



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY 16th OF OCTOBER 2022

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 Psalms 61:1-3¹

¹ Hear my cry, O God,
listen to my prayer;
² from the end of the earth I call to you
when my heart is faint.
Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I,
³ for you have been my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy.

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Approach

Songs of Adoration² & Praise

I will sing the wondrous story

Words by Francis H. Rowley 1854-1952

I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me;
How He left the realms of glory
For the cross of Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

I was lost, but Jesus found me,
Found the sheep that went astray,
Raised me up and gently led me
Back into the narrow way.

Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

Days of darkness still come o'er me,
Sorrow's path I often tread

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.

But His presence still is with me;
By His guiding hand I'm led
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

He will keep me till the river
Rolls its waters at my feet;
Then He'll bear me safely over
All my joys in Him complete
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

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 Ebenezer³;
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;

³ Ebenezer is a name meaning "stone of help" and refers to a stone that was set up by the Israelites to remember a victory over the Philistines by God's help, when previously they had suffered defeat, see 1 Samuel 7:12. The memorial stone represented God's merciful help to His people; it also therefore represents a fresh beginning, a reversal of course for God's people. It also says something important about God's commitment to His redeemed people: His mercies are everlasting; his covenant is forever. As we sing these words it says the same for us. We remember that God has shown us His mercies and faithfulness and so we are strengthened and encouraged to continue to walk by faith in Him and His grace as we go into the unknown future.

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 I'll be 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.

Time of Repentance and Confession *Isaiah 53:5-6*

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Assurance of Faith *Psalms 103:8-19* *Responsive reading*

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 a 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.

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 Luke 18:1-8 (Church Bible p946)

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 (p9) for further information about the offering.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)⁴

Out of the depths I cry to You
In darkest places I will call
Incline Your ear to me anew
And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Were You to count my sinful ways
How could I come before Your throne
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze
I stand redeemed by grace alone

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You, surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied*

So put Your hope in God alone
Take courage in His power to save
Completely and forever won
By Christ emerging from the grave

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You, surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied*

Now He has come to make a way
And God Himself has paid the price
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice

⁴ 'I will wait for You' is based on Psalm 130, one of the great Psalms of distress and longing for God's intervention in our lives. A significant number of the Psalms articulate the tension of knowing that God is faithful and caring towards us, and yet we often experience great pain and adverse circumstances that would seem to suggest otherwise. The cry of the Psalm and of this song is a response to this tension: of being willing to trust, to wait on Him, to live with the pain with our eyes still fixed on him, knowing that He will never leave or forsake us. It is a powerful thing to look to God with trust and patience through the hard times we will all face at some point in our lives.

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You, surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight*

*Oh I will wait for You, I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You, surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight*

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You, surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied*

Message Luke 18:1-8 *“Prayer and the father heart of God”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

INTRODUCTION

I. THE CALL TO PERSEVERE

II. THE SHAMELESS JUDGE AND A HELPLESS WIDOW

III. THE GRACIOUS GOD AND THE HELPLESS BELIEVER

IV. WILL JESUS FIND FAITH WHEN HE COMES?

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

BENEDICTION⁵

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.

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Luke 18:1-8

1. Do you find persevering in the Christian life a challenge? In what ways? Share and discuss what these things are as we often find that we have common struggles.
2. What is the relationship between prayer and persevering?
3. How are we like the widow in this story? Compare Luke 18:13
4. How is God different to this judge? How do we tend to view Him and our relationship with Him more like the Judge and the widow? Think about how He has provided Christ and what that means. How should these truths make a difference to our view of God and of ourselves before Him?
5. Share how you feel about prayer and how you can encourage one another in this significant matter.

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).

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, 7:00-9:00 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: 6th of November

Farewell to Pete and Janet – Sunday lunch

Pastor Pete's last Sunday with us is the 30th of October. There will be a farewell lunch after the morning service. There will also be others attending for this occasion. Please feel free to invite anyone you know who might appreciate the opportunity to come say good-bye also.

Farewell to Janet

What Opportunity for the ladies to say good-bye to Janet
Where Chands Indian Restaurant Rothesay Bay
When Wednesday the 26th of October at 6.00pm.

Please RSVP by 21st of October to sharmini.paddick@gmail.com

Covenant Reformation Conference 2022

What *The heartbeat of the Reformation*
When Saturday October 29th, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm,
Where 77 Rogers Rod, Manurewa

More info in flyer on back table

Men's Ministry

Due to Pastor Pete's coming departure from Shore Pres this ministry will be in recess until further notice.

Prayer Meeting

Due to Pastor Pete's coming departure from Shore Pres this ministry will be in recess until further notice.

Newest GPCNZ Church Plant - Hamilton

A new plant is beginning in Hamilton in 2023 lead by Bruwer Vroon from Gisborne. Please be in prayer for Bruwer, Anna and their children as they make this transition. Tell folk you know in the Waikato who are looking for a Church. And if you are able to help financially, please send contributions to Grace Hamilton, 12-3170-0107007-00. There are reminder bookmarks on the back table.

Bye Bye Bike Ride

We will be having a day bike trip as a fun way of spending time with Pete and Janet before they go. Peter and Janet love bike riding, so what better way to spend time with them. The Ride is about 48kms. It is a flat ride for most of the time so you don't have to be super fit to attend!

When: Saturday October 29th.

Where: Paeroa to Waihi and back.

What to bring:

A mountain Bike (as we will be on gravel and mud)

Head lamp or bike torch for the tunnel.

Spare clothes (in case you get rained on), some snacks.

If you need help sorting out a ride, contact Chris Burton on 0223454131 or chris@burtonfamily.co.nz

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 23rd of October

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	Grace Ng and Sophia Burton	Dennis	Dennis and Burton Family	Dennis, Burton Family and 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.*



PASTOR PETER BOYD

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