

Psalms for Advent and Christmas

Written by Silvia Purdie
formatted for congregational response
www.conversations.net.nz

Come make your home among us

based on Psalm 132

Lord, remember your people.

Come, make your home among us.

Lord, remember your servant David,
and his promise to make a home for you.

“I will not rest”, David said, “until I find a home for the Mighty God.”

David honoured the Ark of the Covenant, and God rested on it.

Lord, remember your people.

Come, make your home among us.

God honoured David and promised him:

“I will set one of your descendents on the throne forever.

He will restore my covenant with my people.

I have prepared an everlasting light for my anointed,
a crown of glory.”

Lord, remember your people.

Come, make your home among us.

Lord, remember your promise.

Come to dwell with your people.

Satisfy us with the bread of life

Clothe us with robes of salvation

and we will shout with joy.

Lord, remember your people.

Come, make your home among us.

An Advent Psalm: Psalm 130, Out of the depths

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord –

Hear my voice, Lord

I call to you for mercy -

Open your ears, Lord

If you keep count of all our sins,

Who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

and so we honour you.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope.

More than watchmen wait for the morning

my soul waits for the Lord.

Here is our hope – in the steadfast love of the Lord,

and his great saving power.

God alone will save us
from all our failings.

Psalm 80: The Restoration Project

(The Lectionary Psalm for Sunday 3 December 2017)

Can't you hear your people, Lord?

Can't you see the state of things?

Great Shepherd of Israel, hear the cry of your sheep.

Mighty God of Hosts, see your people's pain.

We are tired of eating the bread of tears

We are worn by strife and fear.

Restore us with your favour, Lord!

Save us in your love.

Your home on earth is past repair

The walls are cracked and broken

The fruiting vine is hacked and burned

Your people turn away.

Send us a Shepherd, Lord!

Send us a Son from your right hand.

All your strength is in him

All your power to heal.

Restore us with your favour, Lord!

Save us in your love.

Psalm 85: See what God is doing!

(The Lectionary Psalm for Sunday 10 December 2017)

See what God is doing:

the promises from long ago are made new

our brokenness and shame is over

Wait, for God is coming!

His anger drains away and love remains

He draws us to himself and joy returns

Hear what God is saying:

the word is 'Peace', Shalom

love that will never let us go

See, for God is close

salvation is very near

glory is coming to dwell in our land

Come, for truth is bursting out

tender love meets righteousness

and blessing flows from peace

Go out before him!

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Psalm 126: When the Lord turned the tide of history

(The Lectionary Psalm for Sunday 17 December 2017)

When the Lord turned the tide of history
we could hardly believe it!
Laughter bubbled out of us,
shouts of joy burst out of us,
telling everyone who would listen:
“The Lord has done great things for us!”
“The Lord has done great things for us!”

We call on you Lord: turn the tide of history
here and now!
Rain down on our dry land.
Those who watered seeds with their tears
will gather in a harvest with joy.
We have watered seeds with our tears –
yet we will harvest with joy!
“The Lord will do great things for us!”
“The Lord will do great things for us!”

Psalm 89 (the first half): A Vision of Messiah

(The Lectionary Psalm for Sunday 24 December 2017)

God spoke to Ethan the Ezrahite in a vision, saying
“I have chosen one to be King
I have anointed him with my holy oil.
I have laid my hand on him, my strong arm is his.
He is the firstborn, the everlasting king,
to rule until the stars cease to burn.
My love, strong to save, is on him forever.
He will cry to me, “You are my Father,
my God and the Rock of my salvation!”
The covenant between me and my Messiah
can never be broken.
Once and for all I declare my promise:
while the sun shines he will reign,
while the moon gleams he is my witness.”

We stand in this promise and we declare:
**“You are my Father,
my God and the Rock of my salvation!”**

Psalm 97: Rejoice, the Lord is King!

(The Lectionary Psalm for Christmas Day)

Rejoice! The Lord is King!

Lift up your heart,

lift up your voice; rejoice;

again I say, rejoice.

Power! All the forces in the planet
are powered by the Lord.

Love! All the love in the universe
flows from the Lord.

Joy! All the happiness in the world
is given by the Lord.

Thanks! All our thanks we give back to you.

Psalm 98: Sing along a new song

(Alternative Lectionary Psalm for Christmas Day)

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Marvelous is all he has done!

Victory has been won

and all the earth has seen!

Break out with songs of joy!

Trumpets blast and waves crash

Guitars play and rain claps the beat

Music fills the air and hills cheer!

The Lord is coming, he's nearly here!

He will set things right

and all will be well.

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Marvelous is all he has done!