



## **Welcome to Online Worship**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Celebration of the  
Lord's Supper**

A Congregation of Grace Presbyterian  
Church of New Zealand



# Welcome to Shore Presbyterian Church

## Call to Worship Revelation 22:1-5 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

## Prayer of adoration and approach

### Song of Adoration<sup>2</sup> & Praise *How Can I Keep from Singing?*

Author: Robert Lowry

My life flows on in endless song  
Above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
That hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing,  
It finds an echo in my soul.

How can I keep from singing?

*No storm can shake my inmost calm*

*While to that Rock I'm clinging.*

*Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,*

*How can I keep from singing?*

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<sup>1</sup> All passages of Scripture taken from the English Standard Version.

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

What though my joys and comforts die?  
I know my Saviour liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.

*No storm can shake my inmost calm  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
How can I keep from singing?*

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
A fountain ever springing;  
All things are mine since I am his,  
How can I keep from singing?

*No storm can shake my inmost calm  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
How can I keep from singing?*

### **Pastoral Prayer**

***Please feel free to send a text through on 021 0367 957 or use the sidebar chat to send a request (just to Pastor Pete) or unmute your mic to share live.***

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** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 *Steve*

### **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.

## **Song of preparation for hearing God's Word**

### **This Is My Father's World**

Author: Maltbie Babcock

This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres  
This is my Father's world  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,  
The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white,  
Declare their Maker's praise  
This is my Father's world  
He shines in all that's fair  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass  
He speaks to me everywhere

This is my Father's world.  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet  
This is my Father's world  
The battle is not done  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied  
And earth and heav'n be one.

**Message** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *"The Brightest Future"*

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

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

## **INTRODUCTION**

**Is there hope?**

**The significance of grief**

**The four realities of the Christian hope**

**I. RETURN**

**a. Personal**

**b. Visible**

**c. Glorious**

**d. With authority**

**II. RESURRECTION**

**III. RAPTURE**

**IV. REUNION**

**V. APPLICATION**

**a. Labour**

**b. Holiness**

**c. Mission**

**d. Assurance**

**The Lord's Supper *Who is this for?*** Jesus himself has appointed this means of remembering His death on the cross and the benefits that come to us. It is an opportunity to feed on Him by faith and to be strengthened as His followers. Therefore, it is appropriate that only those who are truly Christians should participate. That is, those who profess faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord, who are baptised into His church and who seek to live obedient lives. If this does not describe you, we encourage you not to take the bread or wine but to use the opportunity to consider the things you have heard in today's service and to consider the claims of Christ and what they mean for you. You may find some help in one of the prayers printed on the insert sheet. If you have questions about these things, please contact Pastor Peter.

### **Corporate prayer of assurance and thanksgiving**

*Psalm 103:1-5, 8-19*

**Leader** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**People** **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,**

**Leader** who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

**People** **who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

**Leader** The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**People** **He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

**Leader** He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**People** **For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;**

**Leader** as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

**People** **As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.**

**Leader** For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**People** As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like flower of the field;

**Leader** for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

**ALL** *But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

**Prayer** Paul Burton

## **Silent Prayers for use during the Lord's Supper**

**Prayer of uncertainty** *God, I don't even know if you exist or if I'm just talking to myself. If you are real, please help me to come to know you. Open my heart and my mind to consider the truth claims of Jesus who is called the Christ. Help me to see both my need for you and how Jesus is the provision for that need. Give me the answers I need and dissolve any dishonest objections that I hold to your existence Amen.*

**Prayer for those searching for truth** *Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.*

**Prayer of belief** *Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Saviour. Amen.*

**Prayer of commitment** *Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.*

**Prayer for those struggling with sin** *Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfilment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.*

**Prayer for the believer** *Father, I come now to your table, to partake of Christ's body and blood in holy communion. I ask that you would search my heart and show me my failings and sins so that I may repent and turn to embrace your promises anew. Although I am unworthy, you have made me worthy. Though I am a sinner, you have taken away my sins by your very own body and blood. May you be glorified in our partaking of your sacrament. Amen.*



## **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

## **BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup> 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 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

1. Why is it important that Paul recognizes the reality of grief in this life? How is the sense of grief a mark of life in this world? What difference is the Christian hope meant to make? Is that actually your experience? Why or why not?
2. There are many confusing views about the return of Christ in the Church. What particularly confuses you?
3. What does this passage say about “rapture” (see “caught up” in verse 17)? How is this meant to encourage believers rather than worry or confuse them?
4. Sometimes we struggle with certainty regarding our own future. Think about words like, “those who have fallen asleep” (verse 14), “the dead in Christ” (verse 16), “a cry of command” (verse 16) and “since we believe that Jesus died and rose again” (verse 14) – how do these all give us a personal assurance?
5. How important is bodily resurrection and has it sometimes been underplayed in the Church?
6. Does it make a difference to how we live now? Should it make a difference to our view of ourselves, our bodies, the earth and others? How?

## 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** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, next: 5<sup>th</sup> of September, *today online*

### Special Congregational Meeting

We will be holding a brief meeting straight after worship on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September in order for the Leadership to share some important information as we go forward as a Church family. We will include the folk who are on Zoom that morning also.

***Postponed until we can meet in person.***

### 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.

**When** 7:00 pm, 8<sup>th</sup> of Sep (monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)

***Please join us on Zoom for a catch up and for Chris Burton to lead us through the wonder of Luke 15:1-7 – "The Parable of the Lost Sheep"***

**Contact** Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

### 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 26<sup>th</sup> of September,

**Where** Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

**Contact** Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

## Shore Presbyterian Church Family Camp

- What** A weekend of fun, fellowship, and growth  
**Where** Campbell Park Christian Camp, Mangawhai Heads  
**When** Friday evening the 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2021

## Prayer Meeting

- When** 7:15, 22<sup>nd</sup> of September (4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the month)  
**Where** Boyd's place, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

## Support for children in the School in Nepal

A number of folk have enquired about how to provide that support. You can give your funds into the Shore Pres Account, clearly marked for **Hasta Memorial School Scholarship** and the Treasurer will arrange to forward those funds for you. It is \$45 per month. Thanks for your support for this great cause. Please ask Joao and Tania Petreceli for more information.

## 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, 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct. (last Saturday, each 2<sup>nd</sup> month)  
**Where** *The Stoned Cow Café* in Browns Bay (used to be the post office)  
<https://www.thestonedcow.co.nz/>

## Important Political Matters

The freedom to preach the Gospel in New Zealand is coming under serious and deceptive attack. Of particular concern is the proposed **Hate Speech Legislation** and the ban on **Conversion Therapy**. Submissions on this last one close 8<sup>th</sup> of September, please consider making a simple submission.

***Above all Pray.***

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### ***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 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](mailto:petethepastor@shorepres.org.nz)) or with our Church Treasurer Miriam Burden ([imaburden2@gmail.com](mailto:imaburden2@gmail.com)).



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