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# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

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## re · store

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*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.

Bring back or re-establish (a previous right, practice, or situation)

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### Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. John Kok ♦ Piano: Sara Ploegstra ♦ Guitar: Laremy DeVries

Bass: Derek Friend ♦ Flute: Lisa Christians

Readers: Emily Kramer, Lila Sybesma, Dave Schelhaas ♦ Candle Lighter: Levi Landman

Sound: Kayt Frisch ♦ Projection: Mark Horstman ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

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### Psalm 89:49

O Lord, where is your former great love, which in your faithfulness you swore to David?

## God Gathers Us for Worship

Opening Song and Candle Lighting: “Christ, Be Our Light” LUYH 908:1

The Prophecy: Isaiah 40:9 p.1119

\*Song: “Behold Our God”

**1. Who has held the oceans in His hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?**

***Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.***

**2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His words?**

***Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?***

*Chorus:*

***Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come let us adore Him!***

**3. Who has felt the nails upon His hand,  
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal humbled to the grave,  
Jesus Savior risen now to reign! (to chorus)**

*Bridge:*

***You will reign forever. (Let Your glory fill the earth.) (repeat)***

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\*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

\*Song: “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” LUYH 79:1,3,4

## We Are Renewed in God's Grace

The Psalm and Our Prayer of Restoration: Psalm 89:1-11,46-49

I will sing of Your unfailing love, O Lord, forever.

**I will speak of Your faithfulness to all generations.**

**I will tell how Your unfailing love will always stand strong;  
and how Your faithfulness is established in the heavens above.**

\*Words of Hope: Our World Belongs to God #57

On that day we will see our Savior face to face,  
sacrificed Lamb and triumphant King, just and gracious.  
He will set all things right, judge evil, and condemn the wicked.  
We face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior,  
whose shed blood declares us righteous.

**We live confidently, anticipating his coming,  
offering him our daily lives—  
our acts of kindness, our loyalty, and our love—  
knowing that he will weave even our sins and sorrows  
into his sovereign purpose.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

## We are Sent with God's Blessing

\*Benediction

\*Closing Song: “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” LUYH 69:4

## 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: Titus 2:11-14

p.1859

Sermon: Advent x 2

Dr. John Kok

\*Song of Response: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LUYH 730

## 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 Tuition Assistance Fund which helps support families who otherwise would not be able to meet the financial obligations of Christian education

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another

## We Wait in Hope for Restoration

\*Song: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LUYH 61:1,4

You said, "I have made a covenant with My chosen one. I made My servant, David, this promise: 'I will establish your dynasty so that you and your descendants will always be secure. Your rule will continue for generations to come.'"

**Let the heavens join in praising the wonderful works of the Lord. The holy ones have gathered, singing of Your faithfulness. For there is no one above who compares to the Lord, not one of heaven's creatures is like Him in the least.**

In the council of holy ones, God is lifted high and feared; His presence overwhelms all who are near Him.

O Eternal God, who is mighty like You?

**You are completely faithful; that's why we trust You.**

The ocean waters are at Your command.

When violent waves rise up, You still them.

**Everything in the sky above and the earth below are Yours.**

**The world and all it contains are Yours, for You created them all.**

How long must we endure, O Lord?

Will You hide Yourself forever? How long will Your wrath burn like fire?

**Remember my days are numbered.**

**Have You created the children of Adam to live futile lives?**

Death waits at the gate; who can escape and live?

Does the grave hold exceptions for any of us?

Who can deliver us from the power of the grave?

O Lord, where is the unfailing love You showed in times past?

And where is the proof of Your faithfulness to David?

Song: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

***Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.***

***God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.***

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Psalm 89:52

**Praise the Lord always. Amen and Amen.**

The Gospel: Luke 1:46b-55

p.1589

Song: "God Reigns! Earth Rejoices"

LUYH 91:1,3,4