



*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 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

### *Lent 2*

*Music: Guide Me O Great Jehovah*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WoBp5lJggV4>

#### *Welcome and 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 Candle - Jesus said 'I Am the Light of the World' (Sunny)*

#### *Call to Worship*

**From Bethlehem to Nazareth,  
From Mandalay to Melbourne,  
From Fasa to Footscray,  
From Yangon to Yarraville,  
Come, Lord Jesus.**

To heal the sick,  
To mend the broken-hearted,  
To comfort the disturbed,  
To disturb the comfortable,  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**To carry the cross,  
To lead the way,  
To shoulder the sins of the world,  
And take it away  
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Today,  
To this place,  
To us,  
Come, Lord Jesus. Amen

*(Based on prayer 'From Bethlehem to Nazareth' in Stages on the Way by Wild Goose Worship Group, p. 39)*

*Song: Amazing Grace* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Obp-9BEZe1c>

## Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

You called your disciples to go forward with you on the way to the cross.

**Countless people have followed you and walked that road,  
A road of protest,  
A road of suffering,  
A road of compassion.**

Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks,  
Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu,  
Aung Sun Soo Kyi,  
Men, women and children of Myanmar,  
Asylum seekers in detention,  
Thank you for their example and inspiration.

**For those who have:  
Shared the road with us,  
Shared the journey,  
Shared the tears,  
Shared the burden,  
Shared our fears,  
Shared our joys.  
For such people, we say thank you.**

May we all walk in love and wonder behind you. Amen.

*(Based on prayer 'You Called Your Disciples' in Stages on the Way by Wild Goose Worship Group, p. 59)*

## Bible Reading: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 (NRSV)

**17** When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. **2** And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." **3** Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, **4** "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. **5** No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. **6** I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. **7** I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

**15** God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. **16** I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

## 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: Mark 8:31-38 (NRSV)*

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

### *Children's Talk: Abraham and Sarah*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdqrgGJYePQ&t=156s>

### *Children's Song: One More Step Along the World*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PXV3dwaeNU>

### *Reflection: Who Are You? Followers on the Way (Cheryl)*

### *Prayers for the Church & World*

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their
- The people of Myanmar
- Those affected by the Eboli virus that has re-emerged in Africa, particularly Congo
- For those living in aged care, those caring for them, especially our neighbours at Westhaven
- Those who have Covid 19, those in hospital and families who have lost loved ones, those working on cures, vaccines, treatments and testing.
- Those affected by political unrest in especially Kachin State, Lebanon, Myanmar, Russia, Thailand, United States & Yemin
- Global Interaction – people of Malawi & Mozambique
- Baptist World Aid – Refugee families in Lebanon
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray
- Our friends in Kenya as they build a new church building

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 every time and place,

Hear the prayers that we have made in the silence of our hearts as we continue to pray for your world.

Jesus, you call us to follow you.

We pray now that in your world your ways might be known.

Break through barriers that divide – gender, race, socio-economic status, age

Bind those whose hearts are breaking – who are grieving, sad, despairing  
Lift up those whose human rights are trampled on – people of Myanmar, Yemin  
Send justice to those who are treated unfairly  
Heal those who suffer in body or mind  
Bring peace to a troubled world  
Show us how to be reconciled to one another

We bring these our prayers to you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, Feb 2021)*

### *Special Prayer for Myanmar*

Let us pray:

For freedom and democracy in Burma:

For free and fair elections,

For the release of political leaders, civic leaders and religious leaders and all others who have been detained for political reasons,

For the peaceful end to the military takeover and for a clear pathway for the military to step back and reinstate the democratically elected government without violence

We pray for those who are working for justice, peace and the care of the people:

For civic and religious leaders who are guiding their people in paths of justice and peace;

For humanitarian workers, health workers, and carers

May they have the resources and the strength to do their work

We pray for the ordinary people who are resisting violence:

We pray for them strength, and well-being, and protection from violence and abuse,

And we pray that they may soon be able to live and work and study in peace.

We pray for the Chin, Kachin and Karen and Burmese communities both abroad and here in Victoria:

We pray for them comfort and encouragement, and we join our prayers with their prayers for the safety and welfare of their loved ones back home.

God of love, of justice, and of peace,

We commend all these prayers to you in the name of Jesus, knowing you hear us, and trusting in your love for all your people

And asking that you lead Myanmar into true justice and peace Amen

*(By Meewon Yang)*

### *Song: Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZI1Gst7pEqc>

### *Offering*

Generous God,

Take these offerings and the lives they symbolise. Use them and us to take up and carry the cross for others, as we follow the path of Jesus. Amen.

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plate at back of church

**Footscray Baptist Church**

**BSB: 083 437**

**Account No: 515383063**

## News & Notices

- Services will continue to be zoomed as well as face to face worship
- **Bible Studies** – if you are interested in joining a group please let Cheryl know.
- **Free Lenten Studies online** – Tuesday nights in Lent 7pm-8pm by Yarra Theological Union & University of Divinity  
<https://garratt1.wufoo.com/confirm/virtual-lent-series-registration-form/>
- **BWA studies** – Jesus on the margins, check their website
- **Reflective Prayer** – Friday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 5pm via zoom. Speak to Ros or myself if you are interested and we can send you an invite
- **Westhaven** – looking for volunteers who speak Vietnamese
- **Houses of Hope in Footscray** – if you are interested in volunteering and happy to undertake some training, please speak to Cheryl
- **Feast for Freedom** – join in the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre ‘Feast for Freedom’ in March. For details and recipes see <https://feastforfreedom.org.au/>
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

## Song: Will You Come and Follow Me

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

## Blessing

Dear God,

Take us now and put our feet on the road  
That leads to the horizons of your unfolding future,  
The future to which the Spirit draws us,  
And from which the crucified and risen one,  
Comes to meet us. Amen.

*(‘Toward the Future’ in Be our Freedom Lord, p. 242)*