



The Timeless Psalms

by Joan Stott

A Call to Worship

Advent 4, Year A, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

O Lord, the Great Shepherd of your people—
we come to worship you, seeking your tender care.

**Lead us, Good Shepherd, into your path of your
fullness of life, through your justice, peace and joy.**

O God the Father of us all, we are aware that we
have failed to worship and serve you as we should.

**Come to us, Restoring Lord, with your forgiveness;
and bind us to yourself as your beloved children.**

May the radiant light of God's face shine upon us
as we come to worship the God of light and mercy.

**As we receive the light of your presence, O God,
may our prayers and our worship be acceptable to you. Amen.**

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Prayers of Confession and Lament

Advent 4, Year A, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

O Lord our God, hear our cry as we come to you this day
in prayer. Great Shepherd of your people, hear our call for
your help and mercy. O God, the Holy One, as we come
before you in worship, may our words, our sincere feelings
of penitence, and our prayers be acceptable to you.

We are filled with remorse because of our careless living
and our casual approach to worship and prayer. O God,
strengthen us in our commitment to you and to your ways.
Help us to more faithfully worship and praise you, so that
we will confidently know again that you hear our prayers.

O Gracious and Forgiving God, we know from our past
experiences, that if we honestly and sincerely confess our
lack of trust in you; our slowness to respond to you; and the
way we fail to honour your Holy Name; then you will forgive
us and renew us with the joy of your eternal fellowship.

Restore us we pray, into the care of the Great Shepherd
of the flock of your people! O God, shine the radiant light of
your love upon us again, so that we will once again receive
God's merciful blessing, God's protection, and God's favour. Amen.

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A Personal Meditation

