



Order of Worship

December 20, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1:68-70, 78-79

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old.

All: *The sunrise shall visit us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High

SONG OF PRAISE

God with Us

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

Romans 4:25-5:1

Leader: Jesus our Lord was delivered up for our trespasses
and raised for our justification.
Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Take a moment to confess your sins, knowing that he hears you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON & PRAYER

SONG OF SURRENDER

Hungry

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

MESSAGE

Longing for Peace

SONG OF SURRENDER

Make Room

SONG OF PRAISE

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

Leader: 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.



Message Notes: Longing for Peace

1. The Longing of Our Culture.

2. The Problem with Our Longing.

- a. We pursue peace as an _____ unto itself.
- b. We latch onto _____ or _____ solutions.
- c. We create new _____ in our quest for peace.

3. The Ancient Longing.

4. The Fulfillment in Jesus.

5. The Already and the Not Yet.

- a. You already have _____ peace with God in Christ.
- b. You will one day have _____ peace in Christ.

6. The So What.

- a. Seek peace in the _____ of God.
- b. Be a _____.
- c. Walk in the _____ of future peace.



Questions for Gospel Reflection & Application

1. What does the word “peace” mean to you? What is it you really want when you dream of having peace in your life?
2. How does our society view peace? What concepts of peace seem to resonate deeply with the current urban, progressive culture? Which concepts of peace seem largely ignored?
3. If you’re pursuing peace as an end unto itself, how do you tend to view people and circumstances that disturb your peace?
4. What do you identify as Public Enemy #1 when it comes to conflict? Who/what do you think is creating the conflict in your personal life? Who/what do you think is responsible for most of the conflict in society?
5. What are some problems and limitations with seeing tolerance/coexistence as the solution to conflict? What are some other forms of false or superficial peace that are widely adopted by our culture?
6. “No justice, no peace” is a rallying cry of our generation. What do protesters usually mean when they chant this? How does this connect to Isaiah 32:17-18?
7. Describe a time when your external situation was peaceful, yet you were not at peace. What was going on in your thoughts/emotions/will?
8. The worldviews of humankind all promote some kind of outside-in peace. The Gospel celebrates an inside-out peace instead. Where/how do you see this in the Bible – and why does it matter?
9. Describe an area or source of conflict in your life right now. How might it help you to seek Christ, rather than merely seeking peace? How might it help you to remember and set your hope in the promise of future, holistic peace in Christ?
10. What one thing will you do with this message this week?