

Order of Service - February 19th, 2023

Opening Music: Shine Jesus Shine [\(24\) Shine Jesus Shine \(worship video w/ lyrics\) - YouTube](#)
To God be the Glory [\(24\) To God be the glory - YouTube](#)

Welcome

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 Candles: Jesus said: 'I Am the Light of the World'.

Call to Worship

Lord God, we come into your presence,

Into the place where earth touches heaven

Into the place of meeting

Into the place of mists

Into the place of voices and conversations

Into the place of listening.

(Prayer adapted from 'A Prayer for Transfiguration Sunday' by William Loader, 2001)

Song: Gather Us In [\(24\) Gather Us In By Marty Haugen - YouTube](#)

Opening Prayer:

O God,

We open our eyes, and we see Jesus,

the months of ministry transfigured to a beam of light,

the light of the world, your light.

May your light shine upon us.

We open our eyes, and we see Moses and Elijah,

your word restoring us, showing us the way,

telling a story, your story, his story, our story.

May your word speak to us.

We open our eyes, and we see mist,

the cloud of your presence which assures us of all we do not know,

and that we do not need to fear that.

Teach us to trust.

We open our eyes, and we see Peter's constructions,

his best plans, our best plans,

our missing the point, our missing the way.

Forgive our foolishness and sin

We open our eyes, and we see Jesus,
not casting us off, but leading us down, leading us out
- to ministry, to people.

Your love endures forever.

We open our ears, and we hear your voice,
'This is my beloved Son, listen to him!'

And we give you thanks. Amen

(Prayer from 'A Prayer for Transfiguration Sunday' by William Loader, 2001)

[Bible Reading - Matthew 17:1-9 \(NRSVA\)](#)

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. **2** And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. **3** Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. **4** Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' **5** While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' **6** When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. **7** But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' **8** And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. **9** As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

[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: 2 Peter 1:16-21 \(NRSVA\)](#)

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. **17** For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' **18** We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. **19** So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. **20** First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, **21** because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

[Children's Talk: Seeing Differently](#)

[Reflection:](#) *Moments of Transformation for Jesus, for Peter for Us*

[Song: Meekness and Majesty](#) [\(24\) MEEKNESS AND MAJESTY - Graham Kendrick - Lyrics - YouTube](#)

Prayer for Iran

Prayers for the church and world:

Remembering:

- Thousands of those grieving the loss of loved ones and the millions displaced by the earthquake in Syria & Turkiye
- Those known to us struggling with their health
- Those in our community travelling in Feb/Mar
- **The people of Iran**, many who have been killed or arrested after protesting in the streets
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- Our friends at **Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope** in Footscray and our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- Families attending the **'Come & Try' Playgroup** in February
- Places of tension, unrest & conflict especially **Iran, Israel, Myanmar, Peru, Ukraine**
- The peoples of **Qatar, Romania, Russia & Rwanda**
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – work and workers in urban and regional Australia, especially in Northern Territory and the work and workers in Mozambique. The victims of the Earthquake in Turkiye & Syria
- **Baptist World Aid** – pray that women around the world would have access to healthcare, maternity care, financial assistance (Savings and Loans groups and nutritious food)

*Silence - in the silence and through our minds and imaginations we
bring prayers which words cannot contain (p. 56-7 A Wee Worship Book)*

Prayers for our community and world

God of the world,

We know the disciples could not stay on the mountain but had to come down following Jesus into the pain and messiness of the world.

We pray for that world now:

- For those displaced, grieving and affected by the earthquake, transfigure their grief
- For those living in the midst of conflict, especially in Iran, Myanmar, Israel, transfigure their turmoil
- For those facing hunger and starvation, especially in the Horn of Africa, transfigure their hunger
- For those who feel confused, anxious and despairing, transfigure their fear
- For those who are unwell, transfigure their pain
- For those who sad or depressed, transfigure their melancholy
- For those who wait for justice, transfigure their exploitation
- For those who wait for shelter, transfigure their situation
- For those who wait to be heard, transfigure the silence
- For those who need good friends, transfigure their loneliness
- For those who find it difficult to pay expenses, transfigure their poverty

Transfigure us with a new vision of life in all its fullness, with a new commitment to work for peace as we live out your word in this world.

This we pray in the name of Jesus who understood both the mountaintop experience and also the need to come down of the mountain to live and work and love people in the messiness of their lives. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2023)

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 & Prayer

Generous God,
We bring our offerings of money and lives to you. Transfigure them and us to be agents of compassion and peace in the world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2023)

Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plates at entrances and exits of the church

Footscray Baptist Church
BSB: 083 437
Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **140th Birthday for Footscray Baptist** – this will be held on **May 28th**, which is also Pentecost Sunday. A working group to prepare the celebrations is being formed – if you would like to be part of it please speak to Cheryl or a deacon
- **Bible Study** – A Lenten series each fortnight beginning on Feb 26, immediately following the service in the office or Green Room
- **Excess Furniture** – we have many items that we are looking to get rid of, see Ros for a list and **if you like it, take it**
- **Reflective Prayer** – tomorrow, Monday February 20th at 5pm on zoom. Please speak to Ros or Cheryl for an invite.
- **Baptist World Aid Appeal for Earthquake Victims** – see their website for details
- **Quarterly Meeting** – has been postponed until March 19th
- **Food Donations** for the Houses of Hope can be left in the container in the church

[Song: Christ Be Our Light \(24\) Christ be our light - with lyrics and Sign Language. - YouTube](#)

Benediction:

May God now send us back down the mountain of our worship.
We have been changed.
We can't be silent anymore.
We have seen the Light of the World.
Go and share the radiance of love!

*(By Rev. Dr. David Bahr, pastor of Park Hill Congregational United Church of Christ in Denver, Colorado. Posted on the **United Church of Christ** website.)*

Go in Peace