



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 - November 1st, 2020

All Saints Day

Music: For All the Saints <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOCOMb--FWY>

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'

Call to Worship

We walk in the footsteps of those who have gone before

And know that we are not alone on this journey.

We walk in the footsteps of God

For the feet of our God have walked this way.

May your footsteps become for us the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Thanks be to God!

(from 'In This Hour – liturgies for pausing' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p,95)

Song - Lord for the Years <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkTrFQLy6js>

Opening Prayer (Cheryl & Iní)

O Lord, our God

We thank you for the many people throughout the ages who have followed your way of life joyfully;

For the many saints and martyrs, men and women, who have offered up their very lives,

So that your life abundant may become manifest.

For your love and faithfulness, we will at all times praise you.

O Lord, we thank you for those who chose the way of Jesus Christ.

In the midst of trial, they held out hope;

In the midst of hatred, they kindled love;

In the midst of persecutions, they witnessed to your power;

In the midst of despair, they clung to your promise.

For your love and faithfulness, we will at all times praise you.

O Lord, we thank you for the truth they passed onto us:

That it is in giving that we shall receive;

It is by becoming weak that we shall become strong;

It is by loving others that we shall be loved;

It is by offering ourselves that the kingdom will unfold;

It is by dying that we shall inherit life everlasting.

Lord, give us courage to follow your way of life.

For your love and faithfulness. we will at all times praise you.

(Prayer by National Council of Churches of the Philippines, 14th Biennial Convention Worship Resource Book, 1989 found in 'Bread of Tomorrow; Janet Morley (ed), p. 131)

Bible Reading: Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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: 1 John 3:1-3 & Revelation 7:9-17 (NRSV)

1 John 3:1-3

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. **3** And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Revelation 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. **10** They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" **11** And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four

living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Children's Talk: The Sermon on the Mount <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ze7w3-BL3OM>

Children's Song: I Sing A Song of the Saints of God
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK0pmGpp7SM>

Reflection - Local Saints

Communion Song: Come to the Banquet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=czRLWLOoqj8>

Communion

Invite

God of every age,

The saints of every age have gathered around your table

As we today gather around your table, may we have a foretaste of that heavenly banquet where we shall all gather and celebrate your very presence with us.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, November 1st, 2020)

Preparation

Lord Jesus, as we break bread and drink from the cup, we remember we are in unusual company.

The company of every disciple, every outcast, every hesitant follower, with whom you broke bread and shared a meal.

The company of anyone who found in you grace and joy.

The company of the poor, the sick, the troubled with whom you wept, laughed and whom you healed.

The company of beggars, prostitutes, the disillusioned and condemned.

The company of Mary of Magdala – the subject of whispers whom you gave dignity.

The company of Zacchaeus, Matthew – hated, but whom welcomed you into their homes and had their lives transformed.

The company of Thomas the doubter – searching for truth.

The company of Peter the betrayer – reminded of your love for him.

The company of Mary MacKillop & Caz, Stan and Harry, Nan and Trish, Joseph and Trevor – our friends who lived your way,

With the church through the ages, we join them today, sharing their needs and doubts, knowing their failures – we seek your grace and your scandalous love.

With awe and amazement, we break bread and share the cup, and we hear your words – Until I come.

We confess you, Lord, now and forever. Amen.

(Based on prayer by Terry Falla in 'Be Our Freedom Lord' p.214/5)

Institution

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

²⁷ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not, drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who have struggled 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 – Europe, Iran, Belgium
- Those affected by the typhoon in the Philippines & Vietnam, storm in Louisiana
- Those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Greece
- The people of Nice, France after the fatal attacks on 3 people in a church
- Those affected by political unrest in especially Armenia & Azerbaijan, Kachin State & Thailand
- Global Interaction – people of, the local churches and workers in Outback Australia
- Baptist World Aid – the children we support
- Our friends at Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope in Footscray

- Our friends in Kenya as they prepare to build a church building on recently acquired land

Silence – in the silence and through our minds and imaginations we bring prayers which words cannot contain:

(p. 56-7 A Wee Worship Book)

In the next few moments, I invite you to remember a saint – someone who inspired you, nurtured you, mentored you – you might like to name them out loud.

Loving God,

Thank you for these people who have lived into your way.

Now we continue to pray for your world:

For those who:

Hunger and thirst for righteousness

Fight for justice, freedom and truth

Live with integrity and goodness

Bring peace to our world

Work for reconciliation

Respect, value and listen to others

Show mercy, generosity and grace

Perform good works that often go unnoticed

Weep for that which is lost and grieve those they love

Are lonely, anxious and depressed

Comfort and ease the pain of others

May they know peace and that the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

God of truth and compassion, peace and consolation:

Help us also live out the beatitudes, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

(Based on prayer by Janet Nelson in 'Let us Pray')

Song: Be Not Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RF0DIpFOoBg>

Offering (Cheryl)

Accept the gifts we bring you – our money and ourselves. Take them and use them to bring peace, compassion and generosity to your world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, November 2020)

- Offering can be made in a couple of ways – put it aside and when we can gather again you could place it in our offering bowl in the normal manner. Or you could take the opportunity to use our direct debit facility –

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

Community Time & Notices

- **Reflective Prayer** – is cancelled this week, resuming on Tuesday Nov 10th at 12.15pm (we will meet even though it is Cup Day) via zoom, contact Ros or Cheryl for more details
- **November Quarterly Meeting** – Sunday Nov 22nd immediately following the service on zoom

- **Bible Study Groups** – Currently a number of groups are continuing their study into mission in Matthew. If we would like to join a group or start a group speak to Cheryl. Study questions will be posted on our Website
- **Baptcare Sanctuary** - is very grateful for all the donations Footscray Baptist has made. When stage 4 lockdown is over will begin delivering donations to them again.

Song: We Are Called to be God's People <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tny2fXr5oew>

Sending Out

We are the saints of God.

We are called to be the church.

Go forth in faith, in hope and in love!

And may the face of God be turned toward us,

The Spirit hover close as a covering of love

And Christ Jesus find us as we long to be found. Amen.

(from Prayers for Life's Particular Moments by Dorothy McRae;McMahon, p. 67)