



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 19th, 2021

Opening Music: From all that dwell below the skies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Wr44sBoh3E>

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 two weeks our focus will be Creation. Today sky and next week mountains

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

Call to Worship

Come let us worship the Lord;

The one who spread out the heavens

The one who gave shape to the earth

The one who formed us in the womb

The one who formed the light

The first and the last, the Alpha and Omega

The one who was, and is and shall be.

Come, let us worship God our creator,

The God of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Prayer adapted from 'Maker of heaven and earth' in Be our Freedom Lord, p. 44)

Song: I the Lord of Sea and Sky <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op1ak22jNLI>

Opening Prayer

Lord of the skies

We give you thanks for;

- The certainty that a sunrise symbolises
- The potential contained within the clouds
- The guidance of the stars
- The wonder of the galaxies
- The refreshment of the rains
- The warmth of the sunlight
- The hope contained in a rainbow
- The light of the moon in the midst of darkness
- The beauty of the birds soaring in the air

- The future to which the horizon points.
God of the universe, for the atmosphere around us, giving and sustaining life we bring our praise. Amen.

(Prayer by Cheryl Williams, September 2021)

Bible Reading:

Genesis 1: 6-8, 14-19 (NRSV)

⁶ And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

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: Psalm 19:1-6 (NRSV)

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

Children's Talk: The Invisible Highway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvCsYOH3Nt8>

Children's Song: Who Put the colours in the rainbow

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19GsKFIaRo0>

Reflection: The Skies tell of the glory of God

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- the team working in South East Asia
- Baptist World Aid – peace in our troubled world, especially on International Peace Day on September 21
- 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)

Hear the prayers of for all we have mentioned and hold in our hearts,

We pray for the atmosphere which surrounds us on all sides.

We confess that we have polluted it, helped deplete the ozone layer and expelled greenhouse gases into the air. Help us to do better.

We pray for people who are reliant on the atmosphere for their livelihoods;

- For places and people living with too much water
- For places and people living with too little water
- For places and people where wild storms have decimated lives
- For places and people where the earth is scorched
- For places and people dependant on the tides

We pray for those parts of the world where there is unrest

- Myanmar
- Afghanistan
- Where people are in lockdown

We pray for the Covid situation throughout the world

- Comfort those feeling anxious and stressed
- Enable a fair distribution of vaccines across the world
- Give courage to people so they can obey the rules, so all will be protected
- Strengthen those unwell, isolating, quarantining
- For nurses, doctors, vaccinators, emergency workers, researchers, lab assistants and all who work to help others

- *(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=7e-c8NP7cY8>

Offering

God of the skies,
You shower us with gentle rains and warm sunshine. You have showered us with many gifts and it is with gratitude we offer back to you both our money and lives to use to shower our community with love. 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

Footscray Baptist Church
BSB: 083 437
Account No: 515383063

News & Notices

- **Reflective Prayer** –Thursday Sept 23rd 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: Colours of Day Dawn in the Mind <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fo-3lf08y-Y>

Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

(Traditional Gaelic Blessing)