

Hillcrest Presbyterian Church in America
PM Order of Worship – December 20, 2020

Call to Worship

Psalm 58A

1 You may be gods, but can you claim that you speak righteousness?
And do you judge the sons of men in truth and uprightness?
No, even in your very heart you wickedness produce;
On earth you weigh out with your hands your violent abuse.

2 The wicked from their day of birth are strangers to the way;
They from the womb come speaking lies; They wander far astray.
They have the venom of a snake; They have an adder's ear
Which they have close to charmers' songs; Skilled charmers they'll not hear.

3 O God, inside their opened mouths break off their cruel teeth;
The fangs of these young lions, LORD, tear out by roots beneath.
Let them like runoff waters be that leave the ground soon dry.
Let arrows that he aims become like headless shafts that fly.

4 Let them be like the snails that melt along the course they run;
Or like one prematurely born who never sees the sun.
They are like blazing thorns which you beneath your kettles lay,
Whose heat is scarcely felt before a wind sweeps them away.

5 The just rejoices when he sees that vengeance is complete,
For in the blood of wicked men he then will wash his feet.
They'll say, "There surely is reward for righteous ones of worth;
There surely is a living God who judges in the earth."

Invocation and Prayer of Adoration

Hymn #201

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by: yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

3 How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Prayer of Confession and Intercession

Scripture Reading:

Micah 5:5b-15

Sermon:

“The Way of Peace”

Pastor Steve Richman

Prayer of Application and Submission

Hymn #507

Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

1 Approach, my soul, the mercy seat where Jesus answers prayer;
there humbly fall before his feet, for none can perish there.

2 Thy promise is my only plea; with this I venture nigh:
thou callest burdened souls to thee, and such, O Lord, am I.

3 Bowed down beneath a load of sin, by Satan sorely pressed,
by war without, and fears within, I come to thee for rest.

4 Be thou my shield and hiding place, that, sheltered near thy side,
I may my fierce accuser face, and tell him thou hast died.

5 O wondrous love! to bleed and die, to bear the cross and shame,
that guilty sinners, such as I, might plead thy gracious name!

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn #217

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

1 All my heart this night rejoices as I hear far and near sweetest angel voices.
"Christ is born," their choirs are singing till the air ev'rywhere now with joy is ringing.

2 Forth today the Conqu'ror goeth, who the foe, sin and woe, death and hell, o'erthroweth.
God is man, man to deliver; his dear Son now is one with our blood forever.

3 Shall we still dread God's displeasure, who, to save, freely gave his most cherished Treasure?
To redeem us, he hath given his own Son from the throne of his might in heaven.

4 He becomes the Lamb that taketh sin away and for aye full atonement maketh.
For our life his own he tenders; and our race, by his grace, meet for glory renders.

5 Hark! a voice from yonder manger, soft and sweet, doth entreat: "Flee from woe and danger.
Brethren, from all ills that grieve you, you are freed; all you need I will surely give you."

6 Come, then, banish all your sadness, one and all, great and small; come with songs of gladness.
Love him who with love is glowing; hail the star, near and far light and joy bestowing.

7 Dearest Lord, thee will I cherish. Though my breath fail in death, yet I shall not perish,
but with thee abide forever there on high, in that joy which can vanish never.

Benediction

Hymn #731

Doxology