



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 - May 15th, 2022

Songs: Let there be love https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_4I33Huxrk

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 Candle- Jesus said 'I Am the Light of the World'

Call to Worship

Praise God in the heavens

Praise God, all those in the heavens

Praise God, sun and moon

Praise God, all the shining stars

Praise the name of the God,

Praise God, all created beings

Praise the name of the God,

For God's name is exalted

Praise God whose splendour is on the earth and in the heavens

Praise the Lord our God! Amen,

(Prayer based on Psalm 148 by Cheryl Williams, May 2022)

Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYKP2p6uEkM>

Opening Prayer

God of Love,

Evidence of your love surrounds us on every side, in:

The beauty of creation which both delights and sustains us

The love revealed in Jesus

The love that has held us in our times of fear and sadness

The love that has sustained us in difficult times

The love that has enfolded us

The love that has made us all we are

The love that keeps on loving despite our failings and rejection

May your Spirit, which is love, pour out into our daily lives, until all are reconciled.

Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, May 2022)

Bible Reading: Revelation 21:1 -6 (NRSV)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶ Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

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: John 13:31-35 (NRSV)

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now, I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Children's Talk -

Reflection: - *Love One Another, its is as easy and as difficult as that*

Song: A New Commandment <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DopHQzNWDZ4>

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- Pray for those travelling overseas
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- **Orange Sky** – the volunteers and those who use the service and share a meal with us
- Families attending the '**Come & Try**' Playgroup
- Peace in **Ukraine**

- Places of unrest & conflict - **Afghanistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Syria & Ukraine**
Places facing elections, that leaders might act with justice and compassion –
Australia, Philippines
- Places and people affected by Covid, those grieving the loss of loved ones
- The peoples of – **Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria**
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – pray for ministry and workers in Thailand, Cambodia and Outback Australia
- **Baptist World Aid** – On the International Day of Families (May 15), please pray for families experiencing loss and grief – especially in the wake of disasters, war, famine and pandemic
- Our friends at **Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope** in Footscray

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 bring before you now, the needs of the world.

Where there is sadness and despair, shower your love.
 Where there is injustice and violence, shower your love.
 Where there is exploitation and manipulation, shower your love.
 Where there is hatred and racism, shower your love
 Where there is fear and no dignity, shower your love
 Where there is hunger and thirst, shower your love and sustenance
 Where there is homelessness and no safety, shower your love and safe shelter
 Where there is hopelessness and lack of opportunity, shower your love

As Leunig said - There are only two feelings. Love and fear.
 There are only two languages. Love and fear.
 There are only two activities. Love and fear.
 There are only two motives, two procedures, two frameworks, two results.
 Love and fear. Love and fear.

Take us and use us to shower your love upon the earth and each other, so fear may be destroyed by love.

We pray in the name of the one who lived and died for love. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, May 2022)

We continue to pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray ...

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.

Offering

Creator God, in whose image we are made and whose personal signature is written in the very heart of our being. Help us to create in this community the climate of love and compassion, understanding and affirmation, that all of us need if we are to grow to our full promise. Amen

(Prayer from Be Our Freedom Lord, p.197)

- Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Annual General Meeting** - May 29th – immediately following the service
- **Nominations for diaconate and BUV delegates are now open**, will be appointed at AGM on May 29th. nomination forms available today
- **Save the Date – June 26th, Church Lunch** following the service, catered, come and join us
- **Bible Study** – at office on Monday 2nd May at 5.30pm
- **Sharing a Meal with Orange Sky** come along on Monday night from 6.30pm to help serve and share a meal with those using the Orange Sky laundry service.
- Copies of the service and sermon can be found on our website.
- **Office Hours** – Grace will be in office on Tue, Wed & Thu from 10.30.am – 1.00pm. Cheryl will be there on Mon afternoons and Thu/Fri mornings.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.
Food for Orange Sky – vegemite, peanut butter, 2 min noodles

Song: Lord let Me See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocPvWHIM550>

Blessing

Go now in the love of God
The love that casts out fear
The love that welcomes all
The love that hopes all things
The love that endures all things
The love that reveals all that we are. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, May 2022)