



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 8th, 2020

Music: Immortal Invisible, God only wise <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFgM46YKg78>

Welcome and 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' (Cheryl)

Call to Worship

God of all wisdom,

Yet found in the soul of a child;

God of all that is eternal,

Yet glimpsed in the beauty of a fragile flower;

God of depths and height and history,

God in the great stretches of history,

Yet as near to us as a humble sign of love.

Let us worship God!

(from 'In This Hour – liturgies for pausing' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p,76)

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

Opening Prayer

God of grace and wisdom:

- **The whole universe speaks of your wisdom**
- **In every marvellous pattern of existence**
- **In the harmonies and interplay of all**

We can never understand it but we can marvel at its wonders
Even more mysteriously you bend to speak to us.

Thank you that you are not confined to our lack of wonder

Thank you that you are never defined by the limits of our small expectations

Thank you that you act outside all of our preconceived ideas

Thank you for all who impart your wisdom – teachers, poets, writers, artists and children. Amen.

(from 'In This Hour – liturgies for pausing' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p,77-78)

Bible Reading: Psalm 78:1-7 (NRSV)

- ¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,
³ things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.
⁵ He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;
⁶ that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,
⁷ so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Passing the Peace (Cheryl)

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

Bible Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-20 (NRSV)

- ¹² Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.
¹³ She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
¹⁴ One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.
¹⁵ To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
¹⁶ because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.
¹⁷ The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her,
¹⁸ and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,
¹⁹ and immortality brings one near to God;
²⁰ so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Children's Talk: Godly Wisdom https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BotClS_6bI

Children's Song: The Words of Wisdom <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9r3tF43mi0>

Reflection - The Beginning of Wisdom

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
- The people of Austria & Afghanistan – where fatal attacks occurred this week
- Those affected by political unrest in especially Armenia & Azerbaijan, Kachin State & Thailand
- Aftermath of the election in USA, whatever the outcome
- Global Interaction – work in Hong Kong, India and Thailand
- Baptist World Aid – work done with fashion brands to ensure their production processes are fair and ethical
- 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)

God of all the world,

This world is so complex and ambiguous.

There are so many ideas and voices around - and we find it hard to know where the truth lies

There are so many options, too many choices, too many cries of need – and we don't know which way to turn.

So, we turn to you in prayer,

We pray for

- Those who suffer as a result of war, famine and natural disasters
- Those who find these times confusing and troubling
- Those who are broken-hearted, troubled or distressed
- Those who look for answers
- Those who enrich our community by their care – health workers, teachers, volunteers
- Those we name before you now in the silence

Grant them courage, grant them wisdom for the living of these days.

Grant us clarity as we discern our paths

Grant us patience as we wait for your wisdom. Amen.

(Prayer adapted by ones in from 'In This Hour – liturgies for pausing' by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p, 78 & 'Let us Pray' by Janet Nelson)

Song: Perfect Wisdom of our God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSnzYnOe6kI>

Offering

O God,

We bring you this money.

It bears a portion of our lives, our energy, the risks we take, our tiredness.

Gather it and us in, use these gifts for the work you are doing in your world. Amen

(Prayer adapted from one in 'Be Our Freedom, Lord', p. 199)

- 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** – Tuesday Nov 10th at 12.15pm via zoom, contact Ros or Cheryl for more details
- **November Quarterly Meeting** – Sunday Nov 22nd immediately following the service on zoom
- **BWA Big Hearted Gifts** – a great idea for Christmas gifts, order now for delivery before Christmas baptistworldaid.org.au/big-hearted-gifts
- **Services in November:**
Nov 15 – Celebrating NAIDOC week
Nov 22 – Baptist World Aid service
Nov 29 – Advent 1 - Hope
- **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. I will do a delivery on Thursday Nov 12th.

Song: Christ Be Our Light <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FUPItZ5Xs>

Sending Out

Go in faith to search for this wisdom of God.
Go to find it in unexpected places and lift it up in hope.
Go because we might find it in the heart of a child. Amen.

(From 'In This Hour', Dorothy McRae-McMahon, p.78)

Sung Benediction: Now Unto Him <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mPvdCu4LvRE>