



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 - October 18th, 2020

Music: Immortal Invisible <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfu1dqKCGd8>

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

The work of the Creator is visible
Let us respond with praise.

The example of Jesus is apparent
Let us respond with obedience.

The wind of the Spirit is blowing
Let us respond with joy.

The word of God is calling.
Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

(Prayer from Be Our Freedom, Lord. P. 29)

Song - Be Exalted, O God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPtkkUU84rs>

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

We thank you for the places where we find your image and your presence:

In the moonlit night, the roaring of the sea, the grandeur of mountains, the delicacy of ferny glades and the rippling of the stream.

In the flight of the eagle, the breaching of great whales, the laugh of the kookaburra, the leap of the roo and the elusiveness of the lyrebird.

In the smile of a friend, the tears of a loved one, the wisdom of the poet, the play of children and the serenity of the elder.

In the words of Moses, the care of Ruth, the poetry of David, the prophetic voice of Amos and the courage of Rahab.

In the gathering of two or three, in our songs of joy, in the love of neighbour, in the struggle for justice and in the bread and wine.

Thank you for the all the signs of your presence all around us.

(Prayer adapted from one by Bruce Prewer)

Bible Reading: Matthew 22:15-22 (NRSV)

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NRSV)

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly **3** remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **4** For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, **5** because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. **6** And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, **7** so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. **8** For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. **9** For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, **10** and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Children's Talk: Imitating <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WpE4EYJShNU>

Children's Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2TwhEL2EPc>

Reflection: Imprints, Images & Imitation

Communion Song: Come As You Are <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0cbQS55RTM>

Communion

Invite

Come to the table all you people
Come all who want to meet the risen Lord
Come all you who come often
Come you who do so for the first time
Come join together around the table of the Lord

Preparation

Creative God,
Your image is imprinted on everything that is, even on us!

Jesus our friend,
You are loving, compassionate and just
We are called to imitate you

Spirit of love,
You enable us to live as followers of Jesus
As we eat and drink these symbols of the love of God, take us and mould us to be the
hands and feet of our God.

(Prayers by Cheryl Williams, October 2020)

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 waiting to hear about their visas
- For those living in aged care and 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, Indonesia, Israel
- Our Premier and health officials making decisions about moving out of lockdown
- Those affected by political unrest in especially Armenia & Azerbaijan
- 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)

We continue to pray for the church and the world:

Where there is –

- bewilderment, suffering, injustice, and hopelessness – comfort your people
- want, grief, sickness and sadness – comfort your people
- hatred, conflict, persecution and poverty – comfort your people
- anxiety, confusion, misunderstanding and loneliness – comfort your people
- abuse, exploitation, alienation and misunderstanding -comfort your people

In all these places bring aid and peace. Show us how to help alleviate their pain.

Remind us that we are made in your image and called to imitate Jesus' compassion and love.

Most loving God, gather up all the prayers, and the unspoken, secret yearnings of our hearts, and implement them according to your greater wisdom and love.

Through Christ Jesus.

Amen!

(Prayer adapted from one by Bruce Prewer)

Song: Be Not Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQr4udSiEew>

Offering

Generous God,

Accept these gifts we bring in the knowledge that we are called to give to back to you that which is yours. Take them and us to place your imprint in the world. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, October 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** – Tuesday Oct 20th at 12.15pm via zoom, contact Ros or Cheryl for more details
- **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 One in the Spirit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGD_BFSf90c

Sending Out

May your sense God in the smile of those you encounter

May you see Christ in the pain of those your care for

May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding be with you in all you do.

Amen.

(Prayer adapted from one by Bruce Prewer)

Song: For You Deep Stillness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sI0i41fsPEG>