



## Welcome to Worship

SUNDAY,  
4<sup>th</sup> of August, 2024

The Lord's Day

Lord's Supper Service

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

*Psalm 63:1–4*

<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;  
My soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in <sup>a</sup> dry and weary land where there is no water.  
<sup>2</sup>So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.  
<sup>3</sup>Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.  
<sup>4</sup>So I will bless you as long as I live;  
in your name, I will lift up my hands.

## Prayer of Adoration and Approach

### Song of Adoration & Praise

*O Worship The King*

Author: Robert Grant

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
And gratefully sing his power and his love;  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,  
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

## **Confession of Sin**                      *Psalm 32:5*

<sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

## **Assurance of Grace**                      *Hebrews 7:23–25*

<sup>23</sup>The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, <sup>24</sup>but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. <sup>25</sup>Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them

## **Confession of Faith**                      *Westminster Shorter Catechism 25*

Q. How is Christ a priest?

A. As a priest, Christ offered Himself up once as a sacrifice for us to satisfy divine justice and to reconcile us to God, and He continually intercedes for us.

## **Song of Assurance**

### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Author: Thomas O. Chisholm

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

**Reading of Scripture**      *Romans 10:5-17*      *(Church Bible p.946)*

### **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.<sup>1</sup>

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Reading of Scripture**      *John 20:24-31*      *(Church Bible p.907)*

**Message**      *John 20:24-31*      *“Hearing is Believing”*

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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 (treasurer@shorepres.org.nz).

## Song of preparation for the Lord's Supper

### *Abide With Me*

Author: Henry F. Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;  
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, oft as I've left Thee,  
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness  
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

**The Lord's Supper** *Who is this for?* Jesus himself has appointed this means of remembering His death on the cross and the benefits that come to us. It is an opportunity to feed on Him by faith and to be strengthened as His followers. Therefore, it is appropriate that only those who are truly Christians should participate. That is, those who profess faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord, who are baptised into His church and who seek to live obedient lives. If this does not describe you, we encourage you not to take the bread or wine but to use the opportunity to consider the things you have heard in today's service and to consider the claims of Christ and what they mean for you. You may find some help in one of the prayers printed on page 10. If you have questions about these things, please contact one of the Elders.

### Confession of Faith

### *Nicene Creed*<sup>2</sup>

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father. By whom all things were made. Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven; and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and sits on the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke by the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come.  
**Amen.**

### Prayer at the Lord's Table

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

### Closing Song

#### *Ancient of Days*

*Author: CityAlight*

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall  
There is still one King reigning over all  
So I will not fear for this truth remains  
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power, all the glory

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<sup>2</sup> The Nicene Creed is a statement of the orthodox faith (325 AD) of the early Christian church in opposition to certain heresies.

I will trust in His name  
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul  
He is here with me, I am not alone  
O His love is sure, and He knows my name  
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power, all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings  
I will watch and wait for the Saviour King  
Then my joy complete, standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power, all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is, the Ancient of Days  
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

## **Benediction<sup>3</sup>**

### **Questions for Contemplation or Discussion**

**Scripture Reading**

*John 20:24-31*

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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.



## 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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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, 7:00-9:00 pm (next: to be confirmed – second half August)  
**Where** **40 Mahoney Drive, Albany**  
**Contact** Sarah Thomas 0224123495

#### Lord's Supper and Shared Meal (today)

**When:** next: 1<sup>st</sup> of September (first Sunday of every month)

#### "Kiwi Connections" – Great Outreach Opportunity!

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. 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, or Paul B.

#### Prayer Meeting—Fortnightly, Sundays at 7:00pm

The next one will be at the Goodenough's home in Torbay, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August. Please ask if you need the address.

**Serving Roster for next Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August**

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

**Silent Prayers for use during the Lord’s Supper**

**Prayer of uncertainty** *God, I don’t even know if you exist or if I’m just talking to myself. If you are real, please help me to come to know you. Open my heart and my mind to consider the truth claims of Jesus who is called the Christ. Help me to see both my need for you and how Jesus is the provision for that need. Give me the answers I need and dissolve any dishonest objections that I hold to your existence Amen.*

**Prayer for those searching for truth** *Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.*

**Prayer of belief** *Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Saviour. Amen.*

**Prayer of commitment** *Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.*

**Prayer for those struggling with sin** *Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfilment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.*

**Prayer for the believer** *Father, I come now to your table, to partake of Christ’s body and blood in holy communion. I ask that you would search my heart and show me my failings and sins so that I may repent and turn to embrace your promises anew. Although I am unworthy, you have made me worthy. Though I am a sinner, you have taken away my sins by your very own body and blood. May you be glorified in our partaking of your sacrament. Amen.*

**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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