

## ADVENT: A SEASON OF FAITHFULNESS

Scripture: Psalm 89:1-4

December 17, 2020

Message:

**"I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself. You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, 'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'"**

**Psalm 89:1-4 (NIV)**

After reading these verses, the main idea that jumped out at me was God's faithfulness. I think that Advent highlights God's faithfulness. Bible scholars describe it as God being true to God's word; God is totally trustworthy; His promises are believable. In Advent, we are waiting and preparing for the fulfillment of God's faithfulness which begins with the birth of Jesus.

The word "sing" in verse 1 of Psalm 89 also grabbed my attention. This immediately made me turn to the UM Hymnal. Read through (or sing through) the titles and words of the hymns listed which tell the Advent story of faithfulness.

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS...(UMH 196), Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's word! Firm is the promise and God's mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and forevermore!

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS...(UMH 140), Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not, as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be, STANDING ON THE PROMISES OF GOD...(UMH 374), Lo how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung...(UMH 216)

Prayer: Faithful God, give us trusting hearts to await, in faith, the coming of your promise in Jesus, the Christ child. Amen.

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