



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 25th OF OCTOBER 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 103:15-22¹

- ¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.
- ¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- ¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.
- ¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!
- ²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!
- ²² Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Prayer of adoration, confession and approach

Songs of Adoration² & Praise *Amazing Grace*

Author: John Newton

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
T'was blind but now I see

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
T'was grace that brought us safe thus far
And grace will lead us home.

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

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

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we first begun.

Your Love Oh Lord

Authors: 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 on Your wings*

Professing Faith *The Heidelberg Catechism*³

Question 1 ***What is your only comfort in life and death?***

Answer That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

³ The Heidelberg Catechism is a 16th Century document designed to teach the biblical faith. A Catechism, meaning "oral instruction", is a helpful means of learning using the method of memorizing and understanding questions and answers.

Sacrament of Infant Baptism

We rejoice to receive and recognise Jonathan and Leah Munroe's son Warrick Joel as a non-communing⁴ member of the church of Jesus Christ as he is given the sign and seal of baptism.

Scripture Readings for Baptism Genesis 17:7

And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

Acts 2:38, 39

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

Acts 16:31

³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴ "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

⁴ "Non-communing" means that while an infant of believing parents is viewed as a member of the covenant community, with all the Gospel blessings and privileges of that membership, they do not participate in the Lord's Supper (communion), until they profess their own personal age-appropriate faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Baptismal vows for the parents Jonathan and Leah

1. Do you heartily believe God's covenant promise to be your God and the God of your children, and thus present Warrick Joel for holy baptism as a sign and a seal that he belongs to the covenant family of God? *(We do)*

2. Knowing that you are saved through faith in Christ, not through anything you have done or ever will do, but simply through your faith in Christ's finished work on Calvary's cross – will you encourage Warrick as soon as he is able to comprehend its significance to acknowledge personally his own faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and become a full member of the Church, serving God faithfully in its fellowship? *(With God's help we will)*

3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate Warrick to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace to raise him in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, to pray for and with him, to teach him the truth of God's Word, to keep him in the house of God and with God's people, and to be faithful in your home life for Christ as you live it before him so that by God's grace he will personally and always love, serve and follow Him? *(With God's help we do)*

Congregational vow

Do you receive Warrick Joel Munroe as an infant member of this church, and promise to surround him with Christian love, to pray for him, and to set an example before him of genuine Christian faith and virtue, so that he will early in life know the reality of personal salvation and rich fellowship in the kingdom of God? *(With God's help we do)*

Baptism and Prayer

Song of Blessing *The Aaronic Blessing (from Numbers 6:24-26)*

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

Song of Praise *In Christ Alone*

Authors: Keith & Kristin Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Special Prayer for Joao and Tania as tomorrow they
commence the Ride4Freedom to protect
children against sex trafficking in Nepal
through education

(please check out the details and follow their progress at
www.ride4freedom.org)

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 preparation for hearing God's Word *Speak O Lord*

Authors: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.

Scripture Reading John 13:3-11 (Church Bible p900)

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 (p17) for further information about the offering.

Message John 13:8 *"Unless Jesus Washes You"*

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

INTRODUCTION

I. THE NEED TO BE WASHED

- **The greater disease**
- **The saving cross**

II. WHAT ABOUT BABIES?

- **Wise choices**
- **Trusting grace and embracing an inheritance**
- **Belonging to the church**

III. WE ALL NEED TO BE BAPTIZED

- **The need of the inner reality**
- **Grace and the need to come like little children**

Closing Song *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

Author: Stewart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My guilt upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no powr's, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

BENEDICTION⁵

⁵ 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 You could read the Scripture Readings for Baptism in the Order of Service and/or John 13:3-11 and/or the excerpts from the Heidelberg Catechism printed below.

1. Share about your own baptism. What has it meant to you? How have you understood baptism?
2. Baptism signifies our union with Christ. How does the washing with water particularly signify that union? Take time to discuss all the blessings and benefits that come to us because of our union with Jesus Christ.
3. How does witnessing the sacrament of baptism - as we have been blessed to do over the last two Sundays – both encourage you and challenge you in your Christian life?
4. Infant baptism reminds us that to be cleansed and to be saved we need to come as little children in humble trust in Christ, to wash us, to do what we cannot do for ourselves. What are the ways this is still a struggle in your life? How do we still rely on something in ourselves to be right or to stay right with God? How does the grace shown to us in an infant baptism encourage us here?
5. Thinking about the baptism of a baby – what are the encouragements that Christian parents receive from this? What also are their responsibilities, and ours, as the church to which the child belongs? How can they, and we, help each other fulfil them?

Thoughts on Baptism

The Westminster Confession of Faith on Baptism⁶

28.1. Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ⁷, not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible Church;⁸ but also, to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace,⁹ of his ingrafting into Christ,¹⁰ of regeneration,¹¹ of remission of sins,¹² and of his giving up unto God through Jesus Christ, to walk in the newness of life.¹³ Which sacrament is, by Christ's own appointment, to be continued in His Church until the end of the world.¹⁴

The Heidelberg Catechism on Baptism¹⁵

Question 69.

How does holy baptism remind and assure you that Christ's one sacrifice on the cross benefits you personally?

Answer.

In this way Christ instituted this outward washing¹⁶ and with it promised that, as surely as water washes away the dirt from the body, so certainly his blood and his Spirit wash away my soul's impurity, that is, all my sins.¹⁷

Question 70.

What does it mean to be washed with Christ's blood and Spirit?

Answer.

To be washed with Christ's blood means that God, by grace, has forgiven our sins because of Christ's blood poured out for us in his sacrifice on the cross.¹⁸ To be washed with Christ's Spirit means that the Holy Spirit has renewed and sanctified us to be members of Christ, so that more and more we become dead to sin and live holy and blameless lives.¹⁹

⁶ The Westminster Confession of Faith is the doctrinal position of Presbyterian Churches throughout the world and was originally drawn up by an Assembly of clergy and laymen in 1646 in London

⁷ Matthew 28:19

⁸ I Corinthians 12:13

⁹ Romans 4:11 with Colossians 2:11, 12

¹⁰ Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:5

¹¹ Titus 3:5

¹² Mark 1:4

¹³ Romans 6:3, 4

¹⁴ Matthew 28:19, 20

¹⁵ See Footnote 3 on page 5

¹⁶ Acts 2:38

¹⁷ Matthew 3:11; Romans 6:3-10; 1 Peter 3:21

¹⁸ Zechariah 13:1; Ephesians 1:7-8; Hebrews 12:24; 1 Peter 1:2; Revelation 1:5

¹⁹ Ezekiel 36:25-27; John 3:5-8; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Colossians 2:11-12

Question 72.

Does this outward washing with water itself wash away sins?

Answer.

No, only Jesus Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit cleanse us from all sins.²⁰

Question 73.

Why then does the Holy Spirit call baptism the water of rebirth and the washing away of sins?

Answer.

God has good reason for these words. To begin with, God wants to teach us that the blood and Spirit of Christ take away our sins just as water removes dirt from the body.²¹ But more important, God wants to assure us, by this divine pledge and sign, that we are as truly washed of our sins spiritually as our bodies are washed with water physically.²²

Question 74.

Should infants also be baptized?

Answer.

Yes. Infants as well as adults are included in God's covenant and people,²³ and they, no less than adults, are promised deliverance from sin through Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit who produces faith.²⁴ Therefore, by baptism, the sign of the covenant, they too should be incorporated into the Christian church and distinguished from the children of unbelievers.²⁵ This was done in the Old Testament by circumcision,²⁶ which was replaced in the New Testament by baptism.²⁷

²⁰ Matthew 3:11; 1 Peter 3:21; 1 John 1:7

²¹ 1 Corinthians 6:11; Revelation 1:5; 7:14

²² Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27

²³ Genesis 17:7; Matthew 19:14

²⁴ Isaiah 44:1-3; Acts 2:38-39; 16:31

²⁵ Acts 10:47; 1 Corinthians 7:14

²⁶ Genesis 17:9-14

²⁷ Colossians 2:11-13

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

Lord's Supper and Fellowship Meal

When 1st Sunday of the month, next: 1st of November, ***next Sunday***

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 28th of Oct. (2nd and 4th Wed of the month), ***this week***
Where Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

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 25th of October, ***today***
Where Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay
Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

Afternoon Tea at the Munroe's

What All welcome to Afternoon Tea at the Munroe's as we continue to celebrate Ricky's Baptism today.
Where 13 Cashmere Place Glenfield

Youth Group

What *Fun and Dessert and Discussion.*
When 7:00 pm, 30th of October (every 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday), ***this week***
Where **TBA**

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

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 pm, 12th of November (monthly 2nd Thursday)
BBQ, Bible and Brews at Boyds

Where Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957 or Steve 022 647 0931

Creation Ministries International Speaker

Why won't they listen? Have you wondered why your witnessing falls flat and people fail to respond? Many comment that science has disproved the Bible and therefore it is not relevant to today's modern world. But what's the answer? Can the majority of scientists really be wrong?

Discover the answers with **Mark James** when he brings his powerful message *Science and the Bible: Conflict or Confirmation?* at 10.00am on Sunday 15 November 2020.

There will be display tables with resource books and DVD's available for purchase, you may want to come prepared for that.

Labour Day Picnic with Keith and Anna

Join Keith and Anna at Long Bay for a picnic, fellowship and fun ... Bring your food and a barbecue hot plate will be provided to cook on.

When Labour Day Monday, meet from 12 noon.

Where Far northern end of Long Bay Beach near site 5

If wet will be postponed until another time.

Bridal Shower

What Ladies, please join us to Celebrate Debbie Burden's Bridal Shower.

When Saturday 14th of November 2020, 3:30-5.30 pm

Where Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

Please bring a plate to share.

RSVP by 10th of November to sharmini.paddick@gmail.com

Wedding Invite

Congratulations again to Justin Port and Debbie Burden on their engagement. In case you missed it, here is the lovely invite to the Church Family to celebrate their wedding with them at 1:00 pm on Saturday the 12th of Dec at the North Shore Reformed Church, 74 Trias Road, Totara Vale:

Hey church family, we're getting married and you're all invited!

We're super excited and want you to join us on our big day 😊

Please follow this link to our wedding website

for more info and to RSVP:

withjoy.com/justin-port-and-debbie-burden

With Love, Justin & Debbie

International Day Of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Sunday 1 November is the International Day of Prayer (IDOP) for the persecuted church. Some info can be found here:

<https://www.persecution.com/idop/>

<https://www.opendoors.org.nz/get-involved/pray/idop/>

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 1st 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	Lydia Song and Raquel Burton	Dennis	Dennis, Steve Bilton & Song Family	Dennis, Steve, Songs & 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 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.*



PASTOR PETER BOYD

Office 473 9390 **Mobile** 021 0367 957

Email petethepastor@shorepres.org.nz

PO Box 89076 Torbay Auckland 0742

shorepres.org.nz

www.facebook.com/shorepres