



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
18th of February, 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

Derived from Hebrews 12

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. But you have come to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

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 heav'nly 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 o'er the grave,
Who 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

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

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 *1 John 1:8*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Assurance of Grace *1 John 1:9*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Grace

Song of Thanksgiving for Grace

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

Confession of Faith *Westminster Shorter Catechism 6*

Q. How many persons are there in the one God?

A. There are three persons in the one God; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

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

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 (treasurer@shorepres.org.nz).

Pray Corporately – The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father In heaven,
Hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come;
Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song of Preparation for Hearing God’s Word

Come Ye Sinners

Authors: Fernando Ortega and

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy
Weak and wounded, sick and sore
Jesus ready, stands to save you
Full of pity, love and power

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome
God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance
Every grace that brings you nigh

Come, ye weary, heavy-laden
Lost and ruined by the fall
If you tarry 'til you're better
You will never come at all

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Let not conscience make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream;

All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Kids Message and Prayer for our children

Prayer of Illumination

Message Psalm 145 *“The King’s Everlasting & Absolute Kingdom”*
Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

What is the Kingdom of God?

- The Redemptive Reign of God over His people

How is the Kingdom of God seen and developed?

- It’s always been.
- It’s the reign of Jesus & the age to come breaking into this present age.
- It’s already manifested in the church, but it’s also not yet.

How does a person get into the Kingdom of God?

- The King subjects himself for his subjects.
- A person enters by rightly responding to the King.

Song of Response

This I Believe

Authors: Ben Fielding and Matt Crocker

Our Father everlasting
The all creating One
God Almighty
Through your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Saviour

I believe in God our Father

I believe in Christ the Son

I believe in the Holy Spirit

*Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus*

Our Judge and our Defender
Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in you
Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high
*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus*

I believe in life eternal
I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the saints' communion
And in Your holy Church
I believe in the resurrection
When Jesus comes again
For I believe, in the name of Jesus
*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus
For I believe in the name of Jesus*

BENEDICTION³

Romans 8:38-39

Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Questions for Contemplation or Discussion

Scripture Reading

Psalms 145 & Daniel 7:13-14

1. How do you struggle with seeking to create your own kingdom, or be a self-sovereign?
2. What does it mean that God's kingdom is already, but not yet? What does this mean for us?
3. What is the relationship between God's kingdom & the church?
4. What does Jesus' subjection reveal about what type of King and kingdom we have?
5. How is God calling you to grow in living for the kingdom?

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: 3rd of March (first Sunday of every month)

Meeting Regarding Little Ones in Worship – 25th February, after church

With the Lord graciously adding more little ones to our body, it is needful to have a discussion regarding their place in worship, and needs of parents with little ones. This meeting is primarily geared toward those with little ones (under 5), but is open to all.

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

Our regular prayer meeting is fortnightly at the Goodenoughs home in Torbay. The next two will be the 18th of February, and 3rd of March.

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.

Grace Theological College

Grow Deeper in Your Faith: Enrolments are now open for semester 1 classes at Grace Theological College. As NZ's own reformed Bible college, GTC offers students fully accredited study, internally accredited study, or simply audit a class for interest. More information: www.gtc.ac.nz

Church Picnic – Today after church at Long Bay

Everyone will be responsible to bring their own food and drink. This will be a rather informal time. If everyone could help close the hall relatively soon after worship, we can head over sooner. We will look to gather in the vicinity of the playground. If you have a canopy that could be used, it would likely be helpful.

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 two are this week (21st) and March 6th.

Serving Roster for next Sunday the 25th of February

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	Dorette & Ingrid	Dennis	Dennis & Paul G.	Dennis, Paul & 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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