

Sola Lenten Dramas

HOW TO BE A DISCIPLE

*The Reflections of a
Contemporary Twelve*

Written by the Rev. John Wolf

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

James and John

“On the family of christ”

Themes: Family, rivalry,

unconditional love

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING DIALOG

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste, O Lord, to help me.

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OPENING HYMN “Children of the Heavenly Father”

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Children of the Heavenly Father

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther Safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, In his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

Nest-ling bird or star in heav - en Such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, In his might - y arms he bears them.
Un - to them his grace he show - eth, And their sor - rows all he know - eth.
His the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Children of the Heavenly Father'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains four lines of lyrics. The music is a simple, folk-like melody.

© Text: *Caroline V. Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958*
Tune: *Swedish folk tune*

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA
L.M

SALUTATION & PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common prayers to you. You have promised through your beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be in the midst of them. Answer, O Lord, our desires and petitions as you determine best for us — granting us, in this world, the knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come, everlasting life in you.

C: **Amen.** (Based on a Prayer of St. Chrysostom)

FIRST READING James 2:1-5

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ² For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³ and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴ have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?

PSALM (Read Responsively).....Psalm 127, 133, 102

127 Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.

**² It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives to his beloved sleep.**

³ Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

**⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.**

⁵ Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!

He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

**133 Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!**

² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!

³ **It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!**

**For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.**

102 Hear my prayer, O Lord;
let my cry come to you!

² **Do not hide your face from me
in the day of my distress!**

**Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call!**

³ For my days pass away like smoke,
and my bones burn like a furnace.

⁴ **My heart is struck down like grass and has withered;
I forget to eat my bread.**

⁵ Because of my loud groaning
my bones cling to my flesh.

⁶ **I am like a desert owl of the wilderness,
like an owl of the waste places;**

⁷ I lie awake;
I am like a lonely sparrow on the housetop.

⁸ **All the day my enemies taunt me;
those who deride me use my name for a curse.**

⁹ For I eat ashes like bread
and mingle tears with my drink,

¹⁰ **because of your indignation and anger;
for you have taken me up and thrown me down.**

¹¹ My days are like an evening shadow;
I wither away like grass.

¹² **But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever;
you are remembered throughout all generations.**

¹³ You will arise and have pity on Zion;
it is the time to favor her;
the appointed time has come.

liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

(If James and John were like most brothers, they grew up as rivals. Here we picture them as such, at home with their parents, at a family meal. They are reminding us that the love we are to have for one another is not a given, even in families.)

DRAMA Mom, mother of James and John – Sue Winter
John – brother of James, fisherman – Jeff Schmidt
James – brother of John, fisherman - Randy Hall
Zeb, father of James and John - Don Winter
Jesus – Dewey Oster

HYMN On back page
“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

REFLECTION Pastor Chuck Mann

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Said in unison)
God of love, you have provided for our every need from your abundant bounty. Grant us grateful hearts that we may give generously to those in need and thereby show your love to the world around us. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED
P: Let us join together in confessing our faith with the saints who have gone before us, in the words of the Apostles' Creed:
C: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people, according to their needs.

The congregation responding at the end of each petition:

*P: ... Lord in your mercy. C: **Hear our prayer.***

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

P: Hear our petitions, O Lord, as we entrust our lives into your care this night.

C: We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray together the prayer our Savior taught us:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

The minister blesses the congregation:

P: May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant us peace and rest this night. May he watch over us until a new day has dawned, and may our hearts rejoice in his saving power; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

P: Let us bless the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN “For the Beauty of the Earth”

For the Beauty of the Earth

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1 For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour, Of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,

For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:
For the mys - tic har - mo - ny, Link - ing sense to sound and sight:
Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:

Refrain
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sac - ri - fice of praise.

5 For yourself, best gift divine
To the world so freely giv'n;

Agent of God's grand design,
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: *Refrain*

*Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872*

DIX
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POSTLUDE

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Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

PASTOR..... Pastor Chuck Mann
READER..... Randy Hall
ORGANIST LeAnn Richard
USHERS/GREETERS Maybell Job
ALTAR GUILD Janet Hanson & Theresa Petersen
SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Rick & LeAnn Richard

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Spring Forward

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed this Saturday, March 13th, so you will not be late for church.

Lenten Meals & Worship

Thank you, Stewardship Committee for serving the meal tonight. Join us next Wednesday, March 17th, for our Lenten meal served by the Evangelism Committee from 5:30 – 6:45 pm. They will be serving hot dishes and salads. Free-will offering going toward camperships for FLY going to Camp of the Cross this summer. Join us after the meal for our Lenten Worship drama series, “How to be a Disciple: The Reflections of a Contemporary Twelve” at 7:00 pm. The themes will be: Pride, false humility, true humility.

Kitchen Items

Kitchen items that have not been claimed are on a table in the narthex for a free-will donation to FLCW. Items remaining after tonight will be given to the McLean County Resource Center.

Food Drive

The "Kindness Class" at Washburn School is asking First Lutheran members to help them with a food drive. Would you please bring canned goods to church on Sunday, March 14th? The students will be here to collect and take to our Food Pantry. This is a class project and your donations will be appreciated. Thank you in advance.

LBW & WOV Hymnals

We will be ordering more LBW (green) and WOV (blue) hymnals. As of the printing of this bulletin we are looking at approximately 100 LBW at a cost of approximately \$32 per book and approximately 35 WOV at a cost of approximately \$15.75 per book. If you would like to help purchase any of these hymnals please talk to Jeannette in the church office. We may have a chance to purchase some from another church but how many and price is yet to be determined.

LBW books on the cart in the narthex are free for the taking.

Easter Egg Hunt

Volunteers are needed to help with the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 27th at 10:00 am at Harmony Park, next to the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center. This event is a FREE and open to all children. If interested in helping out, please talk to Laura Gardner ASAP!

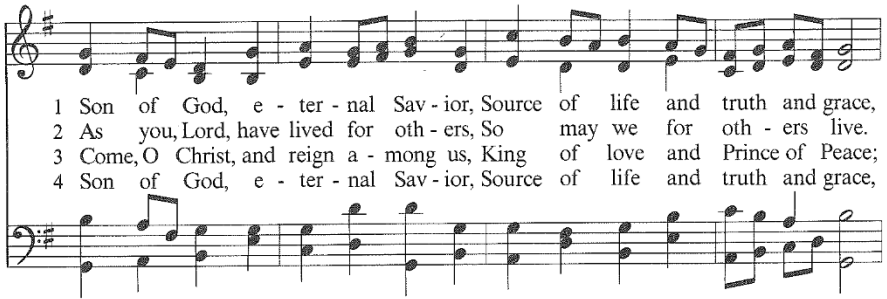
Looking for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers for the following:

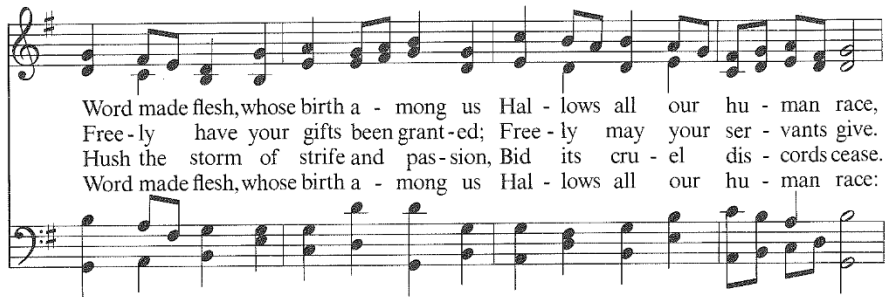
1. Preschool VBS director needed. You would be provided with curriculum and volunteers. We just need someone to organize the details. Probable dates and times are June 1-4 from 9:00-10:30.
2. Preschool VBS volunteers. This program is during the work day, so if you are available to help please let us know!
3. Elementary VBS. I am sad to report that Camp of the Cross will not be coming to do VBS this year. That means we will need to step up if we would like to provide a VBS program for our kids. We will need music people, craft people, game people and more. Please contact me if you would be interested in hopping on board! Probable dates are June 1-4 from 6:00-8:30. Thanks in advance!
Stacy Boeshans 701-240-8012
4. People to serve on the Endowment Committee. If interested please talk to Matt Gardner.
5. Anyone interested in serving on the Evangelism Committee. If interested contact Melanie Beckman.

Son of God, Eternal Savior

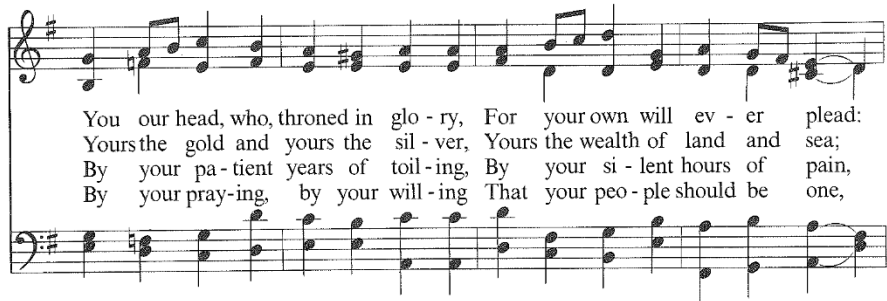
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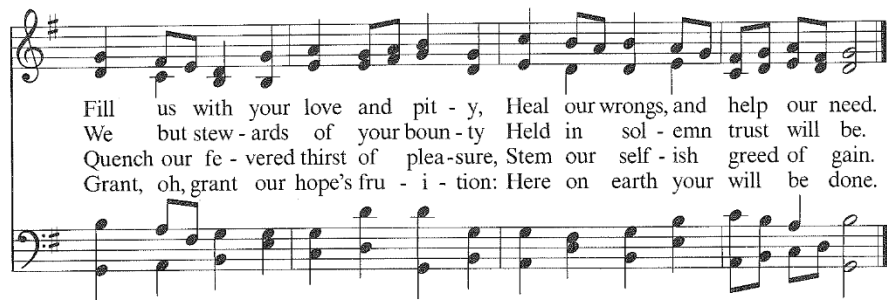
1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race:



You our head, who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent hours of pain,
 By your pray - ing, by your will - ing That your peo - ple should be one,



Fill us with your love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 We but stew - ards of your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.
 Quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 Grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth your will be done.