



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 9th, 2020

Music: When the storms of life are raging – stand by me <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pp-An4Lnsjc>

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country (Cheryl)

As we begin our worship, we acknowledge the Wurrundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of this land on which we gather to worship. We honour this history, their elders, past, present and emerging and commit ourselves to work together

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

Call to Worship

We gather today to give thanks to the LORD,

TO CALL ON THE LORD'S NAME.

We shall sing to you; we shall sing praises to you; and tell of your wonderful works.

GLORY IS GOD'S HOLY NAME, MAY THE HEARTS OF ALL WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE.

Let us seek you Lord, and your strength.

LET US SEEK YOUR PRESENCE CONTINUALLY.

We remember the wonderful works you have done.

WE REMEMBER YOUR MIRACLES AND THE WISDOM YOU HAVE UTTERED.

PRAISE BE TO YOU, OUR LORD!

(Based on Psalm 105:1-5)

Song - Eternal Father, Strong to Save <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDjwUzUnNpU>

Opening Prayer

Lord God, your works are too wonderful:

- out of seeming chaos you created all that is beautiful, unique and irreplaceable
- when Peter's courage failed him, you reached out your hand to him
- in the darkest moments, there you are in our midst
- you are generous to all who call on your name.

We confess that:

- sometimes we feel our fears will overwhelm us
- sometimes we long for safe harbour, a still place to rest and reflect
- sometimes we take a few steps but then we falter
- sometimes we forget to thank those who bring your word, your love and your challenge to us.

Help us to respond to you as you come walking along the waters of our lives and grant us peace. Amen.

Bible Reading: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 (NRSV)

37 Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." ¹⁴So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, ¹⁵and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶"I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." ¹⁷The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²²Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; ²⁴and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. ²⁸When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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: Matthew 14: 22-33 (NRSV)

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Children's Talk - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVy9HGr3Qig>

Reflection: - *God is with us in the storms of life*

Song: Be Not Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWpG7qHtB8g>

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- Those who are waiting to hear about their visas
- Those who have Covid 19, those in hospital and families who have lost loved ones in the past week
- For those living in aged care and those caring for them
- All of us living with Stage 4 restrictions
- Our Chief Medical Officer and Premier who must front the public day after day often with bad news
- Politicians and Public Health officials making decisions about our welfare, tracing cases and preparing for all Victorians
- Tensions in Hong Kong
- Those affected by the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, especially BWA's partner organisation whose buildings were badly damaged and those they work with to support the poor
- Covid 19 – those working on cures, vaccines, treatments
- Global Interaction – those working amongst Ethnic Thai and for the 'Beauty and Beyond' project for women
- Baptist World Aid – Pray for the education of the children BWA works with. Ask God to help them continue to learn, even if they cannot be at school. Pray the way would be made clear for many to return to school when safe.
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray
- Our friends in Kenya
- Places around the globe with ever increasing Covid case numbers – especially Philippines, PNG, Vietnam

Silence – in the silence and through our minds and imaginations we bring prayers which words cannot contain:

(p. 56-7 A Wee Worship Book)

Loving God we continue now to pray for your world.

We pray for those who have been battered by the storms of life - those whose lives are torn apart by strict lockdown, abuse, conflict, depression, illness and addiction.

We pray also for those who find themselves far from home or a safe port – refugees and asylum seekers, students, those working for you in other lands.

We pray for those who feel the wind of life has turned against them - those who feel unloved, discouraged and fearful.

We pray for all who cry out in fear - children, the sick, the dying, the earth.

Jesus, come walking toward them in their moments of fear, pain or anxiety. Reach out to them and catch them, so that, they might know you are the Son of God who loves them, calms their fears and gives them peace.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2020)

Song: Don't Be Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoYKTFe9dVw>

Offering

Let us pray,

Most generous God, we bring you these, our gifts of money. Take them, and all that they symbolise - our dreams, our fragility, our potential, our fears and our willingness to share your love. Take them and use them for your world. Amen.

- Offering can be made in a couple of ways – put it aside and when we can gather again you could place it in our offering bowl in the normal manner. Or you could take the opportunity to use our direct debit facility –

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

Community Time & Notices

- **Reflective Prayer** – Tuesday August 11th at 12.15pm via zoom, contact Ros or Cheryl for more details
- **Deacon's Meeting** - Saturday August 15th at 4pm
- **Quarterly Meeting:** Notice is given for next Quarterly Meeting – Sunday August 23rd immediately following the worship service on Zoom.
- **Bible Study Groups** – Currently a number of groups are studying mission in Matthew. If we would like to join a group or start a group speak to Cheryl. Study questions will be posted on our Website
- **Baptist World Aid** – Check out <https://baptistworldaid.org.au/> to see how you can support community volunteer health workers being trained to make communities Covid safe in Kenya and women in Kenya making masks
- **Baptcare Sanctuary** is very grateful for all the donations Footscray Baptist has provided in the last few weeks.

They would be especially grateful for dates, nuts – almonds, pistachios

They also need:

Basmati rice	Red Lentils	Yellow dahl	Cooking oil
Red Kidney Beans	Butter Beans	Chickpeas	Tinned tomatoes
Onions & garlic	Black tea bags	Instant coffee	Milk UHT
Tumeric	Cumin	Coriander	Biscuits

Tinned fish – especially tuna Tinned fruit

Fresh - bread, eggs, milk, yogurt, fresh fruit and vegetables.

Song: Guide Me O Great Jehovah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT4n1hGjDDg>

Sending Out

Deep peace of the running wave to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you,

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.

(Celtic Blessing)