



## **Welcome to Worship**

**SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OF OCTOBER 2019**

A Congregation of Grace Presbyterian  
Church of New Zealand





# Welcome to Shore Presbyterian Church

**New to Church?** We do understand that coming to a church meeting can be an uncomfortable experience for many people. We don't want you to feel anxious. Our style is relaxed and friendly and nobody will be put on the spot or asked to do something unfamiliar. ***You can simply be here and observe or participate to the degree you are comfortable.*** You do not have to be a Christian; this is an opportunity, in a non-threatening environment to learn more about who Jesus is and why we want to follow him. If you don't feel like praying, singing, or even standing up you don't need to, no one will think less of you. We will try to explain some aspects of the meeting as we go but we realise that some of our practices may seem strange. If you have any questions about why we do any of the things we do please don't hesitate to ask anyone who's involved with the service. Our pastor would love to answer any questions you have about the service or the message.

## **Children's Ministry - Children are an important part of all we do.**

In the second half of the meeting during the teaching time a program is available for children. ***The children's group***, 3 to 9 years old, will meet in Classroom 3. ***Pre-teens***, over 9 years old, will meet in the Crèche room opposite the hall entrance. This will be a time of interactive fun and teaching at their level so they too can understand the things concerning Jesus. You are **free as families** to send your children to that program **or** to keep them in the main meeting. We encourage children to be part of the main meeting as we believe God's heart for them is large and they too are able to learn the great things of the Christian faith. **There are worksheets available at the back for use during the message if you find this helpful.**

**Crèche: AREA 1** – This is available for **0 to 2 year olds**, during the sermon time, in the room on the right hand side of the building directly opposite the hall entrance. The person running the crèche will be waiting and available at the back of the hall. If they are not there then they will already be serving in the crèche room. **AREA 2** - The back part of the meeting room also has a child-friendly area where parents can feel a little more relaxed with their small children but still join in the worship.

**Thanks again for joining with us this morning. We hope you find the time to be both encouraging and thought provoking. Please join us after the service for coffee, tea and snacks.**

## **Call to Worship** Psalm 73:25-28<sup>1</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but you?

And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

<sup>26</sup> My flesh and my heart may fail,

but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.

<sup>27</sup> For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;

you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.

<sup>28</sup> But for me it is good to be near God;

I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,

that I may tell of all your works.

## **Opening Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Assurance**

### **Songs of Adoration<sup>2</sup> & Praise** *Abide with Me*

Author: Henry F. Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;

The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,

Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;

Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;

Change and decay in all around I see,

O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.

What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?

Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless

Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness

Where is death's sting? Where grave thy victory?

I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

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<sup>1</sup> All passages of Scripture taken from the English Standard Version.

<sup>2</sup>Adoration: the act of paying honour, as to a divine being; worship; reverent homage; fervent and devoted love.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heavn's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

### ***Before the Throne Of God Above***

Authors: Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook.

Before the throne of God above,  
I have a strong, a perfect plea,  
A great high priest whose name is "Love,"  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands,  
My name is written on his heart;  
I know that while in heav'n he stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see him there  
Who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the just, is satisfied  
To look on him and pardon me.  
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb,  
My perfect, spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!  
One with himself I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by his blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God

## **Corporate Profession of Faith: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (adapted)**

**Leader** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
According to his great mercy

**People** He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the  
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

**Leader** to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and  
unfading, kept in heaven for *us*

**People** who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a  
salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Leader** In this *we* rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary,  
*we* have been grieved by various trials

**People** so that the tested genuineness of *our* faith—more precious  
than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—

**Leader** may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the  
revelation of Jesus Christ.

**ALL** **Though *we* have not seen him, *we* love him. Though *we* do  
not now see him, *we* believe in him and rejoice with joy that  
is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome  
of *our* faith, the salvation of *our* souls.**

**Ministry Moment** Report on the Grace Presbyterian Church  
General Assembly 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of October

## **Pastoral Prayer**

This will normally include opportunity for you to share things you are  
thankful for or want to ask God for. Though the Pastor is the one who  
prays aloud we can all pray together and express in our hearts the  
things that we want to bring to a gracious God. In this way too we  
practise love and care for one another.

**Scripture Reading** Ruth 1:1-5 (page 222 in Church Bible) *Tom*  
Ruth 1:6-22 (page 222 in Church Bible) *Ariel*

## **Dedication of offering and prayer for children**

Giving to the Lord is a free will offering from the hearts of those who believe in Jesus for salvation. No one will be asked to give; this is simply between you and the Lord. That is why we have a box by the door. Please see endnote (p15) for further information about the offering.

### **Song of Praise** *Revelation Song*

Author: Jennie Lee Riddle

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Holy, holy is he

Sing a new song to him who sits on

Heaven's mercy seat (**REPEAT**)

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty*

*Who was and is and is to come*

*With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings*

*You are my everything and I will adore you*

Clothed in rainbows of living colour

Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder

Blessing and honour strength and glory and power be

To you the only wise King

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty*

*Who was and is and is to come*

### **Song of preparation for hearing God's Word** *Your Love Oh Lord*

Author: Third Day

Your love, oh Lord

Reaches to the heavens

Your faithfulness stretches to the sky

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains

Your justice flows like the ocean's tide

*I will lift my voice*

*To worship you, my King*

*I will find my strength*

*In the shadow of your wings (**REPEAT**)*

## **Message** Ruth 1:6-22 *“Learning Grace in Dark Valleys”*

*There are worksheets at the back for children if you wish during the message*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **I. THE VALUE OF TRIALS**

##### **A. The Honesty of Scripture**

###### **i. The Reality of Trials**

###### **ii. Scripture is Honest**

###### **iii. Grace to be Learned**

##### **B. Trial Achieves God’s Purposes**

##### **C. Trial Reveals More of God**

#### **II. TRIALS REVEAL GRACE**

##### **A. Grace Displayed**



## **B. Trials Grow Us in Grace**

## **C. Joy May Come**

### **III. GRACE SECURED TO US IN JESUS**

### **IV. CONCLUSION Remembering Grace, Extending Grace**

#### **Closing Song** *Mighty to Save*

Authors: Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan

Everyone needs compassion

A love that's never failing

Let mercy fall on me

Everyone needs forgiveness

The kindness of a Saviour

The hope of nations

*Saviour he can move the mountains*

*My God is mighty to save*

*He is mighty to save*

*Forever author of salvation*

*He rose and conquered the grave*

*Jesus conquered the grave.*

So take me as you find me  
All my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender

*Saviour he can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave.*

Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus (**REPEAT**)

*Saviour he can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave.*

## **BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup> Benediction: literally, "good word" or "speak well"; a verbal blessing pronounced in God's name by the Pastor, at the conclusion of the service, sending us forth from this special time as we continue our lives seeking to know and follow Jesus.

## Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

### Scripture Reading Ruth 1

1. When have you struggled with trials and griefs and wondered where God was and what He was doing?
2. What is the seemingly hopeless situation Naomi finds herself in? How does it affect her view of God?
3. How does the Bible's honesty about trials and griefs encourage you?
4. What encourages you about Ruth's commitment to Naomi? What does it reveal about God?
5. What can we learn about what God is doing in trials and griefs from Naomi's story? Think about other Scripture passages that might help us here?
6. How can we understand and interpret this passage: "weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning" (Psalm 30:5)?
7. How does Jesus give us assurance in our trials and griefs?

### ***Some thoughts ...***

"God sometimes takes away the things that have become precious to us because they are supporting us in our life of sin and hardness of heart toward him. Alternatively, he sometimes takes away things that were good in themselves because he wants to use our lives as a powerful testimony of the sufficiency of His relentless grace in the midst of our weakness and loss."  
Duguid, p149

"Grant me the strength, O Lord, so to traverse the valley of death's shadow that I may emerge from the other side a better, more compassionate person of greater use to You as a witness and to my brother or sister as a servant."

M. Israel, *The Pain That Heals* (Hodder and Stoughton), p92.

## NOTICES

### Encouragement Groups

#### Torbay

**When** Sunday evenings, 6:30 pm  
**Where** Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive Torbay  
**Contact** Pastor Pete 473 9390 or 021 0367 957  
**Note** Bring & share lunch, last Sunday of the month, *today!*

#### Pinehill

**When** Thursday evenings, 6:30 pm  
**Where** Bruners' home, 18A Ballymore Drive Pinehill  
**Contact** Pastor Dave 022 477 4978

### Lord's Supper and Fellowship Meal

**When** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, next: 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, *next Sunday*

### Prayer Meeting

**When** 7:15, 13<sup>th</sup> of November (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the month)  
**Where** Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

### Women's Ministry

**What** Ladies Bible Study and fellowship - all ages  
**When** Currently on break for October  
**Where** TBA  
**Also:**

- Ladies Christmas Event – Mark your diaries for 7<sup>th</sup> of December
- Women's Retreat in 2020 – watch this space for updates

### Men's ministry

**What** Men...encouraging men...reaching men (young & not so young)  
Looking at the issues facing men today in light of the Gospel of Christ  
**When** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of November, 7:30 pm, (monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)  
**Where** Steve's place, 2/11 Regatta Road, Torbay  
**Contact** Pastor Dave 022 477 4978 or Steve 022 647 0931

## Invitation from Covenant Presbyterian Church

**What** An invitation to *“The Covenant Youth Survivors Camp”*  
**When** 6<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of December  
**Where** A farm South of Auckland  
**Cost** \$50 *Check flyer on back table*  
**Register** at <https://tinyurl.com/covenantyouthcamp2019>

### Serving Roster for next Sunday the of 3<sup>rd</sup> of November – Fellowship Lunch

SHORE KID'S LEADER	CRECHE	KITCHEN & MORNING TEA	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP	SUPERVISE PLAY GROUND
TBA	Volunteer	Karen v B and Phoebe	Dennis	Dennis, Tom W. & Steve B.	Volunteers	Volunteers

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#### ***Shore Presbyterian Church Giving Information***

Throughout the Bible the giving of tithes and offerings has always been seen as a part of the believer's worship to God. Apart from other charitable giving it's important for Christians to help financially sustain the ministry of the local church they are a part of. If you wish to become a regular giver at Shore Presbyterian, please see our Treasurer Cathy Tasker who can provide you with a number so that you can receive a tax receipt at the end of the financial year. There are two ways to give: you can place your offering in the box in the entrance. If you wish to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year you can put the offering in an envelope with your number on it. You can also give online through automatic deposit. The Shore Presbyterian Church bank account number is 12-3059-0631003-00. Make sure you record your number with the deposit.

If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Peter Boyd (021 0367 957 or [petethepastor@shorepres.org.nz](mailto:petethepastor@shorepres.org.nz)) or with our church Treasurer Cathy Tasker ([cathytasker@gmail.com](mailto:cathytasker@gmail.com)).

## **Some of the basic commitments of Shore Pres for your interest** (more available on the website: [shorepres.org.nz](http://shorepres.org.nz))

**We want to be a community of grace.** The Church has not always represented Jesus well; sometimes it has been harsh and hurtful. Often people are struggling with great hurts in life as well as great questions and doubts. We desire to be a community that provides acceptance and allows for time to heal and room to work through doubts and fears as we all learn together from the grace and wisdom that Jesus offers.

**We want to love and to serve.** One of the great joys of being a Christian is in knowing how much Jesus, who is God, has loved and served us. So in response we seek to love and serve others, both within the Christian community and into the community in which we live. We hope that the warmth of our Sunday meetings expresses something of that Jesus kind of love.

**We want to worship.** We are committed to meeting to worship God for His glory and grace and that our gathered worship is the high point of our lives. We also believe that worship extends to every part of our lives and our daily pursuits and that we serve and honour Him in all that we do. We are committed to corporate worship that embraces and respects those who may not yet believe. For that reason we try to practice a worship that is orderly and understandable; and that does not demand any more involvement than a visitor is willing or able to give.

**We want to be missional.** That is to say we, don't believe we exist as Christians for our own sake. Rather Christ has commanded and modelled for us a way of life marked by neighbour love. We are to do good in the world and to care for our culture and our communities. We are to serve Him where we worship, where we work, where we study, where we live, even where we play. We also believe that the Good News of sins forgiven and everlasting life through the death and resurrection of Jesus is the message that everyone needs to hear.

**We believe the Bible.** That is to say, we believe that the Bible is the Word of God and that that is where God speaks authoritatively. The Bible is the place to find answers to the great questions of life. So the Bible takes central place in our worship, our gatherings and in our lives.

**We believe the Gospel.** We believe the Good News that Jesus is the Son of God who died and rose again to bring us into an eternal relationship with God through the forgiveness of sins.

**We believe in Jesus.** We believe that the man Jesus was born of a virgin and is the Son of God, that He lived a fully obedient life and gave His life as a substitute on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins so that we could be forgiven, declared righteous in Him and live forever with Him in a new heaven and a new earth. We believe He rose from the dead and reigns now and will come again in victory.

**We are Confessional.** We also hold to a statement of beliefs called the Westminster Confession of Faith. It is secondary to the Bible but helpfully sets out in ordered form what we believe the Bible teaches on important doctrines. Elders and pastors vow commitment to that confession at their ordination.

**We are Presbyterian.** This relates particularly to our form of government. Local church is led by elders who conform to biblical standards for leadership and are elected by the congregation who desire their spiritual care and oversight. Elders from a number of local churches also serve in regional bodies called Presbytery, which also provides wider wisdom and help to the local congregations. The Church leadership also meets once a year in a national assembly to consult on matters of importance to the whole church.

**We are Reformed.** Our doctrinal standards reflect something of the theology of the Reformation in Europe and Great Britain which revived a number of key biblical commitments: Scripture alone, salvation through faith alone, by grace alone, through Christ alone for the glory of God alone. The Reformed faith has a strong sense of the sovereignty of God over the world, its people and its history, and calls for us to submit to His sovereignty in our own lives. This we gladly do since we believe the biblical view is the only one that makes sense of reality.

**We are Complementarian.** We take seriously what the Bible teaches about the creation of men and women, that they equally bear the image and likeness of God and are equal in dignity and worth. We also believe the Bible teaches unique roles for men and women which are not about status but about finding fulfilment in serving God in the ways He has designed.

**We are Covenantal.** We believe that God in Christ makes a commitment to His people which the Bible calls a covenant. It expresses His abiding faithfulness to His promises and calls us also to our responsibility in the covenant arrangement to be obedient and faithful. In particular the Bible teaches that God makes a commitment to Christian families which give great spiritual privileges to the children and remind them that they have great responsibility to walk in the faith of their parents which is their spiritual inheritance, and that to rebel brings greater judgement. We believe that children should receive the blessing of baptism because of the position they have before God.

***User warning:** It's a little risky to state right up front what we believe. Such things can be open to misunderstanding or simply viewed as arrogant. Nevertheless not stating them is just as problematical since it leaves people in the dark about what we are committed to. And the bottom line is that for the church to be the church it is significantly committed to something. That being said, please recognise that these are simple statements for ease of reading. They cannot answer all the questions they may create. Those discussions are left to other opportunities – like visiting with us to hear more or by contacting Peter our pastor to discuss them.*



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