



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
15th of October, 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.

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 4:3,5*

The Lord has set apart the godly for Himself; the Lord hears those who call to Him. Bring your offerings to Him and put your trust in the Lord.

Prayer of Invocation¹

Confession of Sin *Psalm 96:7b-9a; Hebrews 3:12*

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when you fathers put me to the test. Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

Assurance of Grace *Psalm 96:7a; Matthew 18:12-24*

For He is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. *(Jesus said):* "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

Songs of Thanksgiving for Grace

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

Author: CityAlight

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay

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

I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

Blessed Assurance

Author: Fannie Crosby

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine,
O what a foretaste of glory divine,
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song,

*Praising my Saviour, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Humble submission, joyful delight,
Visions of glory now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Humble submission, all is at rest
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Scripture Reading *Psalm 82* (*Church Bible p.492*)

Confession of Faith *Westminster Shorter Catechism 34*

Q. What is adoption?

A. Adoption is the act of God's free grace, by which we become His sons with all the rights and privileges of being His.

Song of Adoration and Praise

Rock of Ages

Authors: Augustus M. Toplady

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure;

Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to the cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Pastoral Prayer and Dedication of Offering ²

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.

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.

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).

Kids' Message and Prayer for our Children

Scripture Reading *John 10:22-42* (*Church Bible p.896*)

Prayer of Illumination

Message John 10:22-42 *"In The Shepherd's Secure Hand"*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

We must believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God because of His:

- Iron-clad hand as Shepherd. (26-29)
- Many good works. (25,32-33,37-38)
- Oneness with the Father (30-38)

Song of Response

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Author: George Matheson

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be
May richer, fuller be

O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be
May brighter, fairer be

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;

I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be
That morn shall tearless be

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be

BENEDICTION³ *Derived from John 10:27-28*

May you hear the Shepherd's voice, be known by Him, follow Him, and know that nothing can snatch you out of His hand.

Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

Scripture Reading *John 10:22-42*

1. What did the Feast of Dedication remember and celebrate? How is Jesus the true fulfilment of this feast?
2. What is the Christian's assurance based upon? What means does God often use to increase our assurance?
3. How do we see (again) both human responsibility to believe, and God's absolute sovereignty in salvation in this passage?
4. Explain Jesus' argument in v.34-38. How does Jesus' use of Psalm 82 and his comment "Scripture cannot be broken" affect your view and usage of Scripture?

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

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.

Lord's Supper and Fellowship Meal

When: first Sunday of every month; next—5th of November.

Prayer Mtg – Sundays, Fortnightly @ 7pm (today)

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 15th and 29th of October, and 12th of November.

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>

Annual General Meeting – October 29th, after the service

We will have an Annual General Meeting (AGM) after the service on October 29th. The main focus will be to approve of the 2023-2024 budget.

Women's Bible Study—Wednesday, 18th of October, 7:00pm, continuing fortnightly

Sarah will be starting a women's Bible study, taking a more in-depth, verse by verse look at the Gospel of John. This will be on somewhat of a trial basis. Please contact Sarah if you plan to attend so she has an idea of how many to expect. *If you are interested in hosting, please contact Russell or Sarah.*

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 22nd of October

SHORE KID'S LEADER	CRECHE	KITCHEN & TEA	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP	SUPERVISE PLAY GROUND
TBA	Volunteer	Ingrid & Dorette	Dennis Van B.	Dennis & Paul G.	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.*



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