



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 - Easter Day 2022

Song: Halle, Halle, Halle

Easter Greeting

Christ is Risen

He is Risen Indeed!

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'

Call to Worship

We thought you were dead.

We thought the cross was the end.

We thought that when the stone rolled over the tomb,
that was it.

But this is it:

the dead are living;

the cross is empty;

the stone is rolled,

and one word describes it all:

Alleluia!

Jesus is risen!

We thought you had said your final word.

We thought those with the power had won.

We thought that when you cried out,
that was it.

But this is it:

the word breathes;

the powers are defeated;

the final cry was only the beginning,

and one word says it all:

Alleluia!

Jesus is risen!

We thought the story was finished.
We thought the hope had ended.
We thought that when the tomb was sealed,
that was it.

**But this is it:
the story has just begun;
the hope is newly born;
the tomb is empty,
and one word says it all:
Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!**

This is the news:
Jesus is risen!
This is the moment
Jesus is alive!
This is the gospel
Jesus is with us!

We thought that when they crucified you,
death had defeated life,
and that was it.

But this is it:
**Love is stronger than death,
and one word says it all:
Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!**

(From 'Easter Litany' ~ written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky Paws. <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>)

Song: This is the Day

Opening Prayer

When the world was young
at that first sunrise
and the new light
held a promise of new days
and fresh mornings
The Word spoke...

...When the Word spoke
and creation sparked
and the alleluias unfolded
the dawn was set free...

...When the dawn was set free
the trees clapped hands
and mountains bowed
and the birds sang a new song
fresh every morning...

...Fresh every morning
the day holds a hope
that this day is God's

and this day holds the promise
and this day is a new beginning...

...A new beginning
is the song of the morning
that takes the shadows of night
and paints them gold and green
for the earth rejoices...

...The earth rejoices
for stones have rolled
and tombs have been emptied
and angels are whispering
and death has been conquered...

...Death has been conquered
and resurrection
has left footprints in the dew
that tell us
he has gone ahead of us
he is not among the dead
he is not here...

(From 'Litany of the Dawn' written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on the New Kilpatrick Parish Church website.
<https://www.nkchurch.org.uk/original-liturgy>)

Bible Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25 (NRSV)

17 For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. **18** But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. **19** I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. **20** No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. **21** They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. **22** They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. **23** They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD— and their descendants as well. **24** Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. **25** The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Passing the Peace

Christ is Risen

He is Risen Indeed!

The peace of God be with you

Bible Reading: Luke 24:1-12 (NRSV)

24 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. **2** They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, **3** but when they went in, they did not find the body. **4** While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. **5** The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not

here, but has risen.¹⁰ ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.¹³

Children's Talk - Eggsellent Easter

Song: Halle, Halle, Halle

Reflection: Then the women remembered

Song: An Easter Hallelujah

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
- Peace 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 – **Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar (formerly Burma)**
- Places of conflict – **Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria & Ukraine**
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- All working to provide assistance in this pandemic
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – Pray for the work in Outback Australia and Thailand
- **Baptist World Aid** – Pray for children in Nepal whose growth and development have been stunted due to a lack of access to regular, nutritious meals. We know God does not forget one of them and he has a plan for their future.
- 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,
empty tombs and risen lords
stones that have rolled
and resurrection,

for some it is easy to believe
for others it is just daft
but for most
we wonder
we wonder what might be possible

and God

if love is the greatest power in the universe
we wonder
what might be possible

if love chooses to carry on loving
even those who try and kill it
what might be possible

and if love decides to give of itself
for the sake of others
what might be possible

so in our wonder
and our longing for such a love as this
that changes things
may we dare to believe
in what seems impossible
and dare to live
impossible lives
that hope beyond death
but believe in life before death

may we life this kind of love
that dares to work for justice
and the fullness of life for everyone
dare to work for peace
and the fullness of peace for everyone
because we believe in love
which has become
the most powerful thing in the universe
because it gives of itself

God
may we make time
this season of renewal and life
to wonder
and wonder
what love might make possible
in us. Amen.

(From 'Believe the Wonder' ~ written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky Paws. <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>)

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.

Offering

Loving God,

We thank you for this Easter Day – with its promise of new life and new opportunities. Use us, and our gifts, to love and serve you, and to witness to Christ whom you have raised. Amen.

(Prayer by Moira Laidlaw)

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Bible Study** – at office on Monday 18th April at 5.30pm
- **Sharing a Meal with Orange Sky** come along on Monday night from 6.30pm to help serve and share a meal with those using the Orange Sky laundry service.
- **Reflective Prayer** – continues on Thursday April 21st at 5pm on zoom. Please contact Ros or Chery for an invite.
- **Our services are not** on zoom or live streamed, copies of the service and sermon can be found on our website.
- **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.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.
- **Food for Orange Sky** – vegemite, peanut butter, 2 min noodles

Song: Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Blessing

When it takes hold, resurrection doesn't let go.

it shakes the dead awake

it shakes the darkness from the light

it shakes the silence from our throats

and it wrestles death from all that is dying

Let us go out into the world

and in the upheaval of resurrection

seek out the life. Amen.

(From 'Easter Benediction' ~ written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky Paws.

<http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>)

Song: Halle, Halle, Halle