

# Order of Service - January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Opening Music: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HptN89n83lY>

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!

Opening Song: *Shine Jesus Shine*

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

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

Call to Worship

Arise! Shine!

**God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.**

Arise! Shine!

**The glory of the Lord has risen upon us**

Arise! Shine!

**God's light penetrates the darkness that covers the world.**

Arise! Shine!

**Nations shall come to God's light and kings to the brightness of God's dawn. Arise!  
Shine! For the Glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

Opening Prayer:

God of all time,

we praise and adore you for breaking into the darkness of this world  
with the glorious light of your presence.

A light which made your love for the world visible  
in the babe born in Bethlehem—

Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour.

A light which guided those gift-bearing travellers from afar  
to find and worship the Christ-child.

A light which leads us to you, now revealed in Jesus Christ.

We pray that you will accept our worship

for it arises from hearts and minds in awe over the enormity of your gift to us of pure love.

In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

Bible Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6 (NRSV)

1. Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples,  
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those  
from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

### *Passing the Peace*

As the Lord showed us as he spoke to his disciples saying Peace be with you,  
generations of people have done so all over the world. So let's reflect on the peace that  
we prayed for and let us be instruments of that peace by passing it amongst us.

Let the peace of the Lord be with you..

Shalom my friends  
God's peace my friends  
Go with you now  
And stay with you  
In all you do  
Shalom, shalom.

### *Song #2: Angels We Have Heard on High*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGCxTOYBy50>

### *Bible Reading: Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)*

1. In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from  
the East came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the  
Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." 3 When  
King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling  
together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the  
Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been  
written by the prophet:

6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time  
when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search  
diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also  
go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there,  
ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the  
place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were  
overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his  
mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests,  
they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a  
dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## *Children's Talk*

### *Reflection: Dreams and Directions*

### *Song: We Three Kings of Orient are*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xV81YsCFpw4>

### *Prayers for the church and world:*

Remembering:

- **Those affected by the flood waters, especially in Western Australia**
- Our Kachin friends and the concern for family and friends.
- Those known to us struggling with their health
- **For those of us still away or travelling.** We ask for their wellbeing.
- For teachers and students as they prepare for a New year
- **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**
- Places of tension, unrest & conflict especially **Iran, Myanmar, Ukraine**
- The peoples of **Jamaica, Japan, Jordan**
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – work and workers in Mozambique and Thailand
- **Baptist World Aid** – Pray for Australian churches, that the hope of Jesus might inspire them anew to love their neighbours and care for the marginalised amongst them.

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 all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power. May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honour rather than destroy. Help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love. In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. Amen

### 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

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**

Father, Loving God, we follow the Magi in giving you gifts, praying that as you receive our acts of offering, you would shine the light of Christ in our hearts to lead us in lives which serve you more deeply. Amen

### News & Notices

- Cheryl is back from today – Jan 8
- **Reflective Prayer:** continues from Feb. See Ros for an invite.
- **BIBLE STUDY** – Join with us for a bible study group to meet after service twice per month. It will be in **Farsi and English. Theme: TBA. All welcome** to join in. Dates - TBA
- **Office Hours** – Grace will be in office on Tue & Wed from 10.15.am – 2.00pm. Cheryl will be there on Tuesdays and Thu/Fri mornings.
- **Westhaven Project Group** – Dates TBA
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.
- Copies of the service and sermon can be found on our **website**.

Song: Power of Your Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ga6Qtxzd6vk>

### Benediction:

My prayer for us all as we enter this new year is that just as the Magi followed the star to guide them to the young Christ, we keep setting our sights on Christ as our guide, for how to love, how to serve, how to live.

Go in Peace. Amen.