



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 20th OF DECEMBER 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 Isaiah 11:1- 9¹

- ¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- ² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
- ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Prayer of adoration, confession and approach

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

Songs of Adoration² & Praise *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Author: John Wesley

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lay his glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

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

I will sing the wondrous story

Words by Francis H. Rowley 1854-1952

I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me;
How He left the realms of glory
For the cross of Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

I was lost, but Jesus found me,
Found the sheep that went astray,
Raised me up and gently led me
Back into the narrow way.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

Days of darkness still come o'er me,
Sorrow's path I often tread
But His presence still is with me;
By His guiding hand I'm led
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

He will keep me till the river
Rolls its waters at my feet;
Then He'll bear me safely over
All my joys in Him complete
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

Corporate Profession of Faith Luke 1:46-55 *Mary's Song*

Leader And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

People And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

Leader He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

People he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

Leader he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

ALL **He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring
for ever."**

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 Praise Joy to the World

Author: Isaac Watts

Joy to the world the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders, of his love.

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-45 (Church Bible p855)

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 (p12) for further information about the offering.

Message Luke 1:26-45 *“Submitting to the Miracle of Grace”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION

I. GOD’S GREATNESS IN UNEXPECTED PEOPLE AND PLACES

A. NOWHERE

B. NOBODY

C. YOU AND I

II. WHAT IS GREAT ABOUT MARY

A. NOTHING

B. EVERYTHING

III. WHAT IS GREAT ABOUT THE CHILD

IV. SUBMISSION IS THE PATH TO JOY

A. SUBMITTING TO THE GOD OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

B. MARY'S EXAMPLE

C. JOY IS THE OUTCOME

D. THE CHALLENGES OF OUR OWN LIVES

E. SUBMISSION TO HIS SALVATION IS THE PATH TO JOY

CONCLUSION

Closing Song *You Alone Can Rescue*

Author: Matt Redman

Who, oh Lord, could save themselves,
Their own sin could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your Grace is deeper still

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

You, oh Lord, have made a way
The great divide You heal
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
Yes, your love goes further still

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

Bridge *We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
You're the Giver of Life
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
You're the Giver of Life **(repeat)***

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

BENEDICTION³

SUNG BENEDICTION

May the Lord, loving God
 Bless and keep you for-ev-er
Grant you peace, perfect peace
 courage in every en-deavor
Lift your eyes and see God's face
 know His grace forever
May the Lord, mighty God
 Bless and keep you forever.

³ 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 Luke 1:26-45

1. Neither Nazareth nor Mary seem all that important. What does this reveal about God's way of working? See verses 51-55. How can this be encouraging to you? Or to someone you know?
2. What are some misconceptions about Mary? How are they unhelpful regarding the Gospel?
3. Why was Mary's virginity so important? Some doubt it's truth. How would you answer them?
4. What else stands out about Jesus in this passage and what does it mean for you?
5. Think about the remarkableness and humility of the incarnation. Why was it necessary?
6. What was commendable in Mary's submission and what do we learn from it? How is it the path to joy?

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).

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: 3rd of January

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 10th of February (2nd and 4th Wed of the month)
Where Boyd's place, 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 pm, 11th of February (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

Christmas Invite

Paul and Ingrid are inviting anyone that does not have a place to go to join them on Christmas Day at their home for a shared Christmas lunch. They will put some meat on the BBQ, and would only ask you bring some food to share to go with it. This is a special day for Christians so what better than to spend it with church family celebrating the true meaning of Christmas together. If the people who want to come, can they let them know by the 18th December or before that would be great.

Summer Services

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 25th of December | <u>9:30 am</u> - <i>Christmas Worship</i> – Peter Boyd Preaching |
| 27th of December | Peter Boyd Preaching |
| 3rd of January | Ian Grant Preaching - Isaiah 1:1-2:5 |
| 10th of January | Ian Grant Preaching – Isaiah 40:1-31 |
| 17th of January | Ian Grant Preaching – Isaiah 42:1-17 |
| 24th of January | Peter Boyd Preaching |

Livestream Project

COVID-19 has at least propelled Churches into the world of livestreaming, which enabled us to meet as a worshipping body with Zoom through the lockdowns. With Paul Burton's expertise we have continued to Livestream the services from the Hall on Sunday mornings. This has been a great provision for some of our older folk who have still continued at home for health reasons and also for others like young mums or folk who are sick or even on holiday. We are not intending to livestream in order to create some kind of international online ministry but simply to serve our own Church family. Nor have we provided this service to lessen the importance, wherever possible, of being physically with the Body of Christ for worship.

We are, however, needing to make decisions about whether to continue this ministry. Added bonuses are the potential to livestream for a creche and to have a video recording of the sermons up on the website for those who missed them, want to listen again, or share with others.

The cost of continuing is a one-off expense of about \$3,600 – this includes cameras, tripods, a dedicated laptop and sundry other peripherals to make the system function as efficiently as possible. There are also some volunteers who will be trained in running it in order to share the load.

The Elders have agreed in principle to continue providing a live-streaming ministry, however, we are bringing this to your attention because it is a significant expense and so are seeking your prayers and any helpful feedback you may have. We will make a final decision before Christmas so that Paul can do the necessary purchasing, perhaps at sale prices.

| Serving Roster for next Sunday the 27th of December | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| 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 Sharmini Paddick | Dennis | Dennis, Carl & William Paddick | Dennis, Carl, William & Volunteers | Volunteers |

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