



## Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,  
26<sup>th</sup> of November, 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

*1 Peter 1:3–4*

[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you

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

### Song of Adoration and Praise

#### *See What a Morning*

Authors: Kieth & Kristin Getty

See, what a morning, gloriously bright  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem  
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light  
As the angels announce, "Christ is risen"

*See God's salvation plan  
Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice  
Fulfilled in Christ, the man  
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead*

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?"  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb  
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name  
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again

*The voice that spans the years  
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us  
Will sound till He appears  
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead*

One with the Father, Ancient of Days  
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty  
Honor and blessing, glory and praise  
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority

*And we are raised with Him  
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered  
And we shall reign with Him  
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead*

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

## **Confession of Sin**      *Romans 13:8–10*

[8] Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. [9] For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” [10] Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

## **Assurance of Grace**      *Romans 8:1–4*

[1] There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [2] For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. [3] For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, [4] in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **Confession of Faith**      *Westminster Shorter Catechism 42*

Q. What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

A. The sum of the Ten Commandments is, to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbour as ourselves.

## **Songs of Assurance of Grace**

### *This Is My Father’s World*

Author: Maltbie Babcock

This is my Father’s world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres  
This is my Father’s world I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,  
The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white,  
Declare their Maker's praise  
This is my Father's world  
He shines in all that's fair  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass  
He speaks to me everywhere

This is my Father's world.  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong  
Seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet  
This is my Father's world  
Why should my heart be sad  
The Lord is King let the heavens ring  
God reigns let the earth be glad

## **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 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.

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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)).

## **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.

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

### **Scripture Reading**

*John 13:31-38*

*(Church Bible p.900)*

### **Prayer of Illumination**

## **Message** John 13:31-38      *“Jesus’ Attitudes in Shadow of the Cross”*

*Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions*

In the shadow of the Cross...

- I. Jesus courageously decided to face it.
- II. Jesus made it clear that he would face it for the glory of God.
- III. Jesus announces his departure for the Father.
- IV. Jesus commands his disciples to show everyone that they belong to him.
- V. Jesus demonstrates that his Vicarious Work has never been and never will be by merit, but by grace.

### **Song of Response**

#### *Christ our Hope in Life and Death*

*Authors: Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Keith Getty, Jordan Kauflin, Matthew Sherman Merker*

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to him belong

Who holds our days within his hand?

What comes, apart from his command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand

*(Chorus)*

O sing hallelujah!

Our hope springs eternal

O sing hallelujah!

Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good

Where is his grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh?  
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ

*O sing hallelujah!*  
*Our hope springs eternal*  
*O sing hallelujah!*  
*Now and ever we confess*  
*Christ our hope in life and death*

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?  
"Christ, he lives! Christ, he lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring?  
Everlasting life with him  
There we will rise to meet the Lord  
Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy  
When Christ is ours forevermore

*O sing hallelujah!*  
*Our hope springs eternal*  
*O sing hallelujah!*  
*Now and ever we confess*  
*Christ our hope in life and death*

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**BENEDICTION<sup>3</sup>**                      *Numbers 6:24–26*

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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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.



## Encouragement Group Discussion Questions

### Scripture Reading

*John 13:31-38*

- 1 - What attitudes are generated in your heart by knowing that Jesus courageously faced the Cross for you?
- 2 - The glory of God is maximized by looking at the Cross. How does this practically impact your life in the areas of worship, evangelism, and discipleship? Other areas?
- 3 - Describe your comfort and hope knowing that Jesus has gone to the Father and will receive you there.
- 4 - Does the world see Christ through you, because of the love you show to your brothers and sister in Christ?
- 5 - How are you showing gratitude to God for his gracious salvation?

## 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 Shared Meal (next Sunday)

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

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

Our regular prayer time is now fortnightly on Sundays at the Goodenough's home in Torbay. The next two are the 26<sup>th</sup> of Nov. & 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec. Please ask Paul, Ingrid, or Pastor Russell if you need the address.

### Church Birthday Calendar

Dorette would like to put together a church birthday calendar. If you are willing, please inform her of the dates of birthdays in your family (with or without the year). Email her at dorette96@gmail.com or text at 0275111919.

### Church Retreat—15-17<sup>th</sup> of March—Houghton's Bush Camp, Muriwai

Praise God for the opportunity of a Church Retreat! Mark your calendars, and stay tuned for more details to come soon. Pastor Russell is looking for a team of 2 or 3 people to help organize the retreat; if you are interested, please let him know.

**Women’s Bible Study—Wednesdays, 7:00pm, continuing fortnightly (this week)**

Sarah is leading 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. The next two will be the 29<sup>th</sup> of November, and 13<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Carols in the Park—17<sup>th</sup> of December, 7:00pm—Choir Participation or Attendance**

This will take place at Albany Lakes Civic Park. If you are interested in participating in the Choir, or playing a musical instrument, contact Jeremy Kindall, Shore Baptist Associate Pastor, at 0210683930.

**Serving Roster for next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of December**

SHORE KID’S LEADER	CRECHE	KITCHEN & TEA	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP	SUPERVISE PLAY GROUND
TBA	Volunteer	Nicki Sartori & Grace Ng	Dennis Van B.	Dennis & Paul B.	Same & Volunteers	N/A

**Some of the basic commitments of Shore Pres for your interest  
(more available on the website: [shorepres.org.nz](http://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

**Mobile** 022 412 3460

**Email** russellshorepres@gmail.com

PO Box 89076 Torbay Auckland 0742

**shorepres.org.nz**