Psalm 89



- 3. As righteousness and justice are foundations for your reign; as faithfulness and love march on and shall with you remain; so none who learn to walk with you will ever trust in vain: so praise be to God from his saints, people and prince, for you are their glory and strength.
- 4. In visions once you spoke to us, 'My gift of strength I bring; my servant David I have found, anointed him as king; my hand will give him victory, my praises he will sing': loud praise from the ends of the earth; enemies fall and rebels will perish and die.
- 5. 'His hand I set above the sea, the rivers he shall guide; he calls me Father, God my rock, I call him to my side, appointing him as my firstborn, supremely glorified': high praise for the promise of Godcovenant-love, eternally true and secure!
- 6. 'And if his sons forsake my law, despising my decrees, then I shall use my rod of power to bring them to their knees; yet never shall I change my mind or break my guarantees': we praise for the throne that endures longer than time, more firm than the moon or the sun.
- 7. But, LORD, on your anointed one your wrath has now come down; the covenant is set aside and fallen is the crown; his wars are lost, his walls destroyed, and gone is his renown: our praise has been turned into shame, glory to grief, the days of his splendour are past.
- 8. How long, O LORD? Is it for ever you have turned away? How brief and empty are our lives that blossom for a day! Remember, Lord, your promised love for David's sake, we pray! Then praise be to God for his grace, keeping his word for ever and ever: Amen!

psalm paraphrase: Christopher Idle ©Jubilate Hymns meter: 8.6.8.6.8.4.8. music: traditional English melody