



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 28th OF JULY 2019

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 146:1-7¹

¹ Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

² I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;

on that very day his plans perish.

⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the Lord his God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith for ever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

Prayer of Adoration and Approach

Songs of Adoration² & Praise *Arise My Soul Arise*

Author: Charles Wesley

Arise my soul arise

Shake off your guilty fears;

The bleeding sacrifice,

In my behalf appears;

Before the throne my Surety stands,

Before the throne my Surety stands,

My name is written on His hands.

He ever lives above,

For me to intercede;

His all redeeming love,

His precious blood, to plead;

His blood atoned for every race,

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.

His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Arise, arise, arise,

Arise, my soul, arise.

Arise, arise, arise,

Arise, my soul, arise.

Shake off your guilty fears and rise

My God is reconciled;
His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child;
I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Arise, arise, arise,

Arise, my soul, arise.

Arise, arise, arise,

Arise, my soul, arise.

Shake off your guilty fears and rise

All Must Be Well

Authors: Mary Bowly Peters, Matthew Smith

Through the love of God our Saviour, all will be well
Free and changeless is His favour, all is well
Precious is the blood that healed us
Perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
Happy still in God confiding
Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well (*Repeat: On our Father's...*)

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.**³

Assurance of Grace *Heidelberg Catechism*

Question 60. *How are you righteous before God?*

Answer. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ: that is, although my conscience accuses me, that I have grievously sinned against all the commandments of God, and have never kept any of them, and am still prone always to all evil; yet God, without any merit of mine, of mere grace, grants and imputes to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never committed nor had any sins, and had myself accomplished all the obedience which Christ has fulfilled for me; if only I accept such benefit with a believing heart.

³ Adapted from the Anglican Prayer Book

Song of Assurance *Before the Throne of God Above*

Authors: Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook.

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great high priest whose name is "Love,"
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the just, is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me.
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Saviour and my God
With Christ, my Saviour and my God

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

Come Thou Fount

Author: Robert Robinson

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.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I'm 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;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then 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.

Scripture Reading Acts 17:16-34 (Church Bible p926)

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 (p10) for further information about the offering.

Message Acts 17:16-34 *“In Christ and In Culture”*

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

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION

I. OUR FEELINGS, Acts 17:17

A. What Paul feels

B. Why

i. The delusive nature of idolatry

ii. The enslaving nature of idolatry

II. OUR DIALOGUE, Acts 17:22-28

A. Finding the keyhole – verses 23

B. Turning the key – verse 24-28

III. OUR APPEAL, Acts 17:29-31

A. Jesus is better

CONCLUSION

Closing Song *Be Thou My Vision*

Author: Dalan Forgail

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.

BENEDICTION⁴⁵

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.

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).

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Acts 17:16-34

1. Through Paul's interactions with the Athenians in this passage we see that a Christian can appreciate cultural achievements even while grieving the false worship that often drives such achievements. How can we do both? What's an example of what it might look like for you as a Christian to admire a work of art/design/literature/etc. *while* grieving the perhaps "idolatrous" inspiration behind it?
2. If you are honest, what are the idols or "visions of the good life" that tend to capture your imagination, your desire, your worship and work? (If you aren't sure, consider this Tim Keller quote: "An idol is whatever you look at and say, in your heart of hearts, 'If I have that, then I'll feel my life has meaning, then I'll know I have value, then I'll feel significant and secure.") According to what Paul says in verses 24-28, how is the true God different from idols?
3. Based on Paul's appeal to the Athenians, how can we (and others) get free of idols? Can you think of people, ideas, and values that our culture generally upholds and esteems that can be used to point people to truth, repentance, and faith in Christ? When we're captivated by a vision of the good life not centered in Christ, how can we know, and how can we turn our gaze back to Jesus?

NOTICES

Encouragement Groups

Torbay

When Sunday evenings, 7:30 pm
Where Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive Torbay
Contact Pastor Pete 473 9390 or 021 0367 957
Meets for bring & share lunch, last Sunday of the month, **today**

Pinehill

When Thursdays – 1st, 3rd (and 5th) of the month, 7:00 pm
Where Bruners' home, 18A Ballymore Drive Pinehill
Contact Pastor Dave 022 477 4978

Lord's Supper and Fellowship Meal

When 1st Sunday of the month, next: 4th of August, *next Sunday*

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 14th of August (2nd and 4th Wed of the month)
Where Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

Preaching Programme

Just wanted to publish a heads-up of the Ministry of the Word on Sunday mornings over the next couple of months.

4th of August	Chris Burton	<i>Ephesians 2:1-10</i>
11th of August	Peter Boyd	<i>Bible overview 9</i>
18th of August	Peter Boyd	<i>Bible overview 10</i>
25th of August	Peter Boyd	<i>Bible overview 11</i>

NB: During September Pastor Pete & Janet are on annual leave visiting Europe and the UK and catching up with their daughter who lives in London. Thanks to Ian Grant and David Bruner who will cover preaching.

1st of Sep	Ian Grant	<i>James 4:11-5:6</i>
8th of Sep	Ian Grant	<i>James 5:7-12</i>
15th of Sep	Ian Grant	<i>James 5:13-20</i>
22nd of Sep	David Bruner	<i>Bible overview 12</i>
29th of Sep	David Bruner	<i>Bible overview 13</i>

Grace Theological College – *equip yourself for service*

Please note the Course Offerings for the second Semester are now available. Check the back table for information and take the opportunity to deepen your faith and strengthen your gifts in His service.

Mission to Fiji

What A great opportunity to join the third GPCNZ Youth/Young Adults mission trip to Fiji
When December 2019, dates to be confirmed *Details on back table*

Session News/Mission Support

Support for family in Asia

They have recently shared about their return to outreach ministry in a key part of Asia and the leadership has agreed that we should commit to contribute to their support at \$200 per month out of our Mission Fund beginning 1st of August.

Please keep this family in your prayers and see Malcolm if you want to receive their prayer news.

Men's ministry

- What** Men...encouraging men...reaching men (young & not so young)
Looking at the issues and challenges facing men today in light of the Gospel of Christ.
- When** Thursday the 8th of August, 7:30 pm, (monthly 2nd Thursday),
- Where** TBA
- Contact** Pastor Dave 022 477 4978

Women's Ministry

- What** *Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship – all ages*
Looking together at “The Coming King: Study of Mark’s Gospel, chapters 1-8” by Tim Chester.
- When** Thursday 8th of August, 7:15 p.m. for a 7:30 start, to finish by 8:30 p.m. (2nd and 4th Thursday of each month)
- Where** TBA

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 4th 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	Christine and Ariel	Dennis van Bemmelen	Dennis, Ian and Tom	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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Ask questions: shorepres.org.nz/connect