



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
8TH OF JANUARY 2023

The Lord's Day

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 Micah 7:18-20¹

[18] Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?

He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.

[19] He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.

You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

[20] You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

Prayer of Adoration

Songs of Adoration² & Praise *Cornerstone*

Authors: Edward Mote, Reuben Morgan

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name (**REPEAT**)
Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil
Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.

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

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

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
Faultless stand before the throne.

Christ alone; cornerstone

Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love

Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all

Profession of Faith Westminster Short Catechism³

Q14. What is sin?

Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Q17. Into what state did the fall bring mankind?

The fall brought mankind into a state of sin and misery

Confession of Sin Isaiah 53:6

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 Pardon Isaiah 1:18

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

³ *The Westminster Shorter Catechism* (with the full Confession of Faith and Larger Catechism) are held by the GPCNZ as a true and helpful summary of the teaching of Scripture.

God and God Alone

Words and Music by Phill McHugh Copyright 1984 River Oaks Music Co. (BMI)

God and God alone

Created all these things we call our own

From the mighty to the small

The Glory in them all

Is God's and God's alone

God and God alone

Reveals the truth of all we call unknown

All the best and worst of man

Won't change the Master's plan

It's God's and God's alone

God and God alone

Is fit to take the universe's throne

Let everything that lives

Reserve its truest praise

For God and God alone

God and God alone

Will be the joy of our eternal home

He will be our one desire

Our hearts will never tire

Of God and God alone.

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 Psalm 25 (Church Bible p459)

Dedication of offering and prayer for children ⁴

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 for further information about the offering.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word - As the Deer

Martin J. Nystrom, 1981

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after You
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.
You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

I want you more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye.
You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though you are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything.
You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

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 an elder or with our Church Treasurer Miriam Burden (imaburden2@gmail.com).

Message Psalm 25 *“Sovereign Grace for Troubled Hearts”*

- 1) Knowing our sin makes our need for a Savior raw and real.
- 2) We must plead God's character alone since only He can deliver.
- 3) We must pursue humility and fear of the Lord.

Closing Song ***You Alone Can Rescue***

Author: Matt Redman

Who, oh Lord, could save themselves,
Their own sin could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your Grace is deeper still

Who, oh Lord, could save themselves,
Their own sin could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your Grace is deeper still

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

You, oh Lord, have made a way
The great divide You heal
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
Yes, your love goes further still

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise
You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

BENEDICTION⁵ 1 Peter 5:10

May the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Psalm 25

- 1) When did you first come to know your sin? Is acknowledgement and confession of sin part of your daily life? If not, how could it become a part?
- 2) Are there things besides God's gracious character than you are tempted to place your hope of salvation? What are they?
- 3) What do you think "friendship with the Lord" means?
- 4) The Psalmist speaks of waiting for the Lord (a common theme in Scripture). How is it challenging for you right now to wait on the Lord?

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.

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: 5th of February

Men’s Ministry and Prayer Meeting

These ministries are in recess. Be on the lookout for them to resume after the holiday season.

Order of Service and Notices

Pastor Russell is ready to receive and organize any weekly notices. If you have any, please contact him at russellshorepres@gmail.com or 0224 1234 60

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 15th of January

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	Ingrid Goodenough Grace Ng	Dennis	Dennis, Paul Goodenough, and Santos Family	Dennis, Santos 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.*



Elder Paul Burton

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