



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 - March 6th, 2022

Opening Music: Kyrie Eleison <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrXISoPuCGg>

Welcome

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!

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

Call to Worship

Ah the Spirit
we know not where she blows
as a breath of wind
she goes wherever she wills

in the gravel of the journey she leaves her footprints
in the cross on the horizon she directs the journey
in the deepening colours of the season, she moves between us
in the fading of the light, she calls us into the darkness
in the word of foretelling, she promises life
in the wilderness of Lent, she takes us through.

,(Prayer by Roddy Hamilton at Mucky Paws)

Song: God is our strength and refuge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cfv1NFz4e6U>

Opening Prayer

God of the wilderness,

We thank you for all who withstand times of testing, trial and ridicule –the prophets, Jesus, countless men and women and children down through the ages.

We thank you for those who are brave. Who have bravely stood up against injustice of all kinds, who have stood up against those trying to trick or to take advantage of others.

We thank you for those who support others in times of trial. For those who listen, who encourage others and who help others see some light at the end of the tunnel. For those who help us all make good or better decisions and choices.

We thank you that no matter what difficulties or darkness we find ourselves in, you are always close by.

We thank you that in Jesus we see ways of putting you and others first. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, March 2022)

Bible Reading: Luke 4: 1-13(NRSV)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil^[a] led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Passing the Peace (Cheryl)

Shalom my friends
God's peace my friends
Go with you now
And stay with you
In all you do
Shalom, shalom.

Bible Reading: Romans 10: 8b-13(NRSV)

The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Children's Talk: The Desert (Cheryl)

Reflection: Food, Power & Safety(Cheryl)

Communion Song: Let us Break Bread Together

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xVFIIdUo1uM>

Communion

Invitation

Come now to the table of plenty, symbol of the bounty Jesus shared with others and foretaste of the kingdom coming.

Prayer of Preparation

God, who breathed this world into being
Placed stars into the heavens
And designed a butterfly's wing

God who entrusted his life
To the care of ordinary people
Became vulnerable so we might know
How strong is the power of love.

God of the harvest,
 feed us
 prune us
 harvest us
 that our lives
 might bring glory to you. Amen.

(Adapted from prayers from Copyright © John Birch, 2016)

Words of Institution: Luke 22:14-20

¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Sharing the bread & wine

Grain and bread, grapes and wine, the gifts of God for the people of God.

(Adapted from prayers from Copyright © John Birch, 2016)

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- **Orange Sky** – the volunteers and those who use the service
- Those affected by fires in **Argentina**
- Floods in **Queensland & New South Wales**
- Peace in **Eastern Europe**
- Those in **Ukraine** who are scared
- Places and people affected by the **Omicron** strain of Covid, those grieving the loss of loved ones
- The peoples of – **Fiji, Finland, France**
- Places of conflict – **Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria & Ukraine**

- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- Doctors, nurses, ambulance officers and welfare workers, all working to provide assistance in this pandemic
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – the work amongst the people of Thailand and Cambodia
- **Baptist World Aid** - For International Women's Day (8 March) pray that women and girls around the world would experience freedom from discrimination and gender-based violence
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray – especially those looking for new accommodation as Preston Sanctuary is now closed.

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 bring our prayers now for our world

- Where people are tested beyond all they can bear – who fear war surrounding them on all sides, who cannot feed their children, who must flee homelands with just a bag of clothes
- Where people feel like they have been left alone to fight their demons
- Where people find it difficult to distinguish between truth and falsehood, good and bad, good and better, what is important and what is trivial
- Where people are tempted by drugs and other dependencies, tempted by the pursuit of wealth, tempted to cause another harm

Surround them with love and peace.

Help us stand up for and encourage those being tempted or taken advantage of.

Remind us of your way and enable us to hold onto your truth.

We pray in the name of the one who was tested and who rose above it in order to show us how to live, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, March 2022)

We continue to pray the prayer Jesus 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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Song: Be Not Afraid https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_H_kgDXcKIw

Offering

Generous God, take the gifts and lives we offer and use them to relieve those who are tempted and tested beyond that which they can bear. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, March 2022)

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- Copies of the service and sermon can be found on our website.
- **International Women's Day** – March 8th
- **Harvest Festival – Next Sunday March 13th**, non-perishable items will be donated to Sanctuary & Houses of Hope residents, let's make this a celebration
- **Deacons Meeting** – March 13th, immediately following worship service
- **Office Hours** – Grace will be in office on Tue, Wed & Thu from 10.30.am – 1.00pm. Cheryl will be there on Mon afternoons and Thu/Fri mornings.
- **Feast for Freedom** – join in the ASRC fundraising event from March 25-27th, see their website for details
- **Orange Sky** has started using the car park on Monday nights for their laundry service
- **Reflective Prayer** –continues on Thursday March 10th at 5pm on zoom. Please contact Ros or Chery for an invite.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

March Birthdays – Becky, Forouzan, Hermie, Paul G & Paul S

Song: God of Grace and God of Glory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9rWrw3XB08>

Blessing

May your love grasp us when we feel we are only just holding on
May your voice call us when we seek other pleasures or pain
May your story heal us when ours is too sore to tell
May your patience wait for us when we are not yet ready to hear you
May your spirit fill us when we have been emptied by life
And may all our living find its source in you.

,(Prayer by Roddy Hamilton at Mucky Paws)