



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 23rd, 2020

Music: God Beyond All Names https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Htrmq0g_Nk

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

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 for reconciliation between all peoples, God and the land.

Today is Freedom Sunday, the anniversary of the walk off by indigenous workers from Wave Hill, this led to Gough Whitlam handing back the land to Vincent Lingiri – you may have seen the famous picture of Gough Whitlam pouring sand into Vincent Lingiri's hand. It is also the subject of the song by Kev Carmody and Paul Kelly – From Little Things Big Things Grow. Let's remember and pray for our indigenous brothers and sisters.

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

Call to Worship

We give thanks to you O God

With our whole hearts we sing your praise

Your name is steadfast love

Your way is faithfulness

When we call, you strengthen our souls

We sing of your ways, great is your glory

You regard the lowly,

You save us when in trouble

O God, you stretch out your hand to us and save us

O God your love endures forever

The great I Am, the great will be, we come to worship you. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2020, based on Psalm 138 & Exodus 3:1-15)

Song - Bring Many Names <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRCTwSCA-xU>

Opening Prayer

God, the great I Am who I Am,

Creator of all that is, seen and unseen, of earth, sea and sky

Giver of laws to live by, laws to protect the vulnerable ones

Protector of those who feel unsafe

Refuge for those who need shelter

Jesus, redeemer and friend,

Healer of those who ail in body or mind

Liberator and crusher of barriers

Truth teller and peace giver

Welcome guest and generous host

Spirit, sustainer of our very being,

Advocate for us all

Comforter in times of trouble

Enabler as we build the kingdom

Guide in life as community

God, you are who you are and will be who you will be.

Helps us to be who we are:

- the people of God,
- **the body of Christ,**
- the community of the Spirit. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2020)

Bible Reading: Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV)

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. ⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." ¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever.

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 16:13-28 NRSV)

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” **14** And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” **15** He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” **16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” **17** And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. **19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” **20** Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. **21** From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. **22** And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” **23** But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” **24** Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **25** For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. **26** For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? **27** “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. **28** Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Children's Talk - I Am Who I Am

Reflection: - I Am Who I Am - Are You?

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
- For those living in aged care and those caring for them
- Our Public Health Officers and Premier
- Health officials making decisions about our welfare, tracing cases and preparing for all Victorians
- Those affected by political unrest in Belarus, Hong Kong and Lebanon
- Covid 19 – those working on cures, vaccines, treatments
- Global Interaction – continue to pray for the children of workers overseas and the Australian based staff supporting them.
- Baptist World Aid – Thank God for the relief provided by support from churches – children have received food, hygiene kits and health education to protect them from coronavirus.
- 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, India, Philippines, South Africa and Vietnam

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

God above all names,

We continue to pray for your world in the names of Jesus Christ your Son, who, pitched his tent amongst us all, and shared the fragility of our human lives.

Prince of peace – bring calm to those find themselves in stormy seas.

Author of wisdom – give insight to all need it, especially our decision makers.

The way, the truth and the life – guide us in right paths.

Companion for the journey – befriend the lonely, the isolated.

Comforter – hold the broken hearted, the anguished and those in distress

Healer – touch those unwell in body, mind and soul

The resurrection and the life – help us to accept life in all its abundance. Offered to us and all, ready for us to share with our neighbours and indeed the whole world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, August 2020)

Song: Weave One Heart <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoteHQtnTI>

Offering

Generous and kind God,

Take what we offer – our lives, our money, our giftedness, add to it our own gifts of love, so all may know they can call on your name. Amen.

(Prayer based one in 'Prayers for Life's Particular Moments' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p. 80)

- 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 25th at 12.15pm via zoom, contact Ros or Cheryl for more details
- **Quarterly Meeting**: Today, following service.
- **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: I the Lord of Sea and Sky <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFFhZM4rn-c>

Sending Out

Father bless us as we go

Jesus walk beside us

Holy Spirit guide us