



## **Welcome to Online Worship**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER 2021**

### **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

A Congregation of Grace Presbyterian  
Church of New Zealand



# Welcome to Shore Presbyterian Church

## Call to Worship Luke 4:18,19<sup>1</sup>

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.”

## Prayer of adoration and the Lord's Prayer

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever, Amen.

## Song of Adoration<sup>2</sup> & Praise *O Come O Come Emmanuel*

Author: Anonymous

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave

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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.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, desire of nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind  
Bid envy strife and sorrows cease  
Fill all the world with heaven's peace

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **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** John 1:1-18

### **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.

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

### *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,  
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.*

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*

## **Message** Preparing for Christmas 1

*“Jesus the Prophet – Light to our Darkness”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions, next page

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **Westminster Confession Of Faith**

##### **Chapter VIII Of Christ the Mediator**

I. It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man; the **Prophet, Priest,** and **King**; the Head and Saviour of his Church; the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world; unto whom he did, from all eternity give a people to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

##### **Shorter Catechism Number 23**

**Question** What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?

**Answer** Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the offices of a **prophet**, of a **priest**, and of a **king**, both in his state of humiliation and exaltation.

##### **Heidelberg Catechism Question and Answer 31**

**Question** Why is he called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**Answer** Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be

- our chief **prophet** and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance;
- our only high **priest** who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father;
- and our eternal **king** who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

- I. THE NEED OF A PROPHET
- II. THE ANSWER IN JESUS
- III. REVEALER BEFORE HIS COMING
- IV. REVEALED IN HIS COMING
- V. REVEALED AT HIS COMING
- VI. REVEALED THROUGH HIS CHURCH
  - A. By Word and Spirit
  - B. So Listen to Him
  - C. To One Another
  - D. For the World

## CONCLUSION

**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 page 7. If you have questions about these things, please contact Pastor Peter.

## **Profession of Faith** *The Apostle's Creed*<sup>3</sup>

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic<sup>4</sup> church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

## **Prayer at the Lord's Table** Paul Burton

### **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

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<sup>3</sup> The Apostle's Creed represents the earliest and most widespread expression of faith among Christians throughout the history of the Church.

<sup>4</sup> The term "catholic" here means "worldwide" and "universal" in regards to the church and is not referring to any particular denomination.

## **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** *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!

*CHORUS 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  
*CHORUS All glory be to Christ our king!...*

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!  
*CHORUS All glory be to Christ our king!...*

## BENEDICTION<sup>5</sup>

### Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

**Readings** John 1:1-18; Deuteronomy 18:15; Matthew 17:5;  
Hebrews 1:1-4 plus Westminster Confession of Faith VIII:1,  
Shorter Catechism 23, Heidelberg Catechism 31

1. Do you find those three categories in understanding the person and work of Christ – prophet, priest, and king - helpful? How? Discuss how they are inseparable realities – e.g., in the cross.
2. What is prophecy and why do we need it? Think about the Fall and its impact on our minds. Think about Western Culture in particular. How does this broaden our understanding and joy in what Christmas celebrates?
3. How has God revealed Himself through time? What, or who, is His ultimate revelation? How do we now have that?
4. How is Jesus the Prophet par excellence? Discuss Matthew 17:5. What is His message? How does He differ from all other prophets?
5. What does this all require of us as individuals and as the church?
6. What does it mean for you today to “listen to Him”?

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<sup>5</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.

## 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 December, **TODAY**

### Annual General Meeting

Straight after worship, online, today, the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. Key items to be discussed:

- the approval of the Budget,
- approval of Pulpit Committee and,
- discussion around worshipping at Red-Light settings.

*All related documents will have been emailed to you.*

### Sunday Picnic – Today

Now that we can meet up outdoors in groups of 25 we can picnic after Church today. For those who are able let's plan to meet at Long Bay, somewhere between the playground and the second car park from 12:30.

### Men's ministry

**What** Men...encouraging men...reaching men (young & not so young)  
**When** 6:00 pm, 8<sup>th</sup> of Dec (monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday), **this week**  
**Contact** Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

***We will meet up for our final gathering this year at Long Bay for Bible Study and dinner. BYO takeaways/dinner and chair. Pastor Pete will look for a covered spot and set up a table. Phone, or text him when you get there.***

## Prayer Meeting

**When** 7:15, 24<sup>th</sup> of December (4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the month)

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

## Shore Pres Ladies Christmas Celebration

*Jesus is the Light of the pandemic. Finding hope in the birth of Jesus.*

You are invited to a **Christmas Progressive Lunch** on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December

- Join us for Starters and Main at the Boyd's
- Dessert at the Goodenough's

**Time** 1:00 p.m.

There will be a time for sharing on how the Lord has blessed and helped you during this pandemic. Please also join us for a secret Santa gift exchange, gift should cost no more than \$10.

**RSVP** by the 4<sup>th</sup> of December to [sharmini.paddick@gmail.com](mailto:sharmini.paddick@gmail.com)

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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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