love in Jesus Christ.

**We thank you, we praise you,**

**Because he never stopped loving you**

**Even when his disciples ran away**

**And death stared him in the face;**

Because he never stopped loving other people

Even when he was being nailed to the cross;

**Because the worst the world could do**

**In sending Jesus out to die**

**Could not stand in the way of your love;**

Because you showed us the power of your love

By raising him from death;

**Because his dying and rising again**

**We know that your love is strong enough**

**To go on loving until the end of time.**

Lord, we praise you because we know

Your love must win in the end. Amen.

*(From Be Our Freedom Lord, p.86)*

### *Bible Reading: Ruth 1:1-18 (NRSV)*

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. <sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back each of you to your mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. <sup>10</sup>They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.” <sup>14</sup>Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup>So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” <sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

### *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 12:28-34 (NRSV)*

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup>you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup>The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” <sup>32</sup>Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; <sup>33</sup>and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbour as oneself,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” <sup>34</sup>When Jesus

saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

*Children's Talk: Love Your Neighbour As Yourself*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4xO8kXwpek>

*Song: Love the Lord* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdMIxCdIY-c>

*Reflection: Loving God & Loving Neighbour*

*Song: Love Makes a Way* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfMu\\_QR9J6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfMu_QR9J6s)

*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 missing girl **Cleo Smith** and her family and those searching for her
- The people of **Myanmar, Sudan**
- Those living in the **Torres Straits** fearful of rising sea waters
- 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 Victoria 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- remembering those affected by the earthquake in Haiti and all affected by natural disasters as they rebuild their lives
- Baptist World Aid – the people of Papua and the growing churches there & Rev Mark Holt who is the country consultant
- 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 love,

You call us to love our neighbours, so we pray for them now

- For people in lands where there is no peace – Sudan, Myanmar, Afghanistan
- For those who are unwell in body, mind or soul
- For those who have no safe place to call home
- For those who are survivors of abuse, violence or exploitation
- For those who live with addiction of various kinds
- For those excluded because of their race, colour, creed, age or ability
- For the first nations people of this land who must fight for recognition and understanding
- For those fearful of the consequences of rising sea waters and climate change
- For those who have fled their homelands seeking safety from persecution

Give them strength in their situation  
Surround them with people who care  
Help us to show these, our neighbours, love and compassion. Amen

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, October 2021)*

Song: Yesu Yesu Fill Us with Your Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjFNpoEy8mY>

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

### Offering

Take these offerings as a sign of our love for you.

Use them and us to go out loving our neighbours. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, October 2021)*

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 meeting in person.
- 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 4<sup>th</sup> at 5pm on zoom. Contact Ros or Cheryl for an invite.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song: They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZY9kS1Fu0A>

### Blessing

Go in faith,

May life be born within you

May Christ Jesus be seen among you

May the Spirit move before us with joy. Amen.

*(Blessing from 'Liturgies for the Journey of Life' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon)*

