



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 - February 13th, 2022

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

Lord, we gather here today before You

Delighting in Your name

Meditating on Your word

Drinking from the deep wells of Your Spirit

We trust in You!

We will not fear when troubles come

We will not be anxious for the future

Search our hearts

Watch over us, we pray. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2022 based on Psalm 1 & Jer 17:5-10)

Song: Deeper River <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xz6pacdT3HY>

Opening Prayer

Alive!

We thank you, God,

Whose finger touched our dust,

Who gave us breath

We thank you, God

who gave us sight and sense

to see the flowers,

to hear the wind,

to feel the waters in our hand.

To sleep with the night

And wake with the sun,

To stand upon the earth,

To hear your voice,

And to sing your praise.

**Our hearts are stirred
With each new sight
and sound**

Like a stream,
the whole world
pours into our lives,
and eyes and hands.

**And fills our souls
with the joy of gratitude
and living gladness.**

We want to embrace
and experience and express
every good thing in your world.

**God our life,
splash us with the colours
of your Spirit. Amen.**

(Prayer 'Alive' by Terry Falla in Be our Freedom Lord, pl 82)

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10 (NRSV)

⁵ Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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: Luke 6:17-26 (NRSV)

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you^[a] on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Children's Talk: (Cheryl)

Reflection: A Level Playing Field (Cheryl)

Song: Beauty for Brokenness (God of the poor)

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

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas –
- **Kachin church** as they begin to meet face to face again
- **Orange Sky** – the volunteers and those who use the service
- People affected by **fires in WA**
- Severe food shortage and impending famine in **Afghanistan**
- Places and people affected by the **Omicron** strain of Covid, those grieving the loss of loved ones
- The peoples of – **Côte d'Ivoire, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo (Congo-Brazzaville), Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia (Czech Republic)**
- 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 World Aid** – Pray for country leaders to hear the voices of farmers and fishermen and fisherwomen whose communities are on the frontlines of global environmental crises
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray – especially those looking for new accommodation as the Preston Sanctuary closes.

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, together we pray for your world,

Bless those who are poor – the poor in Spirit, the poor financially, the poor in opportunity

Satisfy those who hunger – hunger for food, hunger for righteousness, hunger for justice.

Comfort those who weep – weep for loved ones lost, weep for the pain of others, weep because they are desperately sad.

Draw near to those excluded from participating in society, marginalised and pushed to the edges, rejected by us.

Change the hearts of those who are rich, help us share what we have.

Change those of us who have been filled with good things, help us give generously to others.

Change those of us who enjoy the respect of the world, teach us humility.

Loving God, help us take Jesus' teaching from the plain into the world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2022, based on Luke 6:17-26)

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

Extravagant God,

Take these offerings we pray as our protest against all that is evil and ugly and impoverished, trivial and wretched and tyrannical, in our world and ourselves.

And thus, may we and others know ourselves to be blessed. Amen.

(Prayer 'Blessing and Protest' in Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 193)

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **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 Feb 17th 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.

Song: Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihhvm6eLWZI>

Blessing

Go now and the blessings of God be yours.

May you find refuge in the arms of the Creator

May you walk the way with Jesus

May you grow in love enabled by the Spirit. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2022)