



## Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,  
27<sup>th</sup> of August, 2023

The Lord's Day

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service

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.**

## ***A Note about Children in Worship***

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." (Mt. 19:14). It might be a bit uncommon for children to be in worship for the duration of the service in the broader church today, but we are glad for them to be present. There is little of greater importance than learning to worship our God. Our children learn to worship, not by being absent from worship, but by being in worship. It could be stretching or uncomfortable at times for the congregation, or especially parents of squirming children. But we want to keep the big picture in view, and as a congregation, support and pray for God's Word to take deep root in the hearts of our children, and by His Spirit, produce fruit for His glory. We do not want to merely tolerate them, or merely keep our children quiet, but help them see and savour Jesus Christ.

## **Call to Worship**

*Psalm 100:4-5*

Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

## **Prayer of Invocation<sup>1</sup>**

### **Confession of Sin**

*Lamentations 1:20*

Look, O LORD, for I am in distress;  
my stomach churns;  
my heart is wrung within me,  
because I have been very rebellious.

### **Assurance of Grace**

*Lamentations 3:21-25*

[21] But this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:  
[22] The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;  
[23] they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
[24] "The LORD is my portion," says my soul,  
"therefore I will hope in him."  
[25] The LORD is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul who seeks him.

## **Songs of Adoration and 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.

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<sup>1</sup> An invocation is simply a prayer that calls upon God's presence, assistance, and blessing during worship.

He ever lives above,  
For me to intercede;  
His all redeeming 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*

## **Across The Lands**

*Author: Keith Getty*

You're the Word of God the Father  
From before the world began  
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet  
Has been fashioned by Your hand  
All creation holds together  
By the power of Your voice  
Let the skies declare Your glory  
Let the land and seas rejoice  
*You're the author of creation*  
*You're the Lord of ev'ry man*  
*And Your cry of love rings out*

*Across the lands*

Yet You left the gaze of angels  
Came to seek and save the lost  
And exchanged the joy of heaven  
For the anguish of a cross  
With a prayer You fed the hungry  
With a word You stilled the sea  
Yet how silently You suffered  
That the guilty may go free  
*You're the author of creation*  
*You're the Lord of ev'ry man*  
*And Your cry of love rings out*  
*Across the lands*

With a shout You rose victorious  
Wresting victory from the grave  
And ascended into heaven  
Leading captives in Your wake  
Now You stand before the Father  
Interceding for Your own  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
You are leading sinners home  
*You're the author of creation*  
*You're the Lord of ev'ry man*  
*And Your cry of love rings out*  
*Across the lands*

**Scripture Reading**            *1 Chronicles 16:8-36*            *(Church Bible p.347)*

## **Pastoral Prayer and Dedication of Offering <sup>2</sup>**

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

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### ***2 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](mailto:imaburden2@gmail.com)).

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.

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, which is why there is box by the door. Please see endnote for further information about the offering.

## **Song of Adoration and Praise**

### *Praise To The Lord, The Almighty*

*Author: Joachim Neander*

Praise to the Lord,  
The Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him,  
For he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
Now to his temple draw near;  
Praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,  
Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wings,  
Yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen  
How all your longings have been  
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord,  
Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
Surely his goodness  
And mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord,  
O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
Come now with praises before him.

Let the "Amen,"  
Sound from his people again,  
Gladly for aye we adore him.

## **Kids' Message and Prayer for our Children**

**Scripture Reading**                      *Micah 7:8-20*                      *(Church Bible p.780)*

## **Prayer of Illumination**

**Message**                      *Micah 7:8-20*                      "He Delights in Steadfast Love"  
*Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions*

Because He delights in steadfast love:

- Our iniquity is pardoned, cast into the depth of the sea
- He will *again* have compassion on us
- He will show faithfulness and steadfast love to us

## **Corporate Response of Thanksgiving**

### **Song of Response**

#### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

*Author: Thomas O. Chisholm*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father

There is no shadow of turning with Thee

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not

As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love  
*Great is Thy faithfulness*  
*Great is Thy faithfulness*  
*Morning by morning new mercies I see*  
*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*  
*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside  
*Great is Thy faithfulness*  
*Great is Thy faithfulness*  
*Morning by morning new mercies I see*  
*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*  
*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

### **BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>**                      *Deuteronomy 4:31*

For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

### **Encouragement Group Discussion Questions**

#### **Scripture Reading**                      *Micah 7:8-20*

1. The character of the Lord is multi-faceted and beyond description, but what might it mean concerning the core of his identity that “He *delights* in steadfast love”?
2. When he says, “He will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea,” what historical event was likely in view for OT Israel? In light of this, how does it give us hope and comfort today?
3. What does Micah (and the prophets in general) teach us about the depth of the Lord’s forgiveness and compassion?
4. How is his “faithfulness to Jacob” and “steadfast love to Abraham” fulfilled in the Church?
5. How can you grow in love for the church, God’s people, so that your love for the church better emulates the Father’s love for the church (His people)? (Specifically Shore Pres...)

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<sup>3</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.



## 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 (next Sunday)

**When:** first Sunday of every month; next—3<sup>rd</sup> of September.

### Prayer Mtg – Sundays, Fortnightly @ 7pm

Our regular prayer time is now fortnightly on Sundays at the Goodenough's home in Torbay. Please ask Paul or Ingrid, or Pastor Russell if you need the address. The next three will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of September, and 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

### Covenant Reformation Conference—28<sup>th</sup> Oct., 2023 – Covenant Church, Manurewa

“Join us for the Covenant Reformation Conference 2023! We will explore one of the essential theological foundations of the Reformers: Covenantal Theology. Though covenantal theology wasn't explicitly spoken of in the Reformation, it was the foundation of their thinking. Dr. Ian Smith will help us think through God's work through covenants and how they inform the means of grace that we enjoy today.”

*Additional Info:* - 9:30-5:00

- *With Dr. Ian Smith, Principal of Christ College, Sydney, Australia*
- *Morning tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea provided*
- *Free event, but donations accepted*
- *Registration and more info:*

*<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3DTqdlS2mdraw7x-ShOrna1ilpjExMWhpETHso4N-BUigkg/viewform>*

**Serving Roster for next Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September**

SHORE KID'S LEADER	CRECHE	KITCHEN & SHARED DINNER	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP	SUPERVISE PLAY GROUND
TBA	Volunteer	Santos Family & Nikki Sartori	Dennis Van B.	Dennis Van B & Santos Family	Same & 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 Russell our pastor to discuss them.*



Pastor Russell Thomas

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