



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 - September 26th, 2021

Opening Music: God Who Moves the Mountains

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3xsn6db2il>

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!

Welcome (Cheryl)

- True Spring for the Wurrundjeri people – the season of the orchid and sacred kingfisher
- We continue our Creation series today, this week mountains

Lighting the Candle - Jesus said 'I Am the Light of the World' (Sunny)

Call to Worship

We will lift up our eyes to the mountains,
But where shall we find our help?

**From you alone, O God, does our help come,
Creator of the ever-changing hills.**

You will not let us stumble on the rough pathways,
You care for us and watch over us without ceasing.

**We are sure that the Guardian of our people
Neither slumbers nor sleeps.**

The God of the nations keeps watch,
Like a shadow spread over me.

**So, the sun will not strike us by day,
Nor the moon by night.**

You will defend us in the presence of evil,
You will guard our lives.

**You will keep our going out and our coming in
From this time on and forevermore. Amen.**

(Prayer adapted from 'Like a shadow spread over me - Psalm 121' in Be our Freedom Lord, p. 59)

Song: How Great Thou Art <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXQpDDcrN-w>

Opening Prayer

God of creation,
We come today giving thanks for the mountains and the hills
We join with them as they burst into song.
For their rugged beauty and lofty grandeur, we praise you.
For their deep forests in we thank you.

For the snow on the mountain tops melting and forming streams of refreshing waters we praise you.

For gliding eagles, rock wallabies and all creatures calling it home we thank you.

For the gems and ore and sparkling stones it contains we praise you.

For the way it withstands buffeting winds and storms, we thank you.

For the ancient secrets they contain, we praise you.

For those moments you have encountered your people there and revealed some more of who you are, we thank you.

For the new perspective we gain from their tops, we praise you.

The mountains are stamped with you image!

We lift our eyes to the hills in the knowledge that from there we gain your help. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

Bible Reading: Exodus 19:3, 20:2-17 (NRSV)

Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ...

... I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore, the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder,

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

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 Readings: Matthew 5:1-11 (NRSV)

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^[b] 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.

Children's Talk: Little Drip

Children's Song: The Trees of the Field

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6Kg-58repg>

Reflection: Mountains of Blessing

Prayers for the Church & World

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas
- The people of **Myanmar**
- The people of **Afghanistan**, those who are displaced, those that are fearful, those in danger, those who have fled
- Those displaced by the volcanic eruption on the Canary Islands
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- The increasing numbers of people in Australia who have Covid 19 – the vaccine rollout, treatments, testing
- Doctors, nurses, ambulance officers and welfare workers, all working to provide assistance in this pandemic
- Those living in lockdown in ACT, New South Wales & Victoria
- Those affected by political unrest - Somalia
- Global Interaction- the work in Outback Australia
- Baptist World Aid – that the children will be kept safe in the pandemic and build resilience for the future
- 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)

God of grandeur,

On the mountain you offered us a new way to live with our neighbours and in this world.

So, we pray now for our neighbours in the world,

- For those living in the midst of conflict, especially in Myanmar and Afghanistan, bring peace

- For those living in poverty, without enough food or clean water, bring their fair share
- For those who find themselves distraught, afraid or angry, bring solace
- For the environment suffering for our lack of care or because of our apathy, bring healing
- For those surviving abuse and violence, bring justice
- For those who find themselves on the outer, excluded or rejected, bring acceptance
- For those working for peace and justice, hear their prayer.

For us all bring faith, hope and love so we might live the life to which you call us.
Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

We pray in the name of Jesus who 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Song: Don't Be Afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5ml5RsD7jE>

Offering

God of love,

With thanksgiving we bring you our gifts of money and lives. Use them so others may encounter your love and care in their lives. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plates at entrances and exits of the church when we return to face to face worship.

Footscray Baptist Church

BSB: 083 437

Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Breakout Rooms** – immediately after the service we will break into smaller groups to chat and then come back to the bigger group. When asked on the screen all you need to is hit join. If you need to leave the meeting just hit leave.
- **Reflective Prayer** –Thursday Sept 30th at 5pm on zoom. Contact Ros or Cheryl for an Invite.
- **Chat Groups** – whilst in lockdown an opportunity to catch up with each other on zoom. Based on attendance we will only continue the ones on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. If you would like to chat at another time, I will set it up. Emails with invites will be sent out each week and posted on facebook
Monday's at 2pm Tuesday's at 7.30pm Friday at 5.30pm
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – beans, lentils, rice, pasta, tuna. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.

Song I lift my eyes up unto the mountains

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fms9Pw7DmoE>

Blessing

Go out into a new week, and,

May God encounter you in your daily living

May Jesus encourage you each day

May the Spirit hover over you and bring you peace. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)