

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 24, 2021

Thomas and Nathanael

“On doubt, proof, and faith”

Themes: Seeing and believing

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.

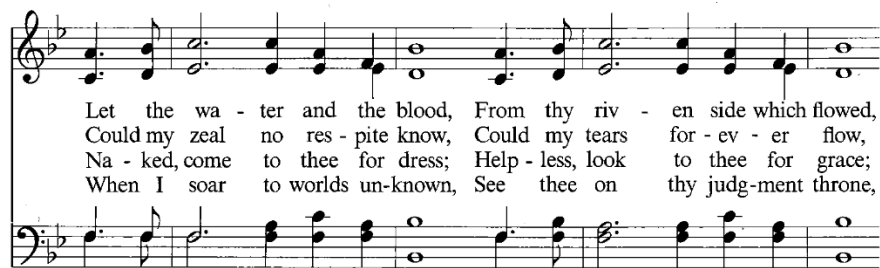
OPENING HYMN.....“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

327



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to thy cross I - cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; Help - less, look to thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un - known, See thee on thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in thee.

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 Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

PSALM (Read Responsively).....Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be put to shame;

let not my enemies exult over me.

³ Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.**

5 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

**6 Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

7 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

**8 Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

9 He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

**10 All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and
faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

11 For your name's sake, O Lord,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.

**12 Who is the man who fears the Lord?
Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.**

13 His soul shall abide in well-being,
and his offspring shall inherit the land.

**14 The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him,
and he makes known to them his covenant.**

15 My eyes are ever toward the Lord,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

**16 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.**

17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.

**18 Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**

19 Consider how many are my foes,
and with what violent hatred they hate me.

**20 Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.**

21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.

**22 Redeem Israel, O God,
out of all his troubles.**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:54-58
54 and coming to his hometown he taught them in their
synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, “Where did
this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? 55 Is not this
the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not
his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? 56 And
are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all
these things?” 57 And they took offense at him. But Jesus said
to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his
hometown and in his own household.” 58 And he did not do
many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.

*(Of the twelve apostles, Thomas and Nathanael show the
clearest evidence for borderline skepticism. Thomas asked for
material proof of the resurrection, so he is here cast as a
scientist. Nathanael doubted that anything good could come
out of Nazareth, so he is cast as a reporter. When faced with a
controversial claim, however, they do not immediately deny it,
but follow where the evidence leads. Mary Magdalene also
appears, and, like the others, adopts a just-the-facts attitude.)*

DRAMA Nathanael – Randy Hanson
Thomas – Jordan Swanson
Mary Magdalene – Lexi Solomonson

**HYMN On last page
“How Firm a Foundation”**

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 On next page
“He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought!”

POSTLUDE

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Today’s Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

PASTOR Pastor Chuck Mann

READER Judy Beaudry

ORGANIST LeAnn Richard

USHERS/GREETERS Joe & Kellie Sheldon

ALTAR GUILD Janet Hanson & Theresa Petersen

SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Rick & LeAnn Richard

501 He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought!

1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
 2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, Some-times where E-den's bow-ers bloom,
 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, Nor ev-er mur-mur nor re-pine;
 4 And when my task on earth is done, When by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,

What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
 By wa-ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, Still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
 Con-tent, what-ev-er lot I see, Since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
 E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jor-dan lead-eth me.

Refrain

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, By his own hand he lead-eth me.

His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, For by his hand he lead-eth me.

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.

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran is in the process of getting a hearing assist system to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this, please let Jeannette know in the church office so we have an idea of how many units to order.

Lenten Meals & Worship

Thank you, FLY for serving the meal tonight.

Quilting

Women! Join us for quilting tomorrow, March 25th, beginning at 9:00 am. This will be the only day we will be quilting this month.

Movie Night

FLCW (First Lutheran Church Women) will host a MOVIE NIGHT, Thursday, February 25th, at 7 pm. The movie is "THE EGG AND I". Very family friendly. It is 1 hour and 28 minutes long and popcorn will be provided. Bring your own drink. We are inviting families to this movie as it is part of a series. Every age will enjoy. Be there or you'll miss fabulous popcorn and fun.

Easter Lilies

Forms for the Easter Lilies are on the table in the narthex and will also be in the April newsletter going out this week. Please purchase your lily, attached the form and bring it to the secretary's hallway no later than noon on April 1st to be included in the Easter bulletin.

Easter Breakfast

We will have an Easter Breakfast this year thanks to Leilani Olafson volunteering to head it. Menu will be biscuits and gravy, muffins, fruit, orange juice and coffee. If you are willing to help with the breakfast, please talk to Leilani and volunteer your time! Free will offering will go to Community Outreach.

Looking for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers for the following:

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

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent members that have Thrivent Choice Dollars to direct to an organization, you have until March 31st to do that before you lose last year's dollars.

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 75 more LBW at a cost of \$32 per book and approximately 35 WOV at a cost of \$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.

A colorful graphic for an Easter Egg Hunt. At the top, the word "EASTER" is written in large, colorful letters (E: purple, A: pink, S: green, T: yellow, E: purple, R: pink) with a green leafy branch on either side. Below it, "EGG HUNT" is written in a striped font. In the center is a large purple cross. At the bottom, several colorful Easter eggs (pink, orange, purple, blue, green) are shown in a grassy field. The background is a light blue and green geometric pattern.

EASTER EGG HUNT

FIRST LUTHERAN
— C H U R C H —

Invites you to join us

Saturday, March 27

10:00 a.m.

at Harmony Park,

next to the

Lewis & Clark

Interpretive Center

for an Easter Egg Hunt!

This event is FREE and
open to all children.

For more information
go to FB: FLCWashburn
or call 701.462.3775

Easter Egg Hunt

Volunteers are needed to help with the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 27th. If interested in helping out, please talk to Laura Gardner ASAP!

Easter Basket

There is an easter basket in the narthex for donations to help offset the cost of the easter egg hunt. Thank you in advance for

your donation!

COMMITMENT

507

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

Is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
And then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
Like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne.