



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 12th, 2021

Opening Music: *O God You Search Me and You Know Me*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pogfMMh_Yg

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
- For the next week our focus will be Creation. Today humanity, then sky and finally mountains

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

Call to Worship

God our keeper and companion
We come in need of encouragement;
In need of refreshment,
In need of forgiveness,
And in need of new strength.

We come weary in body, mind and spirit.
We come with stresses, sorrows and anxieties
We come with excitements, plans and preoccupations.

We come with pride that needs piercing,
Confidence that needs repairing,
Hurts that need healing, and
Visions that need restoring.

You have promised your presence.
You hear, you see, you know.

May we hear what you have to say, may we see with our heart, may we know
acceptance.

In the name of Christ Jesus, we come to you now. Amen.

(Adapted from Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 39)

Song: All People That On Earth Do Dwell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOINBeP5UcM>

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

You have made us in your image.

In our diversity and complexity, we reflect a little of your love.

We give you thanks for

- The compassion of nurses, emergency workers and providers of welfare
- The joy of children, comedians and musicians
- The wisdom of our elders and first nations people
- The creativity of poets, artists and craftspeople
- The diligence of cleaners, factory workers and teachers
- The perseverance of farmers, gardeners and all who till the land
- The ingenuity of scientists and inventors

For such beauty, such variety, such compassion we bring you our praise. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

Bible Reading:

Genesis 1:26-28 (NRSV)

26 Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." **27** So God created humankind^[a] in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **28** God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

Psalms 8 (NRSV)

O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants

you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,

to silence the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars that you have established;

4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them,

mortals that you care for them?

5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God,

and crowned them with glory and honour.

6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under their feet,

7 all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,

whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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:

Luke 4:16-21 (NRSV)

⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Philippians 2:1-8 (NRSV)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Children's Talk: Made in God's Image

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lh-sBWjldHE>

Children's Song: In God's Family

<http://rosslangmead.50webs.com/rl/Downloads/SongsMP3/WhatGrace.mp3>

Reflection: God's Agenda for Humanity

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
- 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
- Global Interaction- for projects they run in South East Asia
- Baptist World Aid – for education and projects to build resilience and hope in children as we come out of the pandemic
- 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 all people,

We know you desire love and joy for all people.

However, that is not the case for many, so we bring our prayers for them now:

- For asylum seekers and refugees, bring safety
- For first nations people everywhere, bring respect
- For the homeless, bring shelter
- For the poor, bring all they need
- For the disabled, bring acceptance
- For those living with mental illness, bring understanding
- For survivors of abuse and violence, bring justice
- For our elderly, bring dignity
- For our children, bring joy
- For our LGBTIQ+ community, bring welcome
- For those living with addiction, bring wellness
- For the sick and dying, bring healing
- For carers, bring rest
- For the lonely, bring friends
- For those held captive to all manner of things, bring freedom
- For those living with dementia, bring compassion

Finally for ourselves, bring us courage, bring us hope, bring us freedom, bring us peace and make our joy complete.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

We pray in the name of Jesus who shared our lot and knew the joys and sorrows of humanity and 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: Lord let Me See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocPvWHIM550>

Offering

Creator God, in whose image we are made and whose personal signature is written in the very heart of our being. Help us to create in this community the climate of love and compassion, understanding and affirmation, that all of us need if we are to grow to our full promise. Amen.

(From Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 197)

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

- **Reflective Prayer** – will recommence after a break on Thursday Sept 16th at 5pm on zoom. Contact Ros or Cheryl for an Invite.
Over the next 12 weeks, our group will focus on “Practicing the presence of God” in the ordinary routines of our daily life. We will hear from Thomas Keating a present day mystic and three great mystics in history who found their own ways of experiencing the presence of God in daily life. All are welcome to join us in our reflection as we start off with this new series.
- **BUV Justice and Advocacy Week** – they have nominated this week to focus on – First Nation Peoples, Asylum Seekers & Refugees, Global Poverty, Domestic and Family Violence, Homelessness. More details from BUV website.
- **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: Brother Sister Let Me Serve You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JahFRDrSCs>

Blessing

May the God who dances in creation,
Who embraces us with human love,
Who shakes our lives like thunder,
Bless us and drive us out with power
To fill the world with justice and with peace. Amen.

(From Be Our Freedom Lord, p. 236)