



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 - April 3rd, 2022

Welcome (Cheryl)

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

We come to this place

because we want to know God,

who helps us set aside the past,

to walk the path to new life.

We come in these moments

because we want to know Jesus,

who anoints us with the resurrection,

who shares our lives with us.

We come with these people

because we want to know the Spirit,

who shapes us for life with God,

so we may praise God forever!

(From the blog by Rev Sandy Boyce is a Uniting Church in Australia Minister (Deacon).)

Song: To God be the Glory <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CeBoSQsBR0>

Opening Prayer

You have done great things for us, God of great love.

You make a way through our brokenness, so hope might be restored;

You loosen our grip on fear, so we might take hold of the One who cradles us in the
palms of grace.

You are doing great things through us, Brother of the poor.

You make a way through our doubt, so we may have the faith to follow, as well as to
serve by your side;

You gather up our tears, turning them into fountains of joy.

You will do great things in us, Anointer of our hearts.

You make a way through our hardened hearts, melting them into rivers of wonder for all;

You touch our tongues so they tingle with delights, and laughter tumbles out of our
mouths.

Continue to make a way through us, God in Community. Amen.

(from Thom Shuman's communion liturgy: Lent 5C as found on the blog by Rev Sandy Boyce is a Uniting Church in Australia Minister (Deacon).)

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14 (NRSV)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 Reading: John 12:1-8 (NRSV)

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it [□] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Song: A Prophet Woman Broke a Jar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZwHp3iYV3c>

Children's Talk - Smells

Reflection: Courageous Generosity

Communion Song: As Bread that is Broken

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rg_lNm-ZqqU

Communion

Invitation

God of hospitality, you welcome us to this space with open arms, so we come with reverence and doubt, with eagerness and uncertainty to join with you and all people who gather around your table in every corner of the world.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, March 2022)

Prayer of Preparation

Most Generous God,

You have poured out love into this world,

- at the very beginning you created beauty and abundance
- you feed the Israelites in the wilderness despite their grumbling
- you led our ancestors into a land flowing with milk and honey

You sent your Son into this world with love to teach us how to live

- as he provided abundant wine at a wedding
- as he fed the crowds gathered on the mountain
- as he healed and restored people to the fulness of life
- as he gave his life for all
- as he rose again to remind us that death and violence and injustice will never have the last word

Pour out your Spirit on us so we might pour out love and compassion on those around us, just as the woman who will be remembered poured out her devotion. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, March 2022)

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: The gifts of God for the people of God

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
- Cleaning up after the 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 – **Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait & Kyrgyzstan**

- Places of conflict – **Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria & Ukraine**
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- All working to provide assistance in this pandemic
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – their work in South East Asia, the Silk Road Area, PNG and Cambodia
- **Baptist World Aid** – programs designed to help increase people’s access to food security, to health care and justice
- 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 extravagant love,
Pour out such love on your world.

- Where there is scarcity, pour out abundance
- Where there is confusion and doubt, pour out understanding
- Where there is control, pour out freedom
- Where there is war, conflict and violence, pour out peace
- Where there is fear, pour out safety
- Where there is homelessness, pour out hospitality
- Where there is misunderstanding, pour out clarity
- Where there is loneliness, pour out good company
- Where there is sickness, pour out healing
- Where there is despair, pour out hope

Strengthen us to pour out love and compassion, care and consolation to those in need around us, so all may know your abundant grace. 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=dWpG7qHtB8g>

Offering (Cheryl)

Faithful Giver of Life, you have done great things for us. In the life and teaching of your Son Jesus, you welcome us into your heart.
Help us open our hearts to others, that we may be ever more willing to offer our hospitality, our support, and our material resources wherever they are needed. Bless these offerings in your holy name. Amen.

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility
Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437
Account No: 515383063

News & Notices (Cheryl)

- **Bible Study** – at office on Monday's 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 7th at 5pm on zoom. Please contact Ros or Cheryl for an invite.
- **Our services are not** on zoom or live streamed, copies of the service and sermon can be found on our website.
- **Deacons Meeting** – Tuesday 12th April at 5.30pm on zoom
- **Easter Services**
April 10 – Palm Sunday – face to face worship at 10.30am
April 14 – Maundy Thursday – zoom service at 7.30pm
April 15 – Good Friday – face to face worship at 10am
April 17 – Easter Sunday -face to face worship at 10.30am
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.
- **Walking the Larapinta Trail for Peter Mac** – Trivia Night at West Preston Baptist on Sat April 30th or online fundraising. three women from Brunswick Baptist are walking the Larapinta in June to raise money for research at Peter Mac. See Cheryl for details.

Song: Be Now Our Vision <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jIMhshpf0Y4>

Blessing

As you go into the world, may the aroma of your faith fill the air around you. May your hope perfume your encounters. May your touch, mend broken walls. And may the God of hope and peace, guide you, envelope you, and sustain you on the journey and in the work.

(From Leave Her Alone Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ and published on Worship Ways.)