



Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,
25th of August, 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.*** 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.

New to Shore Pres? ***Our hope is to "learn life with Jesus through beholding and proclaiming the King's glory."*** We recognise that churches have varying worship styles and identities, and that some things about our specific church may be new or different for you. Our "basic commitments," near the back of the bulletin, provide an introduction to our church. If you have questions about anything, our pastor or others involved in the service, would be glad to answer your questions.

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. *However, since we realize that helping little ones in worship can be difficult, there is an additional room available for parents with little ones to use during the service as needed.*

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:19,22-23

Sisters and brothers, have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Invocation ¹

Song of Adoration & Praise

Arise My Soul Arise

Author: Charles Wesley

Arise, my soul, arise
Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice,
In my behalf appears;
Before the throne my Surety stands,
Before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

He ever lives above,
For me to intercede;
His all redeeming love,
His precious blood, to plead;
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

*Arise, arise, arise,
Arise, my soul, arise.
Arise, arise, arise,
Arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise*

My God is reconciled;
His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child;

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

I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.
Arise, arise, arise,
Arise, my soul, arise.
Arise, arise, arise,
Arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise

Confession of Sin *Psalm 51:3–4,1-2*

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

Assurance of Grace *Ezekiel 36:25–27*

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Grace

Songs of Thanksgiving for Grace

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

O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal

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

Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism 28

Q. How is Christ exalted?

A. Christ is exalted by His rising from the dead on the third day, His going up into heaven, His sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and His coming to judge the world at the last day.

Missions Update—Michelle Thompson (Mali)

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

Kids Message and Prayer for our children

Reading of Scripture *1 Peter 1:1-2* *(Church Bible p.1014)*

Prayer of Illumination

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 (treasurer@shorepres.org.nz).

Sermon 1 Peter 1:1-2 *“Chosen, Scattered Sojourners”*

Message outline for your notes, thoughts, questions

Big Idea / Outline -- God's people receive Grace & Peace as:

Chosen, Scattered Sojourners, because of:

- The Father's Foreknowledge

- The Spirit's sanctification

- Christ's cleansing & empowerment to obey

Song of Response

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Author: Robert Lowry

My life flows on in endless song
Above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing,
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?
*No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Saviour liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth.
*No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing;
All things are mine since I am his,
How can I keep from singing?
*No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

Benediction³ *Deuteronomy 7:6-8*

The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession; he set his love on you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers.

Questions for Contemplation or Discussion

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:1-2

1. What were the circumstances of the recipients of 1 Peter?
2. Can you identify with the circumstances of those Peter is writing to? How so?
3. What does “elect exiles of the dispersion” (or “chosen, scattered, sojourners”) tell us about our identity in Christ?
4. Describe, from the text, how the Trinity is at work in believer’s lives during their sojourn. What affect does this have upon you?
5. How are grace and peace multiplied to believers amidst their sojourn?

NOTICES

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

As a church, we hope to encourage growth in discipleship through various discipleship group opportunities. Currently, we have 4 opportunities to grow in the Word and in

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.

fellowship throughout the week. Please contact the point person below according to each opportunity. If you have general questions, ask one of the elders.

Glenfield Co-Ed Group

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 Co-Ed Group

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

Men's Small Groups

When Fortnightly; meeting time at the discretion of each group.
Where **Location – Determined by Group**
Contact Russell Thomas 0224123460

Women's Bible Study

When Wednesdays, fortnightly. **Meets this week, 28th of August.**
Where **40 Mahoney Drive, Albany**
Contact Sarah Thomas 0224123495

Young Adults Group

When Thursdays, weekly at 7pm.
Where 69 Jean Mackay Place, Dairy Flat
Contact Marcos Santos 0221038126

Lord's Supper and Shared Meal (next week)

When: next: 1st of September (first Sunday of every month)

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

The next two: 25th of August & the 8th of September at the Goodenough's home.

"Kiwi Connections" – Great Outreach Opportunity! (Last Call!)

The Chaplain's office at Massey University is offering our church a phenomenal outreach opportunity, by hosting an international student for a meal. If you are interested, start by reading the "Kiwi Connections – Guidelines and Conditions" sheet., at the Bible & info table. If you wish to apply, fill out the application form and give it to Marcos. Marcos will email the forms to Massey. If you have any questions, talk to Marcos, Tom, Paul B., or Pastor Russell

Mark Your Calendars – Church and Family Life Conference & Creation Ministries visit

- Sun., 20th of October, Creation Ministries visit at Shore Pres.
- Sat., 16th of Nov., Church and Family Life Conference at Westminister Christian School.
“Cultivating a love of for the family in the Church & a love for the Church in the Family.”

Serving Roster for next Sunday, the 1st of September

AFTERNOON TEA	OPEN UP & FIRE WARDEN	HALL SET-UP	HALL TAKE DOWN & CLEAN UP
Gemma & Dorette	Dennis	Santos Family	Dennis, Santos Family & Volunteers

**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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