



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 30th OF MAY 2021

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 18:1-3¹

¹ I love you, O LORD, my strength.

² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.

Prayer of Approach and Adoration²

Songs of Adoration³ & 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!

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.

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

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.

As the deer

Martin J. Nystrom, 1981

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after You
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.*

I want you more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye.

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.*

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though you are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything.

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.*

Corporate Prayer & Profession of Faith

Adapted from Colossians 1:9-23

Leader We ask Lord that You would fill us with the knowledge of Your will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,

People so that we may live a life worthy of You Lord and please You in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

Leader being strengthened with all power according to Your glorious might so that we may have great endurance and patience,

People giving joyful thanks to You Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of Your holy people in the kingdom of light.

Leader For You have rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of Your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

ALL ***Once we were alienated from You God and were enemies in our minds because of our evil behaviour. But now You have reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in Your sight, without blemish and free from accusation—if we continue in our faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.***

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 Acts 4:1-22 (Church Bible p911)

Song of Praise *Rock of Ages*

Author: Augustus M. Toplady

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labor of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

Be Thou My Vision

Author: Dalan Forgaill

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Scripture reading Acts 4:23-31 (Church Bible p912)

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 Acts 4:1-31 "We Cannot but Speak of Christ"

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

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION

I. SIGNPOST TO THE ONLY SAVIOUR, verses 5-12

II. SHOCKING UNBELIEF, verses 13-22

III. STAND AND SPEAK REGARDLESS

A. God's Purposes Prevail

B. God's Purposes Prevail through a Particular People

i. The Weak

ii. The Alive

iii. The Dependent

iv. The Secure

v. The Obedient

vi. The Merciful

CONCLUSION

Closing Song *All Glory be to Christ*

Author: Dustin Kensrue

Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive

To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me, what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!*

His will be done, His kingdom come
On earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him, the Lord of love

Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ
*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!*

When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new

Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light
And we shall e'er his people be
All glory be to Christ!
*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!*

BENEDICTION⁴

⁴ 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 Acts 4:1-31

1. What, according to Peter, is the whole point of the miracle? How is that a grace even to would be persecutors?
2. What is so shocking about the unbelief of the counsel? Why should it not surprise us? Do we see our own hearts here?
3. Why must we, like them, stand and speak? How can we, like them, stand and speak?
4. Even without outright persecution what are the things in our culture, or even in our own hearts that prevent us from speaking about Christ? How can we prepare for persecution?
5. Discuss how, from this passage, God's purposes prevail through a particular people and how he uses people with the following attributes/character: the Weak, the Alive, the Dependent, the Secure, the Obedient, the Merciful. What makes these attributes useful and how can we cultivate them? Can you think of any others from this passage?
6. There was a challenge in the sermon to think of someone in your network that you could seek to bring to Christ. Can you share with the group who that might be? Take time now to pray: for an opportunity, for eyes to see the opportunity, for love and courage to take the opportunity, and for the right words.

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 is 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 Miriam Burden 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 Miriam Burden (imaburden2@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: 6th of June, *next Sunday*

Mission News Next Sunday

Please note: Next Sunday in worship we look forward to hearing an update from the Grace4Pakistan ministry

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 23rd of June (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, 9th of June (monthly 2nd Wednesday)
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

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 30th of May, **today**
- Where** Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay
- Contact** Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

Lady's - Coffee, Catch up and Conversation

- What** A bi-monthly coffee catch up to encourage & inspire one another as we grow in Christ together. For all ages and stages.
- When** From 10:00 am, 28th of August (last Saturday, each second month)
- Where** *The Stoned Cow Café* in Browns Bay (used to be the post office)
<https://www.thestonedcow.co.nz/>

Women's Seminar on 'Anxiety'

- What** Women in Grace will be putting on a seminar for women on the topic of anxiety. Hannah Bredemeijer, a clinical psychologist, and Christian counsellor, will be the main speaker and there will be opportunities for small group discussion and Q&A time. Afternoon tea will be provided.
- When** Please join us from 1:00-4:00pm on the 26th of June.
- Where** The Ponsonby Community Centre (20 Ponsonby Terrace).
- Contact** If you're interested in childcare for children under 5 or have questions about the event, please contact Gretchen Bruner gretchenabruner@gmail.com or Anne Camp sacamp@xtra.co.nz.

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 6th of June – 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 and Mia Pang	Dennis	Dennis, Daniel Pang and Keith Knapp	Dennis, Daniel, Keith & Volunteers	Volunteers

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.*



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