



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 27th 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 Psalm 98:1-4¹

¹ Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

² The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Prayer of adoration, confession and approach

Songs of Adoration² & Praise 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.

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

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

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.

My Hope Is Built

Author: Edward Mote

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

*On Christ, the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood.

When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

*On Christ, the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found.

Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

*On Christ, the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand. (REPEAT)*

Ministry Matters Update from Joao and Tania Petreceli on the
Ride4Freedom Project

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.

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."**

Scripture Reading Luke 1:67-80 (Church Bible p856), Paul G.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

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

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*

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To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

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 (p11) for further information about the offering.

Message Luke 1:46-80 *“Songs of Wonder”*

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

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION: KEEPING WONDER

I. VISITATION

II. REDEMPTION

III. STRENGTH

A. Horn

B. Reversal

IV. THE REASON: FOR VISITATION, REDEMPTION AND STRENGTH

V. THE PURPOSE: FOR VISITATION, REDEMPTION AND STRENGTH

CONCLUSION

Closing Song *By Faith*

Authors: Kieth and Kristin Getty

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our souls' reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our souls' reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our souls' reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

BENEDICTION³

***We pray that, through the rest and refreshment of this
Christmas and holiday season, you may grow in the
knowledge of the Lord Jesus, Whom to know is eternal life.***

***Looking forward to gathering, worshipping,
growing and serving together in the New Year***

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 1:46-55, 67-80

1. Do you think we forget the wonder of what God has done in Christ? What are the things in life that take away our joy in Him? What can you do this Christmas season to renew and keep a sense of wonder, awe and praise?
2. Someone has said that Christmas is in the prepositions. Think about *with*, *for* and *in*. Think about how, in Jesus and His coming, we have proof that God is *with* us, and *for* us and *in* us. How does that encourage joy and wonder?
3. In the two songs, redemption is spoken of, in social/political terms and in spiritual terms. Which is more important? Why.
4. How do the two songs celebrate God's strength and how is Jesus' coming and the salvation He brings a display of strength?
5. Think about how the coming of Jesus displays God's covenant faithfulness and His tender mercies. How does this encourage and reassure you today? What is the purpose of His coming in our lives? See verses 74,75 and 79. Are you seeing this result?

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

Summer Services

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

Pastoral Needs

Pastor Pete is on leave until the 22nd of January. If you have pressing pastoral needs please feel free to contact Paul Burton (021 253 0980), or Ian Grant (027 398 1511) who will be here preaching for those three Sundays.

Shore Presbyterian Church Family Camp

Don't forget, grab a brochure!

What A weekend of fun, fellowship, and growth
Where Mangawhai Heads
When Friday evening the 5th to Sunday the 7th of March 2021

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

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 3rd of January – 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	Callum Boyd and Anna Knapp	Dennis	Dennis, Keith Knapp & Oliver Burton	Dennis, Keith, Oliver & 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

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