



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
21st of January, 2024

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 tolerate them, or merely keep our children quiet, but help them see and savour Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship

Philippians 4:20 & Daniel 6:26 *(Responsive)*

(Call): To our God and Father be glory forever and ever!

(Response): The God of Daniel is the Living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. Amen.

Invocation ¹

Song of Adoration & Praise

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Author: Matthew Bridges

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for Thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends His burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Confession of Sin

Daniel 9:5

We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules.

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

Assurance of Grace

Derived from Daniel 9:4,9

Our God is the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments. To him belong mercy and forgiveness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Grace

Songs of Thanksgiving for Grace

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Author: Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That he would give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross
My guilt upon his shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no powr's, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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
The battle is not done
Jesus who died shall be satisfied
And earth and heav'n be one.

Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism 3

Q. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

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 footnote for further information about the offering.²

Scripture Reading *Ephesians 6:10-20 (Church Bible p.979)*

Kids Message and Prayer for our children

Scripture Reading *Daniel 10:1-11:1* *(Church Bible p.748)*

Prayer of Illumination

Message *Daniel 10:1-11:1* ***“All We Need for Spiritual Battle”***

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

He gives us what we need for spiritual battle:

- An overwhelming sense of His holiness. (v.2-9)

- An assurance of His Great love

- His Strength

- His Victory

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).

Song of Response

O Church Arise

Authors: Stuart Townend, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Chris Tomlin

O Church, arise, and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies.
An army bold, whose battle cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
We know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died:
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride;
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old, still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in Glory.

BENEDICTION³

Jude 1:1-2

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

Questions for Contemplation or Discussion

Scripture Reading

Daniel 10:1-11:1

1. Do you daily live with an awareness of the spiritual battle? How so?
2. Concerning spiritual battle, why might Satan love apathy?
3. How would you describe your sense of God's holiness and glory? Why?
4. Where do you look for an assurance of God's love? Why is the cross the place we should look?
5. Where is our victory in the spiritual battle? What are other places you might falsely look for victory?

NOTICES

Encouragement Groups

Glenfield

When Every Tuesday, 7:30–9:00 pm
Where **Check with the contact person!**
Contact Tom Wilson 027 785 1332 or glenfieldgroup@shorepres.org.nz

Torbay/Browns Bay

When Every Thursday, 7:00-9:00 pm,
Where 17A Tainui St, Torbay
Contact Paul Burton 473 0086 or 021 253 0980 or torbaygroup@shorepres.org.nz

Lord's Supper and Shared Meal

When: next: 4th of February (first Sunday of every month)

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

Our regular prayer meeting is fortnightly at the Goodenoughs home in Torbay. We will resume after the holidays.

Church Retreat—15-17th of March—Houghton's Bush Camp, Muriwai

Praise God for the opportunity of a Church Retreat! *See details below.* Go to the sign-up link online to sign-up: <https://forms.gle/Ph1zjys4tyJi1jBc6>

When: 4:30 Friday - 3:00 Sunday, 15th-17th of March (We are allowed usage during this time. More specific times will be available soon.)

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.

Where: Houghton's Bush Camp (75 Motutara Road, Muriwai Beach)

Retreat Focus: Discipleship & Personal Ministry

Cost & Payment: \$60/person. This includes food and lodging for the whole weekend. This is priced at a loss for the church. If you would like to give more to offset cost, please do so when making payment. You can make a payment for the retreat through bank transfer. Please designate family name and "retreat." The Shore Presbyterian Church bank account number is 12-3059-0631003-00.

(*We never want money to be a hindrance, so please let one of the elders or deacons know if you or your family could use help from the church.) *Although we hope that everyone attends for the whole weekend, we realize this may not be possible for all. The day rate is \$30 / person.

Speaker: Pastor Russell will serve as the main speaker for the weekend, seeking to unfold church vision for the next stage of Shore Pres. Others will likely contribute as well.

Sign Up: Please sign up by Feb. 4, using the form at this link: <https://forms.gle/Ph1zjys4tyJi1jBc6> . (The sooner you're able to sign up, the more helpful it will be for planning.)

More details: We hope that it will be a very fun time to help our church deepen in the Word, in fellowship, and in unity of vision. It is likely that a few friends of the Thomases from the States will visit to help prepare for, and serve at the retreat. Exact weekend schedule will be available closer to the date. **Friends from outside our church body are also very welcome, so long as they generally understand and comply with the aim of the weekend.*

Serving Opportunities: Food, setup, after camp clean up, help with babies and kids, music. Please indicate on the sign-up form if there is an area you are interested to help with.

Accommodation: There are 86 beds in total, among 15 rooms, so there should be plenty of space. (Tent camping is available if you prefer.) We will do our best to place family members in one room together, especially young families.

Questions: Contact Pastor Russell: 0224123460 or russellshorepres@gmail.com

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. It meets at the Thomas home, and all women are invited. The next one is this week.

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 28th of January

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	Sarah & Dorette	Dennis	Dennis & Thomas Family	Dennis, Thomas Family & 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 contacting pastor Russell to discuss them.*



PO Box 89076 Torbay Auckland 0742
shorepres.org.nz

Church Officers

Dennis Van Bemmelen, *Deacon*
Mobile 021 831 225
Email dennis@shorepres.org.nz

Tom Wilson, *Elder*
Mobile 027 785 1332
Email tom@shorepres.org.nz

Paul Burton, *Elder*
Mobile 021 253 0980
Email paul@shorepres.org.nz

Russell Thomas, *Pastor-Elder*
Mobile 022 412 3460
Email pastor@shorepres.org.nz