



Welcome to Worship

Sunday,
1st Of January 2023

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 Isaiah 60:1-6¹

[¹] Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. [²] For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. [³] And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

[⁴] Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. [⁵] Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. [⁶] A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Approach

Scripture Reading 1 *Luke 2:22-38 (Church Bible 857)*

Song of Adoration² *There is a Redeemer*

Authors: Keith Green

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Oh, for sinners slain.

*Thank you oh my Father,
For giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit,
'Til the work on earth is done.*

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.

When I stand in glory,
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that holy place.

*Thank you oh my Father,
For giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit,
'Til the work on earth is done.*

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 Matthew 2:1-21 (Church Bible p 807)

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

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Authors: Henry J. van Dyk

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Prayer of Illumination

Message Matthew 2:1-21 “Still with us”

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

Immanuel is still with us:

- 1) Immanuel is still with us *in joy*.

- 2) Immanuel is still with us *in war*.

- 3) Immanuel is still with us *covenantally, forever*.

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 11 If you have questions about these things, please contact one of the Elders.

Song of preparation for the Lord's Supper *What Child Is This*

Author: William C. Dix

What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come peasant, king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
Raise, raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The Babe, the Son of Mary

Profession of Faith *The Apostles Creed*³

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven,

³ The Apostles' Creed dates to the time shortly after Jesus' apostles and expresses the core tenets of the faith, held and taught by Jesus' apostles.

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy catholic 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

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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!

*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

*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!*

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!

*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!*

BENEDICTION⁴ Psalm 73:23-24,26

May God continually be with you and hold your right hand.
May He guide you with his counsel, and be the strength of your heart
and your portion forever.

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Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1-21

- 1) Does Jesus bring you more joy than anything else? What can you do to seek to increase your joy in Christ this year?
- 2) How do you currently sense spiritual warfare? What can you do to strengthen
- 3) What does it mean that God is with us “covenantally, forever”? How is this an encouragement to you?
- 4) Knowing that God is with us, what spiritual aspirations do you have for the new year? How will you pursue them, and stay on track?

⁴ 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.

⁵ **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).

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 will be in recess until further notice.

Bible reading plans

Bible reading plans are a great resource to have as we start the New Year. There are some printed copies of some yearly Bible reading plans on the table at the back of the hall.

There are also many options for reading plans which can be found in the following link: <https://www.ligonier.org/posts/bible-reading-plans>

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 8th 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	Julie Tupu-South, Nicki Sartori	Paul B.	Dennis, Ben Tupu, Paul Burton	Dennis, Ben Tupu and Volunteers	Volunteers

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.*



Elder Paul Burton

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