



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 26TH OF JULY 2020

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 46:1-3, 10-11¹

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling ...

¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"

¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress

Corporate Prayer of Confession and Repentance

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father;

We have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.

We have offended against Your holy laws.

We have not done those things
which we ought to have done;

And we have done those things
which we ought not to have done.

But You, O Lord are merciful.

Forgive us, O Lord, as we confess our faults.

Restore us as we repent,
according to Your promises
declared to us in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grant, merciful Father, for His sake;

that we may live a godly, righteous, and holy life,
To the glory of Your holy Name. **Amen.**²

Prayer of Approach and Assurance

¹ All passages of Scripture taken from the English Standard Version.

² Adapted from the Anglican Prayer Book

Songs of Adoration³ & Praise *There is a Fountain*

Author: William Cowper

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

*Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.*

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.

*Wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.*

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

*And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.*

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved, to sin no more.

*Be saved, to sin no more,
Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved, to sin no more.*

³Adoration: the act of paying honour, as to a divine being; worship; reverent homage; fervent and devoted love.

The Lord is King

Author: Josiah Conder

The Lord is King! Lift up your voice,
O earth, and all ye heav'ns, rejoice!
From world to world the joy shall ring,
"The Lord omnipotent is King!"

*Sing His praise, sing His praise
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days
Sing His praise, sing His praise
All your days, all your days.*

The Lord is King! Who then shall dare
Resist his will, distrust his care?
Or murmur at his wise decrees,
Or doubt his royal promises?

*Sing His praise, sing His praise
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days
Sing His praise, sing His praise
All your days, all your days.*

The Lord is King! Bow down we must,
The Judge of all the earth is just;
Holy and true are all His ways;
Let ev'ry creature sing His praise.

*Sing His praise, sing His praise
Lord of lords, Ancient of Days
Sing His praise, sing His praise
All your days, all your days. (REPEAT)*

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.

Song of Submission and Consecration *Search me, O God*

J. Edwin Orr, 1936.⁴

Search me, O God, and know my heart today,
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill Thy word and make me pure within;
Fill me with fire, where once I burned with shame;
Grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life, and make it wholly Thine;
Fill my poor heart with Thy great love divine;
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;
I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.

O Holy Ghost, revival comes from Thee;
Send a revival, start the work in me;
Thy Word declares Thou wilt supply our need;
For blessings now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

Come Thou fount of every blessing

Robert Robinson 1830-1904

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
O the vast, the boundless treasure,
Of my Lord's redeeming love.

⁴ Edwin Orr wrote these words at a revival meeting in Ngaruawahia, New Zealand, taking less than five minutes to put them down on paper.

Here I raise my Ebenezer⁵;
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood;

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Take my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it from Thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed I'll be in blood-washed linen
How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace;
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
Take my ransomed soul away;
Send thine angels now to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

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 (p13) for further information about the offering.

⁵ Ebenezer is a name meaning "stone of help" and refers to a stone that was set up by the Israelites to remember a victory over the Philistines by God's help, when previously they had suffered defeat, see 1 Samuel 7:12. The memorial stone represented God's merciful help to His people; it also therefore represents a fresh beginning, a reversal of course for God's people. It also says something important about God's commitment to His redeemed people: His mercies are everlasting; his covenant is forever. As we sing these words it says the same for us. We remember that God has shown us His mercies and faithfulness and so we are strengthened and encouraged to continue to walk by faith in Him and His grace as we go into the unknown future.

Scripture Reading Nehemiah 1:1-11 (Church Bible p398)

Message Nehemiah 1:1-5 *“God’s Passion for God’s Cause”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions...

INTRODUCTION

I. PORTRAIT OF THE TRUE AND FAITHFUL GOD

A. CONCERN FOR HIS OWN GLORY

B. FAITHFULNESS TO HIS OWN CAUSE

i. The Covenant

ii. Partial Restoration

iii. Fulfilment in Christ

iv. Establishing the Church

v. Ultimate Restoration

II. PORTRAIT OF A SERVANT

A. LOOK

B. LAMENT

C. PRAY

D. OFFER YOURSELF IN FAITHFULNESS

Closing Song *I Cannot Tell*

William Y. Fullerton 1929

I cannot tell why He whom angels worship,
Should set His love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,
To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that He was born of Mary
When Bethlehem's manger was His only home,
And that He lived at Nazareth and labored,
And so the Savior, Savior of the world is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,
As with His peace He graced this place of tears,
Or how His heart upon the Cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Savior, Savior of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations,
How He will claim His earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of East and West, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory,
And He shall reap the harvest He has sown,
And some glad day His sun shall shine in splendor
When He the Savior, Savior of the world is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at His bidding, every storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When all the hearts of men with love are filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to Heaven, and Heaven to earth, will answer:
At last the Savior, Savior of the world is king!

BENEDICTION⁶

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Nehemiah 1:1-5

1. In what ways do you feel troubled and concerned at the place Christianity holds in our culture? Do you sometimes wonder about God's purposes?
2. Take time to talk about major events and dates in Old Testament history to get a grasp of where Nehemiah fits. Where is Nehemiah and why? What is the state of Jerusalem? What does Nehemiah hope to do?
3. How is God the hero of this story, not Nehemiah? As he raises up Nehemiah in this time of need how does God assure us of His faithfulness to the cause of His own glory? How has he continued to assure us of His faithfulness, and how does that give us hope and confidence now?
4. Think now about Nehemiah as a servant of God's cause, how he enquired after Jerusalem, and wept and prayed, and offered himself to serve. Read Matthew 9:36-38 and see how Jesus looked at the lost. Do we look? What do we see? How do we react – are we judgemental and protective of ourselves or do we follow the pattern of Christ who was moved with compassion and came, full of grace and truth?
5. We probably won't be a Nehemiah, but we are called to be faithful to God's glory and to the spiritual need of those who don't know Him. How does this work out in your life and where God has placed you?

⁶ 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.

NOTICES

Encouragement Groups

Glenfield

When Every Tuesday, 7:30–9:00 pm
Where **Check with the contact person!**
Contact Tom Wilson 027 785 1332

Torbay/Browns Bay

When Every Thursday, 7:00-8:30 pm,
Where **Check with the contact person!**
Contact Paul Burton 473 0086 or 021 253 0980

Fellowship Lunch

What Opportunity after Sunday worship to share together over lunch at the Boyd's home. *Come and bring food to share.*
When Last Sunday of the month, next is 26th of July, **today**
Where Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay
Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

Lord's Supper and Fellowship Meal

When 1st Sunday of the month, next: 2nd of August, **next Sunday**

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 12th of August (2nd and 4th Wed of the month)
Where Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

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 From 6:30, 13th of August (monthly 2nd Thursday)
BBQ, Bible and Brews at Boyds
Where Pete's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay
Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957 or Steve 022 647 0931

Youth Group

When 7:00 pm (Fridays: every 1st, 3rd and 5th of the month)
Fun and Dessert and Discussion

Where *TBA*

Contact Steve Bilton 022 647 0931 or Chris Burton 022 345 4131

Women's ministry

What Ladies Coffee and Catch Up
 An opportunity to have a good catch up, strengthen relationships, be encouraged and supported as we do life together 😊. It will be great if you can make it.

When 11:00 am, Saturday 8th of August

Where A'ruma Cafe, Long Bay ☕

Contact *Please RSVP by* 1st of August to Sharmini so she can let Carol@Aruma know the numbers 👯

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 2nd of August – 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	Anna Knapp & Mia Pang	Dennis	Dennis, Keith Knapp & Daniel Pang	Dennis, Keith, Daniel & Volunteers	Volunteers

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) or with our church Treasurer Cathy Tasker (cathytasker@gmail.com).

Some of the basic commitments of Shore Pres for your interest (more available on the website: shorepres.org.nz)

We seek 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 seek 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 seek 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 seek 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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