



*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: August 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

Opening Music: Make Me a Channel of your Peace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYV5Q0E2caE>

### Welcome & 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!

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

#### Call to Worship

Lord God we come before you now.

Your love is everlasting,

**We will act justly, with your help**

Your words are true

**We will not speak ill of others, with your help**

You are a true friend

**We will not betray others, with your help**

You always keep your promises

**We will care for others no matter the cost, with your help**

You freely bestow your gifts and graces

**We will freely share what we have, with your help**

We remain secure in you loving presence. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, 2021, based on Psalm 15)*

Hymn: Beauty for Brokenness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaMPE53uP38>

#### Opening Prayer

God of the whole world,

We give thanks that you care for all of us in the world, not matter where we live.

We give thanks for those who put others first, who care for those less fortunate.

For those who:

- Share skills and training so others might be educated and helped to provide for their communities, so others might be made well
- Find creative ways to finance development initiatives

- Leave their comfortable homes to care for others
- Advocate for the rights of others
- Welcome those fleeing unsafe places
- Teach us about the consequences of our behaviours

Thank you for the ways they reveal your love and mercy. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2021)*

### *Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (NRSV)*

O now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup> You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

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<sup>6</sup> You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” <sup>7</sup> For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup> And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? <sup>9</sup> But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children—

### *Sharing 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: James 1:17-27 (NRSV)*

<sup>17</sup> Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change <sup>18</sup> In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. <sup>19</sup> You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. <sup>21</sup> Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup> For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup> But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. <sup>26</sup> If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*Children's Talk: World Vision Poverty clip*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXpm7xDRWk4>

*Children's Song: Jesus Loves the Little Children Medley*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUG-UvjEmSY>

*Reflection:*

Cheryl – introduction to BWA

<https://vimeo.com/446327415> - meeting some of the children

Marlene – telling stories about the children we support

<https://vimeo.com/581984612> It takes a child to raise a village

Cheryl - conclusion

*Prayers for the Church and the World*

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- For those separated from loved ones during lockdown
- For family overseas who have Covid
- The work of the **BWA** in the Pacific, Middle East, South East Asia, South Asia & Africa
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- For peace, justice & safety in **Afghanistan and Myanmar**
- For those trying to flee **Afghanistan**, especially after the bombing
- For those battling Covid and other medical issues whilst their homelands are immersed in conflict
- Those who have Covid 19
- The vaccine rollout, treatments and testing, those in lockdown in **ACT, New South Wales & Victoria**
- Global Interaction – for those working in Indochina and for those preparing to serve there
- Baptist World Aid – for agencies that BWA partners with to care for those on the margins
- 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 universe, we pray now for your world

We pray for the people in the places BWA works

- Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu
- Lebanon, Syria and Yemen
- Cambodia, Malaysia and the Philippines
- Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka
- Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia

We pray for the communities BWA serves

- May their families have new opportunities
- May their children have vision
- May their communities see a brighter future

We pray for people living in conflict and fear – especially Afghanistan and Myanmar

- Give them peace
- Give them justice
- Give them security

We pray for those whose lives have been decimated by natural disaster and climate change

- Give them shelter
- Give them all they need
- Give them safety

We pray for those who despair, are losing hope and worried

- Give them hope
- Give them solace
- Give them peace

We pray for those whose lives are impacted by covid, malnutrition and preventable disasters

- Bring them healing
- Bring them compassionate carers
- Bring them life

We pray for those exploited by other's greed and selfish want

- Bring them fairness
- Bring them equality
- Bring them justice

Finally, we pray for ourselves, may we be:

- Generous in our giving
- Ethical in our doing
- Understanding in our decision making

- *(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2021)*

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray ...

### *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: Don't Be Afraid*

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

## Offering

Take these our offerings and all they symbolise – our love and concern.  
Use them and us to spread your generous love to all around. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 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

- **Donations** to support our BWA children may be made via our direct debit facility, mark deposit with 'BWA Children Support'
- **August Services** – these will be held on zoom and a link sent out the week before. Hopefully we can meet again in person in September
- **Deacon's Meeting** – today on zoom following worship
- **BUV Justice and Advocacy week** – September 6-12. Daily focus – First Nation Peoples, Asylum Seekers & Refugees, Global Poverty, Domestic and Family Violence, Homelessness. More details from BUV website.
- **Reflective Prayer** – is having a break until Thursday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 5pm via zoom. Speak to Ros or Cheryl if you are interested and we can send you an invite
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals. This month we are giving donations that symbolise 'the bread of life' (pasta, rice etc)
- **Mural** – is now completed

## Hymn: Lord Let Me See

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocPvWHIM550>

## Blessing

Go from this place in faith,  
And in your dreaming be hope.  
In our sharing be love  
In your living be peace  
In your loving be joy. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2021)*