



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
3rd of September, 2023

The Lord's Day

Lord's Supper 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 evening. 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 tolerate them, or merely keep our children quiet, but help them see and savour Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 8:3

The Lord fed your fathers in the wilderness, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Approach

Song of Adoration & Praise

His Mercy is More

Authors: Matt Boswell & Matt Papa

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
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Scripture Reading *Genesis 15:1-6 (Church Bible p.10)*

Pastoral Prayer with Dedication of Offering

This will normally include opportunity for you to share things you are thankful for or want to ask God for. Although 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.

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. Please see endnote for further information about the offering.¹

Song of Preparation for Hearing God's Word

Be Thou My Vision

Author: Dalan Forgaill

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

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).

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Kids Message and Prayer for our children

Scripture Reading *John 8:31-59* *(Church Bible p.894)*

Prayer of Illumination

Message *John 8:31-59* *"A Place in us for His Word?"*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

Big Idea – *If we are truly God's children, His Word will have a place in us.*

His Word must have a place in us, because:

- Faith becomes a reality through trusting God's Word

- Rejecting God's Word means we deny His Fatherhood

- If it does, we will never see death.

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.

(Institution of the Lord's Supper, Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 75,76²)

75. Q. How does the Lord's Supper signify and seal to you that you share in Christ's one sacrifice on the cross and in all His gifts?

A. In this way: Christ has commanded me and all believers to eat of this broken bread and drink of this cup in remembrance of Him. With this command He gave these promises: First, as surely as I see with my eyes the bread of the Lord broken for me and the cup given to me, so surely was His body offered for me and His blood poured out for me on the cross. Second, as surely as I receive from the hand of the minister and taste with my mouth the bread and the cup of the Lord as sure signs of Christ's body and blood, so surely does He Himself nourish and refresh my soul to everlasting life with His crucified body and shed blood.

Confess Together:

76. Q. What does it mean to eat the crucified body of Christ and to drink His shed blood?

A. First, to accept with a believing heart all the suffering and the death of Christ, and so receive forgiveness of sins and life eternal. Second, to be united more and more to His sacred body through the Holy Spirit, who lives both in Christ and in us. Therefore, although Christ is in heaven and we are on earth, yet we are flesh of His flesh and bone of His bones, and we forever live and are governed by one Spirit, as the members of our body are by one soul.

² The Heidelberg Catechism is a trusted Reformed catechism written in 1563 as a teaching tool for young people. It is known for its warm-hearted and personal tone.

Prayer at the Lord's Table

(Song of Reflection)

(While the elements are served use this song to reflect & quietly draw near to the Lord.)

"Turn Your Eyes"

Authors: George Romanacce, Kevin Winebarger, Nathan Stiff, Nic Trout

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace*

*Turn your eyes to the hillside
Where justice and mercy embraced
There the Son of God gave His life for us
And our measureless debt was erased*

CHORUS

*Jesus, to You we lift our eyes
Jesus, our glory and our prize
We adore You, behold You, our Savior ever true
Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to You*

*Turn your eyes to the morning
And see Christ the Lion awake
What a glorious dawn, fear of death is gone
For we carry His life in our veins*

*Turn your eyes to the heavens
Our King will return for His own
Every knee will bow, every tongue will shout,
'All glory to Jesus alone!'*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response

How Firm a Foundation

Author: John Rippon

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word
What more can He say than to you He hath said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled

Fear not, I am with thee; oh be not dismayed
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid

I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand

When through the deep waters I call thee to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie
My grace all sufficient shall be thy supply
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no never forsake

BENEDICTION³ *John 8:43,37 & Psalm 1:2-3*

May you hear the word of Christ, may it have a place in you, and be your delight; that you would be like a tree planted by streams of water which yields its fruit in its season, and whose leaf does not wither, that you would prosper in all you do.

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading John 8:31-59

1. We can all struggle for God's Word to have the place in us that it should have. Are there particular areas where it is difficult to believe him or obey him?
2. What was the "work of Abraham?"
3. How is Jesus the Word of God? How does He reveal God?
4. What effect does it have upon you that all people serve one of two masters, and belong to one of two kingdoms? How should this motivate us in prayer and evangelism?
5. How is Jesus' statement, "if anyone keeps my Word, he will never taste death," bring about despair then hope?

³ 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 (Today), next: 1st of October (first Sunday of every month)

Prayer Meeting—Fortnightly at the Goodenoughs, Sundays at 7:00pm (Today)

Our regular prayer meeting is fortnightly at the Goodenoughs. The next three are the 3rd and 17th of September, and 1st of October. Please ask Paul or Ingrid, or Pastor Russell if you need their address.

Covenant Reformation Conference—28th 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>

Congregational Meeting – 24th September, after the service

Please seek to be present. We will be voting on nominees for elder (Tom Wilson), and deacon (Dennis Van Bemmelen).

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 10th of September

SHORE KID'S LEADER	CRECHE	KITCHEN & AFTERNOON TEA	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP	SUPERVISE PLAY GROUND
TBA	Volunteer	Debbie Port & Sarah Thomas	Dennis	Dennis, Justin Port, & Thomas Family	Dennis, Justin, Thomas Family & Volunteers	N/A

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.*



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