



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
19TH OF February, 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 *1 Timothy 1:17¹*

To the King of the Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

Confession of Sin *Romans 3:10-12*

“None is righteous, no, not one;

[11] no one understands;
no one seeks for God.

[12] All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.”

Assurance of Grace *1 Corinthians 15:3-4*

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Songs of Adoration² & 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,

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.

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

How Great Thou Art

Author: Carl Gustav Boberg

Oh Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed,

(Refrain)

Then sings my soul my Saviour, God, to Thee

How great thou art, how great thou art

Then sings my soul my Saviour, God, to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur

And see the brook and feel the gentle breeze,
(Refrain)

And when I think of God, his son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin,
(Refrain)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow with humble adoration
And then proclaim "My God how great Thou art!"
(Refrain)

Confession of Faith *Westminster Shorter Catechism*³

Q4. What is God?

God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being wisdom, power, holiness, goodness, justice and truth.

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.

Scripture Reading *Genesis 28:10-22* (Church Bible p.22)

³ Text is from *The Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English* by Douglas F. Kelly and Philip Rollinson

4 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).

Pastoral Prayer *(Pray the Lord's Prayer together at the end of the 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.

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.

Song of preparation for hearing God's Word

Speak O Lord

Authors: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.

Scripture Reading John 1:35-51 (Church Bible p.886)

Prayer of Illumination

Message John 1:35-51 *"Heaven Opened"*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

Jesus brings his disciples into immortal life in Christ by:

- 1) Calling them to follow him.
- 2) Recreating and reshaping their identity.
- 3) Opening Heaven.

Closing Song

The Servant King

Author: Graham Kendrick

From heaven you came, Helpless babe
Entered our world, Your glory veiled
Not to be served, but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

(Chorus)

*This is our God, the Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King*

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours,' He said

Chorus

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

Chorus

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

BENEDICTION⁵ *Hebrews 13:20–21*

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 John 1:35-51

- 1) What does it mean to follow Jesus? From what Scriptures do you base your answer?
- 2) Does the Bible indicate it is possible to be a Christian, and not be a disciple? Give justification for your answer.
- 3) Why does Jesus have the authority to determine our identity? If He does, how does this honestly settle with you? If He does how do we communicate this to our culture?
- 4) How do we see in Scripture man's attempt to gain immortality apart from, or in opposition to God? In what passages?
- 5) What is Jesus' reference to, and usage of, Genesis 28 saying about man's meeting place with God?

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 March

Prayer Meeting – Sundays, 10am

While we are away from Long Bay Primary, the church is invited to pray together at the Thomas family's home. If you need the address, ask Pastor Russell.

Ordination Service –Next Sunday, February 26th @ 5

Please make note that our worship will be pushed back one hour, and will begin at **5:00** next Sunday, largely to accommodate out of town travelers.

Shared meal after Ordination Service

If possible, please plan to stay afterward next Sunday and bring a plate to share to fellowship and celebrate together.

Notices

Please send any notices to Pastor Russell at russellshorepres@gmail.com or 0224123460

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 26th of February

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 Nicki Sartori	Dennis	Dennis And Burton Family	Dennis, Burton Family and Volunteers	N/A

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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