

We Wait in Hope for Restoration

*Songs: "Sing to the King"
"Joy to the World"

LUYH 474
LUYH 92:1,3,4

*Words of Hope

This King of nations is spreading his reign through all the lands.
He defends the cause of the poor and pleads for the wretched of the earth.

**May he fashion us into an obedient people,
that we may spread the good news
of his reign of perfect peace and justice,
until all creation will finally rejoice in God's perfect will,
until all bend the knee to the King of kings and Lord of lords.
Maranatha. Come, Lord Jesus!**

We are Sent with God's Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" LUYH 69 (chorus)

Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Justin Bailey ♦ Piano: Mike Janssen ♦ Guitar: Jaren Brue ♦ Bass: Derek Friend
Drums: Adam Schultz ♦ Violin: Kinza Brue ♦ Vocalist: Rebecca DeVries
Readers: Bob DeSmith, Sara Hulstein ♦ Candle Lighter: Meghan Vos
Sound: Marv Wielard ♦ Projection: Dane Hibma
CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17 2017

re · store

rə' st ôr /

verb

verb: Repair or renovate (a building, work of art, etc.) so as to return it to its original condition.

Return (someone or something) to a former condition, place, or position.

Give (something stolen, taken away, or lost) back to the original owner or recipient.

Psalm 126:4

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negev.

God Gathers Us for Worship

- Opening Song and Candle Lighting: "Christ, Be Our Light" LUYH 908:1
Soloist sings verse 1, congregation joins on refrain
- The Prophecy: Isaiah 61:1-4 p.1157
- *Song: "Imagine" LUYH 72
- *God Greet Us, We Greet One Another
- *Songs: "Here I Am to Worship" LUYH 567
 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" LUYH 56:1,2,4

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

The Psalm and Our Prayer of Restoration: Psalm 126
Silent Prayers of Confession
 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."
The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.
 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negev.
May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.
 We are overwhelmed, O Lord, by your love and saving goodness.
 In Christ Jesus you restore both our lives and our world.
 Like reapers at an unexpected harvest,
 we shout your praise and sing your goodness.
Amen.

Song of Response: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" LUYH 80:3

The Gospel: Luke 1:46b-55 p.1589

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Blessing: "Don't Be Afraid" LUYH 429

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Psalm 126 p.967

Sermon Dr. Justin Bailey

*Song of Response: "Psalm 126"

**1. Our mouths, they were filled, filled with laughter;
 Our tongues, they were loosed, loosed with joy.
 Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!**

**Chorus: Although we are weeping, Lord, help us keep sowing
 the seeds of Your Kingdom for the day You will reap them.
 Your sheaves we will carry; Lord, please do not tarry.
 All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy!**

**2. The nations will say, "He has done great things!"
 The nations will sing songs of joy.
 Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord! (to chorus)**

Words and Music: Isaac Wardell, © 2011 Isaac Wardell

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer

We Offer our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the Missions Fund which enables us to focus on mission efforts both locally and in other countries.

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another