

# **Welcome to Worship**

SUNDAY 5th OF JUNE 2022

Celebration of the Lord's Supper



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.

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 103:8-12<sup>1</sup>

<sup>8</sup> The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> He will not always chide,

nor will he keep his anger for ever.

- <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
- <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,
   so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

### Prayer of adoration, confession and approach

Songs of Adoration<sup>2</sup> & Praise When Peace like a River

Author: Horatio Spafford

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,

When sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,

"It is well, it is well with my soul."

It is well (It is well), With my soul (With my soul) It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,

And hath shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well (It is well), With my soul (With my soul) It is well, it is well, with my soul.

My sin, Oh the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Oh my soul!

It is well (It is well), With my soul (With my soul) It is well, it is well, with my soul.

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

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

And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, Even so, it is well with my soul.

> It is well (It is well), With my soul (With my soul) It is well, it is well, with my soul.

#### What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Author: Charles Crozat Converse | Joseph Medlicott Scriven What a friend we have in Jesus All our sins and griefs to bear What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer O what peace we often forfeit O what needless pain we bear All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer

#### Interlude

Have we trials and temptations Is there trouble anywhere We should never be discouraged Take it to the Lord in prayer Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share Jesus knows our every weakness Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden Cumbered with a load of care Precious Saviour still our refuge Take it to the Lord in prayer Do thy friends despise forsake thee Take it to the Lord in prayer In His arms He'll take and shield thee You will find a solace there Take it to the Lord in prayer

### **Confessing our 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.

#### **Professions of Faith**

We rejoice today in God's grace in Christ as two of our young people make 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.

### Personal Testimony Joshua

#### **Membership vows**

**1**. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except for His sovereign mercy?

**2.** Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Saviour of sinners, and do you rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

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

**3.** Do you resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavour to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

**4.** Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

**5.** Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and commit yourself to the purity and peace of the Church?

### **Congregational vow**

Do you as a congregation receive Oliver Burton and Rebecca van Bemmelen in Christian love, and promise, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, to strengthen and encourage them in their faith, and to live out your union with them in the peace of Christ? **Answer:** *We do* 

### **Baptism of Rebecca**

### Prayer and welcome by the elders

### Song of Praise Amazing Grace

Author: John Newton

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost, but now am found

T'was blind but now I see

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear And Grace, my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares We have already come.

T'was grace that brought us safe thus far And grace will lead us home.

When we've been there ten thousand years Bright shining as the sun We've no less days to sing God's praise, Than when we first begun.

### Mission Matters Hasta Memorial School

#### **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 18:1-17 (Church Bible p927)

### 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 Acts 18:1-17 "Keep on Going"

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

#### INTRODUCTION

- I. THE GOSPEL AND THE CITIES
- II. PAUL IN CORINTH

#### III. JESUS' ENCOURAGEMENT NOT TO GIVE UP

A. A Very Specific Promise to Paul

- i. Purpose
- ii. Presence
- iii. Protection
- B. A Promise to the Church
- C. A Promise to the Christian
- D. A Promise to those Professing Faith (today)

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 14. If you have questions about these things, please contact Pastor Peter.

### Song of preparation for the Lord's Supper

Abide With Me (verses 1-3) Author: Henry F. Lyte, 1847 Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens. Lord with me abide. When other helpers fail, And comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

Swift to its close Ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, Its glories pass away; Change and decay In all around I see; O Thou who changest not, Abide with me!

Thou on my head In early youth didst smile; And though rebellious And perverse meanwhile, Thou hast not left me, Oft as I left Thee, On to the close, O Lord, abide with me!

### Prayer at the Lord's Table

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

### Closing Song Abide With Me (verses 4-6)

Author: Henry F. Lyte, 1847 I need Thy presence Every passing hour. What but Thy grace Can foil the tempter's power? Who like Thyself My guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!

I fear no foe With Thee at hand to bless: Ills have no weight, And tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, If Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross Before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom, And point me to the skies; Heav'n's morning breaks, And earth's vain shadows flee: In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

#### **BENEDICTION<sup>5</sup>**

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

#### **Encouragement Group Discussion Questions**

#### Scripture Reading Acts 18:1-17

- 1. See Paul's general strategy of bringing the Gospel to the main city centres. What does that mean for us today? Think about the increased urbanisation of the world. Think about what this means in New Zealand. How should we think and pray and act towards the cities of the world including our own?
- 2. What was Corinth like? Why might Paul have gone there with "weakness and in fear and much trembling" (see 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)? How do we share the same fears when we look out over the task before us as the Church of Jesus Christ?
- 3. What is the wonderful encouragement that those words in Acts 18:9,10 bring to Paul? How did God show Himself faithful to His promise?
- 4. How do those words also then bring a general encouragement to us today as the Church, as individual believers, and as we face every force arrayed against us to stop our faith and our witness to Christ?



#### **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 June, *today* 

#### **Men's Ministry**

What Men...encouraging men...reaching men (young & not so young)
 When From 6:30 pm, 8<sup>th</sup> of June (monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday), *this week* Where Pastor Pete's home
 Contact Pastor Pete 021 0367 957

#### Prayer Meeting

When7:15, 22<sup>nd</sup> of June (4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the month)WhereBoyd's home, 15 Summit Drive, Torbay

#### Combined Northern Presbytery Worship

What To instal Lenny Long to Pastoral Ministry
 When 3:30 pm, Sunday, 3rd of July, 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.

#### Lady's Ministry

What	Mid-winter Brunch
When	Saturday, 2nd of July, 11.am
Where	A'ruma Malaysian Restaurant, 88 Te Oneroa Way, Torbay,
Cost	\$10 per person (the rest is subsidized)
Contact	Please RSVP by the 24th of June - sharmini.paddick@gmail.com

#### Serving Roster for next Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of June

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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	Dorette Knoeson and Lydia Song	Dennis	Dennis, and Song Family	Dennis, Song Family & 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).

### 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.

## 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.



#### **PASTOR PETER BOYD**

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