



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 22nd OF MAY 2022

A Congregation of Grace Presbyterian
Church of New Zealand



Welcome to Shore Presbyterian Church

Call to Worship Psalms 103:15-19¹

¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass;

he flourishes like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting
to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,

¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

¹⁹ The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

Prayer of adoration and approach

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.**²

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

² Adapted from the Anglican Prayer Book

Song of Adoration³ & 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,
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

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

Sacrament of Infant Baptism

We rejoice to receive and recognise Thomas and Ariel Wilson's daughter Hanya Seraphina as an infant member⁴ of the church of Jesus Christ as she is given the sign and seal of baptism.

Scripture Readings for Baptism

Genesis 17:7

And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

Acts 2:38, 39

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴ "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

⁴ Technically, an infant member is a "non-communing" member, which means that an infant of believing parents is viewed as a member of the covenant community, with all the Gospel blessings and privileges of that membership, but they do not yet participate in the Lord's Supper (communion), until they profess their own personal age-appropriate faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Baptismal vows

1. Do you heartily believe God's covenant promise to be your God and the God of your children, and thus present Hanya for holy baptism as a sign and a seal that she belongs to the covenant family of God?

Answer: *We do*

2. Knowing that you are saved through faith in Christ, not through anything you have done or ever will do, but simply through your faith in Christ's finished work on Calvary's cross – will you encourage Hanya as soon as she is able to comprehend its significance to acknowledge personally her own faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to become a full member of the Church, serving God faithfully in its fellowship?

Answer: *With God's help we will*

3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate Hanya to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace to raise her in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, to pray for and with her, to teach her the truth of God's Word, to keep her in the house of God and with God's people, and to be faithful in your home life for Christ as you live it before her so that by God's grace she will personally and always love, serve and follow Him?

Answer: *With God's help we do*

Congregational vow

Do you receive Hanya Seraphina Wilson as an infant member of this church, and promise to surround her with Christian love, to pray for her, and to set an example before her of genuine Christian faith and virtue, so that she will early in life know the reality of personal salvation and rich fellowship in the kingdom of God? **Answer:** *With God's help we do*

Baptism and Prayer

Song of Blessing *The Aaronic Blessing (from Numbers 6:24-26)*

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

Baptismal Song *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Author: Thomas O. Chisholm

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

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 Genesis 17:1-14 (Church Bible 12)

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

Yet not I but through Christ in me

City Alight 2018

What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
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Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

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 (p13) for further information about the offering.

Message Genesis 17:1-14 *“God’s Promises Displayed”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION

I. GOD HAS ALWAYS ACTED IN COVENANTAL GRACE

II. THE SAME GRACE COMES IN CHRIST

III. BAPTISM AS A SIGN

IV. PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY

A. For parents

- 1. Privilege**
- 2. Responsibility**

B. For the baptized

- 1. Privilege**
- 2. Responsibility**

V. CONCLUSION – Security and Improvement

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*

BENEDICTION⁵

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Genesis 17:1-14

1. R. C Sproul says, that, “the promises of God to His beloved people in Jesus Christ are on brilliant display when the sacrament of baptism is administered.” How do you see that and experience His challenges and encouragements anew when you witness baptism?
2. Consider, as we have studied the Book of Acts and the advance of the Gospel, these household baptisms, see; Acts 16:14-15 and 31-34. How do they reflect God’s view of and commitment to a whole household when parents belong to Him? How is this consistent with His workings through biblical history?

⁵ 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.

3. What is baptism saying about the children? How is this a help and encouragement to parents? What are the responsibilities of the parents?
4. What is baptism saying to the children who are baptised? How is this a help and encouragement to them? What are the responsibilities of the children who are baptized? In this context, what do you think apostasy means? How does the story of Esau provide a challenge? (Hebrews 12:15-17)
5. Think about the vow we as a congregation make at an infant baptism. Regardless of your view on infant baptism itself, do you think this a worthy commitment? Discuss how we might improve upon our commitment to the little ones and their parents.
6. We have this past week witnessed the sacrament of baptism, which reminds us of our own baptism. What then does it mean to “improve our baptism” (see Larger Catechism 167)? How can we do this and also help each other?

Q. 167. How is our baptism to be improved by us?

A. The needful but much neglected duty of improving our baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptised, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavouring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptised by the same Spirit into one body.

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: 5th of June

Men's Ministry

What Men...encouraging men...reaching men (young & not so young)
When From 6:30 pm, 8th of June (monthly 2nd Wednesday)
Where TBA
Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

Prayer Meeting

When 7:15, 25th of May (4th Wed of the month), **this week**
Where Boyd's home, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

Welcoming Geoff and Jaia

Geoff Vucetich is training for Gospel Ministry in Grace Presbyterian Church, studying at Grace College. For 3 months Geoff and Jaia will be joining us for pastoral ministry experience. We look forward to sharing life and ministry with them and will introduce them in morning worship next Sunday.

Professions of Faith

On Sunday the 5th of June, we look forward to two of our young people making public Profession of their Faith in Christ – Joshua Burton and Rebecca van Bemmelen (with baptism). We give thanks for God's covenantal faithfulness to them and their families.

Combined Northern Presbytery Worship

- What** To instal Lenny Long to Pastoral Ministry
- When** 3:30 pm, Sunday, 3rd of June, followed with a celebration braai/dinner. **Note date change.**
- Where** Takanini School Hall, entrance off Old Park Place

News regarding the Brazilian Missionaries coming to Shore

Because of Covid and border restrictions, for a number of years we have been waiting and planning for Pastor Marcos Oliveira dos Santos and his wife Edenise and children Lucas, Stephanie, and André, to come to New Zealand and be hosted here at Shore Pres. They are to serve with us for a couple of years as they learn language and culture. Now with the borders opening up and the provision of a new interim visa we may be welcoming them in the next couple of months. Praise the Lord.

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 29th of May

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 Debbie Port	Dennis	Dennis, Keith Knapp and Justin Port	Dennis, Keith, Justin & 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 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).

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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