



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 - January 24th, 2021

Music: Psalm 62 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUCBb3YHFPC>

Welcome and 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

We wait in quietness for God alone,

from whom all hope comes.

God is like an Uluru at the centre of salvation,

our foothold which cannot be shaken.

Here is deliverance with honour,

on the mightiest rock we rest in God.

We stake our life on God,

pour out your heart in security.

God, you have once spoken your Word,

and we have heard it repeated:

True power belongs to You alone-

all the might of redeeming love.

We come to worship you now

(Based on part of Psalm 62:5-12 © B D Prewer 2002)

Song: Be Thou My Vision <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optrm7lF16s>

Opening Prayer

God of this land and every land,

As we approach Australia Day or Invasion Day as some know it, we pray:

For those whose dreams of freedom and equality inspired our nation:

We give thanks, O God.

For those whose sacrifices and courage preserved this country, in times of danger
and indifference:

We give thanks, O God.

For all who quietly yet firmly resisted wrong without bitterness or vengeance:

We give thanks, O God.

For leaders who have placed righteousness and justice before concerns of prestige and popularity:

We give thanks, O God.

For the multitude of citizens whose hope and deeds of mercy are known only to you:

We give thanks, O God.

(Part of 'A Litany for our Land', pp. 180-181 in Be Our Freedom Lord)

Bible Reading: Jonah 3:1-10 (NRSV)

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ² “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

⁶ When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷ Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸ Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.”

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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 1:14-20 (NRSV)

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

Song: Jonah was a prophet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XFWoZJaRY>

Reflection: Following - Yes or No? (Cheryl)

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- 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. For places experiencing increases in Covid 19 cases
- Those affected by political unrest in especially Afghanistan, Chile, Ethiopia. Kachin State, Russia, Thailand & United States
- Global Interaction – Team leaders in Asia and Outback Australia
- Baptist World Aid – give thanks for a God who offers growth & life
- 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)

We pray for the people of this land and the world.

For the first peoples of this land:

- Who carry in their souls the trauma of January 26
- Whose health, education, infant mortality and incarceration rates are far behind the rest of us
- Who have lost language and culture
- Who experience racism

Grant us all hearts to apologise, to forgive and to work for reconciliation

For all who have arrived here on boats:

- As part of the waves of migration
- As refugees or asylum seekers

Grant them all sanctuary, freedom and acceptance

For all who work to bring good news to others:

- Global interaction working with new churches throughout the world
- Baptist World Aid working to bring justice to impoverished communities
- Footscray Baptist Church as it bears witness to you in this neighbourhood

Grant us courage and imagination as we serve

For people though-out your world:

- Recovering from natural disasters
- Living in the midst of conflict
- Knowing despair, anxiety, loneliness and disillusionment
- Needing healing, understanding, compassion

Grant them solace and encouragement

Grant us your spirit and enable us to live and work together, showing understanding, compassion and delight in our differences. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, January 2021)

Song: Beauty for Brokenness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaMPE53uP38>

Offering

Generous God,
Take our gifts and offerings. Use them and us to share your good news with others, as we follow your call and walk in your way. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, January 2021)

- 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
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song: Two Fishermen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scxYaJGqXQ8>

Blessing

May the God who dances in creation,
Who embraces us with human love,
Who shakes our lives like thunder.
Bless us and drive us out with power
To fill the world with justice and with peace.
Amen

(Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 236)

Blessing Song: Thuma Mina <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAcZsqH6NYw>