

Order of Service - November 27th, 2022

Song of Praise: My Hope is In You (317) My Hope Is In You by Aaron Shust (Lyrics) - YouTube

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 Advent Candles.

We light this first candle to pray for hope.

We pray that our hope will be fixed on God.

We pray for everyone who feels that their hope has gone.

May everyone find hope that shines like this candle flame.

Lord Jesus Christ, hope for the world, come close to us this Advent. Amen

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(Sunny will lit the first advent candle)

Call to Worship

Come to be our hope, O Jesus,

come to set our people free.

From oppression, come, release us,

you alone give liberty.

Come release from every prison

those who suffer in our land.

In your love we find the reason

still to live and understand.

Come to build your new creation;

show the way of servanthood;

give new life to every nation,

changing evil into good.

Come open our tomorrow

for a kingdom, now so near.

Take away all human sorrow,

give us hope against our fear.

(Words taken from Together in Song #688 "Come to be our Hope" Jaci Maraschin From "In spirit and truth" World Council of Churches)

Song: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (317) Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus - Red Mountain

Music - YouTube

Opening Prayer - The Anchor of Hope Prayer

When life is hard, and we can't see the future

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When everyone around us laughs at our beliefs

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When everything we touch seems to end in disaster

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When we're suffering illness or tiredness or stress

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When tears fill our lives, and our hearts are grieving

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When we're feeling lonely or far from our friends

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you.

When times are good, and we start being forgetful

we hold on to the anchor of hope in you. Amen.

(from Journey to Joy, Queensland Synod of the Uniting Church)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:1-4

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, ⁴ and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon,

Children's Talk: Symbols of Hope

Reflection:

- *Tamar and Hope*
- *Iran and Hope - video & discussion*
[Aljeezra iranian crackdown on protestors - Google Search](#)

Prayers for the church and world

Remembering:

- Those known to us struggling with their health
- For teachers and students coming up to final assessments for the year
- Those travelling over the holiday period
- Those grieving the loss of loved one
- Those affected by the **earthquake in Indonesia**, especially families mourning the loss of children
- **The people of Iran**, many who have been killed or arrested after protesting in the streets and our Persian members who are very distressed by the situation
- 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 Ecuador, **Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia**
- Baptist Mission Australia – work and workers in the Silk Road area
- Baptist World Aid – for children and adults living with disabilities in rural communities to gain access to support, education and opportunity

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 Advent and every season of life, we bring you now our prayers for the world

We pray especially for Hossein and his family in their time of grief – may their memories and your peace comfort them at this time

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

We pray for Iran, those protesting, those sentenced, those who have disappeared, their families – keep them safe and bring justice to them

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

(Congregation is invited to light a candle for Hossein's family and the people of Iran)

We pray for those who wait for an end to terrorism and war, especially in Myanmar and Ukraine – may they know peace soon

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

We pray for those who are feeling neglected or abused and need a friend – may they find solace and understanding

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

We pray for those who long for a place where they can be accepted – may they know welcome

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

We pray for those who have inadequate food, clean water or housing – may they be fed until they are satisfied and may their cups overflow with your blessing

Come to be their hope, O Jesus.

We pray for ourselves, may we ready ourselves for the coming of Jesus again and again, may we live out his hope, his peace, his joy and his love.

Come to be our hope, O Jesus.

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: Don't Be Afraid [\(305\) Don't be Afraid - YouTube](#)

Offering Prayer

Jesus, you are our hope and delight. At this time of the year, we are reminded of the great gift God gives us in you. Take these our gifts of money, lives and dreams and use them to bring hope to a world calling out for such. Amen.

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

News & Notices

- **TODAY: Quarterly Church Meeting** – Nov 27, immediately following the service in the church sanctuary
- **Christmas Party** – Dec 11th from 11.45am, BYO plate of Christmas food to share and whatever you prefer to drink (no alcohol please)
- **Reflective Prayer:** continues this Thursday, December 1st, at 5pm on zoom. See Cheryl or Ros for an invite.
- **BIBLE STUDY TODAY** – Join with us for a bible study group to meet after service twice per month. It will be in **Farsi and English. Theme: Freedom in Christ. All welcome** to join in. Next dates: Dec 4, 18
- **FARSI Bibles** – we need to buy some more Farsi bibles, if you would like to contribute you can make a donation via an envelope in the offering bowl, marked 'Farsi Bibles'
- **Volunteers needed to help**
 - a) To help decorate and set up the hall for our Christmas Lunch, see Ros or Cheryl if you are interested
 - b) To help serve fruit and do craft work at the Playgroup break-up on Dec 9 from 11am. A current working with children check is required for this. See Cheryl if you can help.
- **Westhaven Project Group** – Tuesday from 11.30am - 2.30pm In Green Room on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays in the month. Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring lunch and ideas. All materials provided. November dates –29th

- **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: Christ Be Our Light [\(317\) Christ be our light - with lyrics and Sign Language. - YouTube](#)

Benediction

Be people of hope.

Let hope live in your heart and share the hope of Christ with all you meet.

Share hope by noticing someone else's humanity.

Share hope by listening to someone's story.

Share hope by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share hope.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share hope with those you meet.

Amen.

(from [benedictions for Advent — LiturgyLink](#))