



*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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### 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

Come Father God,

**Come as an enfolding presence**

**Come as steadfast love to hold us.**

Come Mother God,

**Come as an enabling, strengthening force**

**Come as tough love to let us go**

Come Loving God,

**Come as friend and comforter**

Heal our wounds

Walk our way

**Come as wounded healer**

**And make us whole. Amen**

(Prayer based on one in 'The Pattern of Our Day's by Kathy Galloway, p. 116)

### Song: The Lord is My Shepherd

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqEWKFBLx9E>

### Opening Prayer

God with a mother's heart,

You gather us as your children.

You comfort and hold us in your warm embrace.

When we hurt, your arms enfold us.

When we are afraid, your wings protect us.

When we are hungry, you feed us with the bread of life. God with a mother's heart,

You love surrounds and supports us, In good times and in tough, In the midst of joy and  
pain,

Always and everywhere.

You will never leave nor abandon us.  
God eternal and loving one, God with a mother's heart,  
We thank you this day for being part of your family.

(Written by Christine Sine, and posted on Godspace. <http://godspacemsa.com/2015/05/04/meditation-monday-connecting-to-the-mother-heart-of-god>)

### *Bible Reading: John 10:22-30 (NRSV)*

<sup>2</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one."

### *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: Acts 9:36-43*

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

### *Children's Talk - 'Chrysanthemums*

### *Reflection: Celebrating Women Building Community*

*Song: Bring Many Names* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aj7Ms2Z35Tc>

### *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
- Families attending the **'Come & Try' Playgroup**
- Peace in **Ukraine**
- Places and people affected by Covid, those grieving the loss of loved ones
- The peoples of – **Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda**
- Places of conflict – **Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria & Ukraine**
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – pray for The work in Lebanon and South Asia
- **Baptist World Aid** – As Australia celebrates Mother's Day, give thanks for those women who care for their families and reflect God's unconditional love.
- 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)*

***Sharing a few moments of prayer for the world and each other in small groups***

And God we continue to pray together,

We pray for peace where there is no peace.

We pray for our leaders – for integrity, justice and compassion

We pray for all who need your love in their lives

Finally, we pray for all who find today difficult:

- for all separated from their mothers by distance, conflict or death
- for mothers whose children have been lost to them
- for those who will never be mothers
- for those yearning for reconciliation

May we all know your goodness and mercy.

May we dwell in your House forever

May we like Dorcas, build community. Amen.

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.

*Song: Comfort, Comfort, All My People*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1x7V9N583Q>

*Offering*

Generous God,

Dorcas was so generous as she lived out your love in her community. Take these our offerings, use them and us to pour out love into your community around us. Amen.

*(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, May 2022)*

- 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 29<sup>th</sup>
- **Bible Study** – at office on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.  
**Food for Orange Sky** – vegemite, peanut butter, 2 min noodles

Song: Now Thank We All Our God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0dmfmwFLn0>

### Blessing

In the lush pastures of life that hold meeting places with love,  
May your feet know the way to find them.

By the still waters of the running stream,  
May your hands shape a cup it and drink deep from it.

In the valley of death's shadow that ever threatens,  
May your sense of life find the way through.

At the banqueting table set before your enemies,  
May your cup be full and overrunning.

Like the anointing oil that runs down your head,  
May the blessing that is you spill into the world with eternal promise.

In the way a shepherd's staff warms off lameness from fear,  
May trust be your protective companion on the way.

Through each day's living as it unfolds,  
May goodness and mercy make their way into every moment.

At the doorway to the house of the Lord of life,  
May you recognise your home and your hearth.

And in the song that makes a dwelling-place in your heart,  
May its music rise in your soul.

(Written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky Paws. <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>)