**ADVENT MIDWEEK 1**

Resounding Psalms for Advent: Restore

“Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved! You brought a vine out of Egypt; You drove out the nations and planted it.” *Psalm 80:7-8*

**AS WE GATHER**

We do not often emphasize the psalms during the Advent season, instead being eager to read about the prophecies, anticipating Jesus’ coming. Yet the psalms are God’s Word during terrible times to people who lived before God’s promises were fulfilled in our Savior’s coming. This Advent, we focus on several psalms as we use them to prepare to celebrate our Lord’s birth with open eyes and ears.

Today we focus on Psalm 80, which pleads with the Lord of hosts, “Restore us!” The answer: God restored us in the person of Jesus Christ!

**+ SERVICE OF LIGHT +**

**VERSICLES and HYMN OF LIGHT**

Pastor: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: All those who await His appearance pray:

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: The whole creation pleads:

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

**HYMN** *“O Light Whose Splendor”* (*LSB* 891)

**THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT**

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ PSALMODY +**

**PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19**

Pastor: Restore us, O God;

**People: let Your face shine, that we may be saved, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up Your might and come to save us!

**People: Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: O Lord God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people’s prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

**People: Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: But let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand, the son of man whom You have made strong for Yourself! Then we shall not turn back from You; give us life, and we will call upon Your name!
Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts! Let Your face shine, that we | may be saved!

**People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved, that we may be saved!**

**+ READINGS +**

**READING**Isaiah 64:1-9

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**READING** 1 Peter 5:6-11

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Lector: In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**People: But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

**HYMN** *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (*LSB* 357, vs. 1-3)

**MESSAGE**

**HYMN** *“My Soul Rejoices”* (*LSB* 933)

**OFFERING**

**+ PRAYER +**

**PRAYERS**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us as we pray for ourselves and all the Church: Strengthen our hope and increase faith and love among us and toward the world. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**

Pastor: Lord over all the angels, hear us as we pray for all who have been forgotten by the world’s commerce: Surround with faith-filled people all who are hungry and homeless, the many who are migrants and refugees, people dealing with sudden ills and long-term disabilities, and all who are in mourning. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**

Pastor: Regard us, the fruitful vine You have planted, as we struggle in this dark world: Renew in us true faith and peace, faithfulness in worship, spiritual vitality, and confidence in Your promise of eternal life. Grant that many join us in fruitful worship. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**

Pastor: By the blessed coming of Your Son, whose death purchased us as Your own people, grant these our prayers, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR TODAY**

Pastor: Restore us by Your grace, heavenly Father, and strengthen us that we may serve You and love the people around us, confident that You sent Your Son to redeem us to be Your own people, through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**COLLECT FROM SUNDAY**

Pastor: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER**

**People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** *“What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”* (*LSB* 342)

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**