

# Order of Service - September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*Listen to the voice of creation*

## *Songs*

*God of Wonders* [\(181\) God of wonders By Chris Tomlin with lyrics - YouTube](#)

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* [\(181\) All things bright and beautiful \(Lyric video\) - YouTube](#)

## *Welcome*

### *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 Candles:* Jesus said: 'I Am the Light of the World'.

### *Call to Worship*

God of shalom,  
who holds all things in wonderful balance,  
we come before you in joyful, noisy praise!

**Our voices join the songs of birds,  
the grunts and snorts of animals,  
the roar of the sea,  
the rush of the wind through the trees,  
in proclaiming your faithful love of all that has being.**

We pray that we may lift ourselves to the height of your just, sure grace,  
**that we may live, as well as sing, in harmony with all of your creation. Amen.**

*(Prayer by Merryl Blair, based on Psalm 98)*

*Hymn: All Creatures of our God and King* [\(181\) All creatures of our God and King - David Crowder - YouTube](#)

### *Opening Prayer*

Creating God,  
For the fruits of the earth, for sowing and the harvest

**We are grateful**

For the dew of the air

**We are grateful**

For the down coming of the rains and the waters and the rivers

**We are grateful**

For the plants and blooms of every year

**We are grateful**

For the humans, the animals, the birds and the fish and me

**We are grateful**

For the wind of the sky

**We are grateful**

For the seeds, plants and fruit of the vineyard

**We are grateful**

For all you have created in our vibrant world

**Accept our grateful thanks and praise.**

Amen.

*(Based on payer from Ethiopian Orthodox Tewaheda Pre-Anaphora and Anaphora of Basil)*

## *Scripture Reading: Psalm 104:24-30 (CEV)*

Our LORD, by your wisdom you made so many things; the whole earth is covered with your living creatures. <sup>25</sup> But what about the ocean so big and wide? It is alive with creatures, large and small. <sup>26</sup> And there are the ships, as well as Leviathan, the monster you created to splash in the sea. <sup>27</sup> All of these depend on you to provide them with food, <sup>28</sup> and you feed each one with your own hand, until they are full. <sup>29</sup> But when you turn away, they are terrified; when you end their life, they die and rot. <sup>30</sup> You created all of them by your Spirit, and you give new life to 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.

## *Scripture Reading: Leviticus 25:2-7 (CEV)*

After you enter the land that I am giving you, it must be allowed to rest one year out of every seven. <sup>3</sup> You may raise grain and grapes for six years, <sup>4</sup> but the seventh year you must let your fields and vineyards rest in honor of me, your LORD. <sup>5</sup> This is to be a time of complete rest for your fields and vineyards, so don't harvest anything they produce. <sup>6</sup> <sup>7</sup> However, you and your slaves and your hired workers, as well as any domestic or wild animals, may eat whatever grows on its own.

*Children's Talk: Tiddalick the Frog* [\(185\) Dreamtime Stories - Tiddalick The Frog - YouTube](#)

*Reflection: What a wonderful world*

*Communion Song: Seed Scattered and Sown* [\(181\) Seed Scattered and Sown - Dan Feiten - YouTube](#)

## *Communion*

### *Invitation*

Open hearts and spirits to the Holy One who invites us to this meal.

**Taste the earth-borne gifts that bare the communion of Christ's presence.**

Grains drawn from soil, milled and mixed, kneaded and baked, form the loaf of our

common life.

**Grapes plucked and pressed, strained and aged, fill the cup of our common hope.**

All these, all of us, fearfully and wonderfully made by God:

**All these, all of us, gathered to celebrate the mystery of presence in this communion and in all of life.**

(Source: online sample of [SeasonsFUSION](#) Season of creation | [pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au](#))

### *Prayer of Preparation*

Gracious God, ever-creating,  
with all of creation we look to you.

We look to you as the One  
from whom all things have sparked:  
from sub-atomic particles to forested slopes,  
from strands of DNA to the deepest ocean trenches.

We look to you as the One  
in whom all life holds together:  
from the delicate balancing  
of soil and water and oxygen and light, to the delicate balancing  
of personalities and faith and values.

We look to you as the One  
who fashions this table in multiple places but with singular purpose:  
to offer invite and gather all,  
to offer unlimited forgiveness,  
to offer vocation with Christ.

May all creation be blessed in this meal  
a reminder of life shared with and for others, and of community fashioned,  
not on the basis of our differences,  
but by the truth that all are one in you. Amen.

(Source: online sample of [SeasonsFUSION](#) Season of creation | [pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au](#))

### *Words of Institution: Luke 22:14-20*

**14** When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. **15** And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **16** For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." **17** After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. **18** For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." **19** And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." **20** In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

### *Sharing the bread & wine:*

This is the bread of life and the wine of compassion. The gifts of God for the people of God

### *Prayers for the church and world*

Remembering:

- Those known to us who struggle with their health
- For those who wait to hear about their visas

- Those preparing for baptism on October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Our friends at **Sanctuary and the Houses of Hope** in Footscray
- Families attending the **'Come & Try' Playgroup**
- For all fathers on Father's Day – those who have great relationships with their children and those separated or estranged from their children
- For all who find Father's Day difficult
- Those affected by floods and water born disease in **Pakistan**
- Children and others going hungry in **Yemen**
- Peace in **Ukraine**
- Places of tension, unrest & conflict – **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Gaza, Myanmar, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan & Ukraine**
- Places and people affected by Covid – especially those know to us & those grieving the loss of loved ones
- The peoples of **Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique & Myanmar**
- For our neighbours at **Westhaven**
- **Baptist Mission Australia** – work and workers in Mozambique and Central Asia
- **Baptist World Aid** – Pray for the provision for families in the 18 countries where Baptist World Aid works, including Nepal, Kenya, Cambodia and Bangladesh and the equitable distribution of resources

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 love,

We pray for people in places torn apart by conflict, particularly Myanmar, the Middle East and Ukraine. We ask that your peace and justice might reign.

We pray for families everywhere on Father's Day. For those who celebrate this day with joy. For those who find a day like this difficult. For those estranged from each other. For those separated from each other. We ask that your love and comfort might reign.

On this first Sunday of Spring, as we give thanks for the beauty of your creation we pray for those people, communities and nations already suffering the devastating effects of climate change; and we pray for the diversity of life on earth, so much of it already threatened by our actions.

God of hope,

we pray for political leaders.

Bless them with wisdom and creativity, and a shared vision of hope for all creation. May they find the determination to take strong action to halt the destructive effects of climate change, and the political will to act together for the common good.

Creator God,

we pray for us all, that we might restore our relationships with each other and work together to heal the earth. Renew us in your grace for the sake of your creation. Amen.

*{Partly based on prayer by [Uniting Justice](#)}*

## *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.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*Song: Don't Be Afraid* ([66 Don't be Afraid - YouTube](#))

## Offering

Giver of all good things, let your grace flow through us;  
a generous stream, unstoppable, refreshing, abundant.  
We release these gifts into your river of love, flowing out to all the world. Amen.

(Prayer by *Carol Penner*)

Offerings can be made by using our direct debit facility or placed in plates at entrances and exits of the church

**Footscray Baptist Church**

**BSB: 083 437**

**Account No: 515383063**

## News & Notices

- **Working Bee** – September 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am. Tasks include weeding carparks, cleaning cupboards in Green Room, removing graffiti from windows, sorting through excess furniture. Grace will co-ordinate tasks on day.
- **Bible Study and Baptismal Training** –in Green Room following the service on Sept 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>
- **Cook Up for Church Lunch** – come along and help prepare food for church lunch on October 1<sup>st</sup> for following day. More details to follow.
- **Baptism and Church Lunch** – join us for the baptisms of Saeed and Vahid followed by lunch on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Reflective Prayer:** continues on Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm on zoom. Please contact Cheryl or Ros for an invite.
- **BUV Advocacy and Justice Week** – September. During September we will spend each week looking at one issue they have identified. Sept 11 – Global Poverty, Sept 18 – Homelessness & Sept 25 – Aged Care
- **The Sudsy Challenge (Orange Sky)**. This is a fundraising challenge which I hope some of us might take up in conjunction with our Advocacy and Justice series in September. I am going to do the challenge on Sept 16-18, who would like to join me as a team?



WE'RE TAKING ON  
THE SUDSY CHALLENGE!



- **Westhaven Project Group** – Tuesday from 11am - 2.30pm In Green Room on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays in the month. Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring lunch and ideas. All materials provided. We will also have a session

on Saturdays once per month. September dates are as follows: September 6<sup>th</sup> & September 20<sup>th</sup>

- **Garage Sale during National Garage Sale Week** – at our last church meeting we talked about having a Garage Sale to sell books, extra furniture, cake stall and sausage sizzle. It would be held on either Saturday November 12 or 19. If you are interested in being part of a group to organise this please speak to Cheryl or a deacon today.
- **Office Hours** – Grace will be in office on Tue & Wed from 10.15.am – 2.00pm. Cheryl will be there on Tuesdays and Thu/Fri mornings.
- **Food Donations for Sanctuary** – canned chickpeas, red lentils, tuna in oil, oil, kidney beans. Please no cereal as they do not eat cereals.
- Copies of the service and sermon can be found on our **website**.

*Song: Deeper River* [\(181\) The Deeper River - YouTube](#)

### *Benediction*

May God bless us with wonder at creation's glory.  
May God bless us with fury at creation's spoiling.  
May God bless us with courage at this critical hour.  
And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Rest upon us and on all creation,  
This day and for the future to come. Amen.

*(Source: ACT Alliance)*

*Blessing: For You Deep Stillness* [\(181\) For you Deep Stillness - Robin Mann - YouTube](#)