

THE WORD

A GOSPEL OPERA

CREATION PROLOGUE

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 Through Him all things came to be, apart from Him, nothing could be.
In the beginning, God looked around,
He took clay from the ground, and with His own breath,
He gave the clay life, He made man and wife.

ADAM God made me Adam, in His garden of life.
God took my rib, and He formed Eve my wife.

(EVE joins ADAM.)

We were sent forth to be fertile and good,
But our eyes were opened when we ate of the food
That we knew was forbidden.
We were ashamed to be seen by God's face.
We were the blessed, but we fell from God's grace.

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 God saw the people and their wicked ways,
God was displeased, and He numbered their days.
God saw one man who was still good at heart
A man who obeyed and could play a part, could play a part.
God sent the floods to destroy His creation,
Noah's ark floated throughout the duration.

NOAH God formed a covenant with me and my sons so life could go on.
God sent the floods o'er the land to wash man away,
We sailed in an ark, and when all was done,
We saw in the sky a rainbow, the sign that God's promise would stay,
And that never again would he kill all of life as He had done today.

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 In the beginning, God chose a man of trust and great faith
To be a Father of nations, of God's chosen ones.
Of his descendants Kings would arise,
And as a sign of God's covenant, all males of his people would be circumcised.
These nations would prosper in lands far away,
This bond everliving in the flesh of the people of God.

ABRAHAM God called me in a dream when my name was Abram:
"Countless as the stars will your descendants will grow."
And in my old age, my wife bore a son from whom nations would flow
And nations would settle in lands that I don't even know.
But because of my faith, I would be Abraham,
Father of all of God's people.

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 God saw his people were living in exile, oppressed and in bondage,
Slaves to the Pharaoh of Egypt,
God chose from among them a man to deliver His people to freedom
And bring them to comfort and give them a hope for the future.
God gave them the Law to help them in living
As a holy and independent nation of God.

MOSES The voice called Moses from the bush that burned flame:
 “This ground is sacred to God's holy name.
 My people are slaves but the time has now come.
 You shall have power to lead them to freedom.”
 And so through my staff God parted the sea
 And we traveled the desert to search for a home.

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 God found a shepherd boy, a descendant of Abraham
 To be king and unite His people into one.
 God chose a boy of faith and devotion.
 He was blessed for his goodness, and punished for his sins.
 He always repented of the wrongs he would do
 To return to the goodness of God.

DAVID I am David, a shepherd boy, hear the song I sing.
 I was just a lad, and the Lord God was with me
 When I killed the giant with my sling,
 He made me strong, He made me King.
 God's people were divided and I was sent to bring
 The two into one, to be ruled as one nation by God's chosen King.
 With a heart that's more joyful than any bell can ring,
 For the love of my God, hear the song I sing.

NARRATOR 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

NARRATOR 2 God's people were sinful and wicked and living in darkness,
 He promised the coming of one, one who would save:
 A king who would reign in love and in peace.
 A hope for the future, a comfort and light.
 God sent Isaiah to proclaim loud and clear:
 A return to the Lord, a return to the Lord,
 For the coming is near.

ISAIAH Israel, repent! You are lost! You are hungry!
 Alone and in darkness, you cannot escape to the light!
 But a great light is coming, from the line of King David, to rule in peace
 A child will be born, God is with us, Emmanuel,
 These are the signs:

CAST
 ISAIAH There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!
 CAST There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!
 CAST There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!

ISAIAH All of the children of Israel have suffered long and enough.
 Listen to the voice that shouts of the glory of God.
 Clear out the deserts, make smooth the rough lands!
 Fill all the valleys and level the mountains!
 All of the earth will see the great promise of God!

CAST
 ISAIAH There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!
 ISAIAH There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!
 CAST There is the voice of one crying in the wilderness!

JOHN THE BAPTIZER I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness!
 Make all the pathways straight for the time is drawing near.
 I am the voice of one crying in the desert.
 Open your hearts and prepare for the Lord!

 Mine are the hands that are washing all the sins away.
 Come to the river! Come, let the water make you pure.
 I am the voice of one sent ahead to tell the news.
 Now is the time to prepare for the Lord!

 Do not mistake me for God's anointed holy lamb.
 I am His messenger readying the world for Him.
 I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness.
 Open your hearts and prepare for the Lord!

JOHN THE BAPTIZER
Continued

(spoken)

You snakes! You vipers! Who warned you to escape from the wrath that is coming? You must prove yourselves by bearing fruits worthy of repentance! Do not say to yourselves, "We have Abraham for our Father" for I tell you this: God can make children for Abraham out of these stones and rocks. Watch out! For now the ax is cutting down all the trees! Those trees that bear bad fruit will be cut down and thrown onto the fire!

You see me here -- I baptize you with water for the cleansing of your sins. Come and get it now, because the one who comes after me is much mightier than I am. He stands among you now, yet you do not know him, and I, I am not even fit to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with Fire!

CAST and JOHN THE BAPTIZER Holy Lamb of God: Cry, Voice, Cry!

NARRATORS 1&2 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,
And the Word became...

ACT I

NARRATORS 1&2 (cont'd) ... Flesh.

WASHING UP

JESUS I am here and I would like to get washed up.
I am here and I have even brought my cup.

JOHN THE BAPTIZER This is the one I told you of, this is the one who's come.
This is the one I told you of, He's the one who's come.
Clear a way for Him to walk, Oh make a path for Him.

CAST Clear a way for Him to walk, Oh make a path for Him.
JOHN My heart leaps just to hear your voice, and to meet you face to face.
CAST Face!
JOHN In the flesh here you stand before me, I kneel and beg your grace.
CAST Grace!
JOHN You're asking me to baptize you, a paradox this would be.
CAST Be!
JOHN I think you've got it wrong, man, I think it's you who should wash me.
JESUS No, don't change your role, oh no let it be the same.
Yes, you should wash me it goes well with your name.
CAST He is John, John the Baptizer.
JOHN I insist that your holy fire cleanse me with its power.
JESUS No, no, no, I assure you that is left for a special hour.
So for now let us do all that God has asked.
CAST All that God has asked, Oh!
JESUS We do well to follow the script to the very last.
CAST Follow the script to the very last.
JOHN Then let it be done as you would wish it to be.
CAST As you wish, as you wish, as you wish, as you wish.
JOHN And some time you can do the same for me.
JESUS *(spoken)* As you wish! Ha ha ha ha!
JOHN Oh, everybody sing it with me ya!

JOHN & CAST He has come and he would like to get washed up.
JESUS Oh, wash me up, ya!
JOHN & CAST He has come and he has even brought his cup.
"BUCKET BOY" See the cup he ba-rings!

JOHN & CAST He has come and he would like to get washed up.
JESUS Where do I go?
"BUCKET BOY" You go here, man.
JESUS *(half spoken, half sung)* Oh, here do I go! Ha ha ha!
JOHN & CAST He has come and he has even brought his cup.
"BUCKET BOY" Come closer to the water, man!

JOHN & CAST He has come and he would like to get washed up.
JESUS Oh, happy day!
JOHN & CAST He has come and he has even brought his cup.
JESUS Oh, happy day, happy day, happy day, happy day, happy day!

RITE OF BAPTISM

JOHN By this water may you come clean.
 JOHN & HELPERS Let your soul be washed up well.
 JOHN Turn away from the sinful path
 JOHN & HELPERS Lest you find yourself in eternal, in eternal hell.

JOHN Now, today, you have seen
 JOHN & HELPERS God's Holy Lamb.
 This is the one I told you of, this is the one who's come.
 JOHN See the spirit
 JOHN & HELPERS Rest on his blessed head.
 This is the one I told you of, this is the one who's come.
 This is the one I told you of, this is the one who's come.

So, by this water may you come clean.
 Let your soul be washed up well.
 Turn away from the sinful path
 Lest you find yourself in eternal, in eternal hell.

JOHN By this water may you come clean.
 JOHN & HELPERS By this water may you come clean.
 By this water may you come clean.
 By this water may you come clean.
 JOHN By this water may you come clean.

DEVIL IN THE DESERT

DEVIL Forty days is long enough to have no food or drink.
 Must be gettin hungry, mmm don't you think?
 I see that you're a holy man, come here all alone.
 I hear that there's a man around making bread from stone.
 Hey, maybe you're the dude, the Son of God indeed.
 And maybe we should all bow down, and pray some sacred creed.
 Well, if you're feelin hungry, we're feelin that way, too.
 Make a feast from all these rocks, a feast for me and you,
 Isn't that good friend? A feast for me and you!

JESUS Don't you know your Scripture sir, or are you not well read?
 To live, I need the words of God, I can't live alone on bread.
 Don't you know your Scripture, sir, and all the prophets said?
 The words of God can fill your soul, man, you've got to use your head.

DEVIL Aaah, let's climb up the Temple, friend, its peak so high and tall.
 Hang over the edge here, take my dare and fall.
 Scripture says God's angels, active all day long,
 Their hands will hold you safely, God's angels they are strong.
 It's written in the Scripture, God will scream and shout.
 He'll order all his angels, and they'll all scramble out.
 And so I quote verbatim, your precious words, you know,
 God's angels, they will save you, from the rocks below,
 Yeah yeah yeah yeah, from the rocks below.

JESUS Those precious words you quote so well, and I know you try your best,
 But you're mixing it around, you see, why don't you give yourself a rest.
 You got to keep those words so precious, don't you try and jest.
 For it is also written: "Do not put your Lord God to the test."

DEVIL I'd like to show you now, my friend, a very special deal:
 All this I will give you, Oh, it really is a steal.
 The treasures of the world, cars and girls and gold,
 To have while you are young, or to have while you grow old.
 The pleasures of the feast, the very best in life.
 A ruby for your girlfriend, a diamond for your wife.
 And all you got to do, it's really almost free,
 Just get down on your knees, and simply worship me!
 Get down on it now, simply worship me! Get down on it!

CAST Aaaah

JESUS Well, I know the truth, and yes I know your game.
Get away you Satan! I reject your wicked name.
Scripture says that when you kneel, kneel before God's throne.
Praise and glory give to God, and worship God alone!

A GRAIN OF WHEAT

JESUS Do they know that the time has come
Can they listen can they see?
Don't they know that the news is good,
And that they soon will all be free?

Do they see the grain of wheat that falls
And the harvest that will rise?
Don't they know that all this goodness showers down
Only if the grain of wheat first dies?

Joy and gladness instead of grief,
Every broken heart will find relief.
Songs of sorrow will turn to praise,
The people will be trees of justice, planted by the Lord,
Doing what is right for all their days.

Do they know the seed is planted now?
Let them not strain or miss the sight.
Can they taste the waters raining all around?
Let them see day conquer the night.

Now I come to the needy so oppressed,
To the tortured I hear groan in pain.
Open up your ears, open up your eyes,
Celebrate the harvest of the grain.

Blessed eyes and blessed ears:
What you see and hear is the grain of wheat that falls to die.
To bring a thousand fruits to life,
Bring faith to those who sigh, heal a million hearts,
Console the ones who cry out day and night.

The hour has come for me to gather all God's little ones,
To show them the great light that calls to lead them home.
To tell them of the banquet feast set for them to eat,
And save those who believe that they can live forever,
Live forever, live forever, live forever.

CAST Ooh

JESUS God's awesome spirit is upon me now!
I am anointed, I am opened for the world.
I am the fire burning in the dark of night
Sent forth to set ablaze the lowly ones.

And so the hour has come to heal the heavy hearted,
Shatter all the shackles of the slaves.
Set the prisoners free, open all the doors,
Announce the great forgiveness of our God.

With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

JESUS & CAST With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!

JESUS & CAST All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
Continued God has sent the savior to the world.

All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
 God has sent the savior to the world.

All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
 God has sent the savior to the world.

All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
 God has sent the savior to the world.

BLESSED AND HAPPY

JESUS Woe to the man who puts faith in his treasures,
 Your gold consoles you only now.

 Woe to the woman who feasts a great feast,
 For she shall feel great pangs of hunger.

 And woe to all of you who laugh in this life...
 For you shall weep great tears of grief and never laugh again.

 But happy and blessed are the children of God
 Who suffer all things in this world:
 You are not forgotten, Oh no, so be glad and rejoice!

SOLOIST Blessed are they, the poor in spirit,
 Theirs is the Kingdom of God.
 Happy are they who feel a great hunger,
 They shall be filled.
 Blest be the ones who all cry,
 For they shall soon smile and laugh.
 You are not forgotten oh, no, so be glad and rejoice.

CAST Oooh

SOLOIST Blessed are they who show mercy,
 They shall find mercy themselves.
 Happy are they who seek and share peace,
 They are God's children
 Holy are those pure in heart,
 For they shall see God.
 You are not forgotten oh no, so be glad and rejoice.

CAST Aaah

SOLOIST Blessed are those
 Tortured for holiness' sake,
 The kingdom of God belongs to them.

JESUS And blessed are you when you're slandered,
 And people will hate you, all cause of me,

JESUS & SOLOIST You are not forgotten oh no, so be glad and rejoice.

CAST
 Blessed are they, the poor in spirit,
 Theirs is the Kingdom of God.
 Happy are they who feel a great hunger,
 They shall be filled.
 Blest be the ones who all cry,
 For they shall soon smile and laugh.

ECHOES
 Blessed are they
 Happy are they
 Blest be the ones

CAST You are not forgotten oh, no, so be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice.

<p>CAST Blessed are they who show mercy, They shall find mercy themselves. Happy are they who seek and share peace, They are God's children. Holy are those pure in heart, For they shall see God.</p>	<p>ECHOES Blessed are they Happy are they Holy are those</p>
<p>CAST You are not forgotten oh, no, so be glad and rejoice. So be glad and rejoice.</p>	<p>ECHOES Blessed are those Kingdom of God</p>
<p>JESUS And blessed are you when you're slandered, And people will hate you, all cause of me,</p>	
<p>CAST You are not forgotten oh no</p>	

LEAD GROUP
 So be glad and rejoice!
 So be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice.
 So be glad and rejoice!

ECHO 1
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice,
 'joyce!

ECHO 2
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!
 Be glad and rejoice!

OUR FATHER & PEACE SONG

JESUS *(Spoken.)* Now, when you pray, do not use many meaningless words, like the pagans do.
 They think God will hear them because their prayers are long.
 But, I tell you that your Father already knows what you need before you ask.
 So, this is how you should pray:

(Sung.) Our Father in heaven,
 May your holy name be honored.
 May your kingdom come, may your will be done,
 On earth as it is in heaven.
 And give us today the food we need,
 Forgive us the wrongs we have done,
 As we forgive the wrongs that others do to us.
 And do not bring us to hard testing,
 But keep us safe from the Evil One.

For the Kingdom is yours,
 And the power is yours,
 And the glory is yours,
 Today, and forever.

SOLOIST
 I wish to spread your peace like water flowing,
 I wish to turn all hate to love.
 I wish to mend the wrongs when people hurt each other so,
 Dispel the doubts and help others find the faith

Oh, Master, master of all that I know,
 Oh, help me to be a source of consolation,
 Guide me on the path to understanding,
 And teach me, oh, teach me how to love with all that's in my soul,
 With all that's in my soul,
 With all that's in my soul...

(ad lib. Until song ends)

SING OUT!

SOLOIST Sing out loud so that your song can go to heaven.
 Raise your voice so that your heart can shout with thunder.
 Then lift your soul, rejoice and shake the mountains.
 For the God of light and his awesome works of wonder.
 And Sing:

CAST Alleluia Baby!

WOMEN
Believe and you can tell the hills to fall into the seas.
Have faith and you can calm the raging storm to silent peace.
Believe and you can tell the hills to fall into the seas.
Have faith and you can calm the raging storm to silent peace.
Be strong and let your light shine so your goodness all can see.
Be strong and let your light shine!

Be strong and let your light shine so your goodness all can see.
Be strong and let your light shine!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
Your goodness all can see, oh yeah!

SOLOIST

Let the lion roar
 and the lamb lay down beside him.
Let believers know
 what the prophets longed to see.
Let the children smile
 the shining smile of God in heaven.
And let all who hear
 the Word of God be filled with glee, yeah!

SOLOIST And sing:
CAST Alleluia Baby!
WOMEN
Sing Alleluia!
Sing Alleluia!
Sing Alleluia!
Sing Allelu-ia!

Believe and you can tell the hills to fall into the seas.
Have faith and you can calm the raging storm to silent peace.
Believe and you can tell the hills to fall into the seas.
Have faith and you can calm the raging storm to silent peace.
Be strong and let your light shine so your goodness all can see.
Be strong and let your light shine!

Be strong and let your light shine so your goodness all can see.
Be strong and let your light shine!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
So your goodness all can see!
Your goodness all can see, oh yeah!

MEN
Go tell the hills and shake it down.
Go calm the storm and all around.
Go tell the hills and shake it down.
Go calm the storm and all around.
And let your light shine baby,
And let your light shine!

And let your light shine baby,
And let your light shine!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good, so good,
So good, so good, oh yeah!

CAST

Let the lion roar!

Let believers know!

Let the children smile!

Hear the Word of Go-od!

MEN
Sing Allelu!
Sing Allelu!
Sing Allelu!
Sing Allelu-ia!

Go tell the hills and shake it down.
Go calm the storm and all around.
Go tell the hills and shake it down.
Go calm the storm and all around.
And let your light shine baby,
And let your light shine!

And let your light shine baby,
And let your light shine!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good to see!
So good, so good,
So good, so good, oh yeah!

GOOD SAMARITAN

BASS SINGER Do do do dum do do dum...etc
CAST Shoo wop, shoo wop, etc.

QUESTIONING MAN What should I do to win life forever?

JESUS What does the Good Book say?

QUESTIONING MAN You shall love the Lord your God
With all your heart,
With all your soul,
With all of your strength,
With all your mind.
Love your neighbor as you love yourself.

JESUS That, my friend, is so right.

QUESTIONING MAN But I have just one more question that needs clearing up:
How do I know who my neighbor is?

JESUS Well, you're just in time my friend to see...

BASS SINGER Dum dum dum dum ... etc
CAST Ba da da, dada da dum...etc

SOLOIST 1 There was a man who traveled on a very dangerous road,
It stretched out from Jerusalem all the way to Jericho.
Well on this day so fine and fair, the sun was shining bright,
Up stepped a gang of thieves which knocked our man right out of sight.

CAST They stripped him and they beat him up,
They whacked him in the head!
They took his purse and golden watch
And left him there for dead...
Yeah!

BASS SINGER They took his purse and golden watch
CAST And left him there for dead...

SOLOIST 2 Now, down this very road there came a judge of great acclaim.
He served for years upon his chair and he won himself great fame.
A wise and noble judge was he who ruled decisions fair,
The people, they all honored him when he sat upon his chair.
Well, anyway, our friend the judge, so proud of his great name,
He looked, and quickly turned his head, and he hurried by just the same.
He looked, and quickly turned his head, and he hurried by just the same.

SOLOIST 3 Now, so too did a priest appear, a walkin down this same road.
He lived a strict and careful life by the Good Lord's holy code.
This good priest upon his back had relics he would sell:
Holy things to save your soul from the evil fangs of hell.
A righteous, pious priest was he, a heart so pure and rare,
But it was much to dark for him, to see a dying man dying there.
But it was much to dark for him, to see a dying man dying there.

SOLOIST 1 Now a third man came along, a Samaritan no doubt.
How he was moved to tears to see a fellow so down and out.
He took some disinfecting oils and a great big bottle of wine
To nurse the poor guy back to health and soon the fellow, he felt just fine.
The man, he said, could ride his beast, they rode on to an inn.
Our friend, put up his room and board, like a Good Samaritan.

SAMARITAN I'll pay all the expenses for his care when I return.

SOLOIST 1 Our story's told, the song is done, so now we must adjourn.
SOLOIST 2 Our story's told, the song is done, so now we must adjourn.
SOLOIST 3 & CAST Our story's told, the song is done, so now we must adjourn. Bop!

I RAISE MY EYES

MALE and FEMALE SOLOISTS To you, I raise my eyes
To search the skies above.
To you, I raise my eyes
To find your face of love.

MALE SOLOIST When I close my eyes, and hear the sounds around me now,
I can see in all the darkness all the things I want to see.
I am safe and so secure and all by myself...

FEMALE SOLOIST Myself

MALE and FEMALE SOLOISTS To you, I raise my eyes
To search the skies above.
To you, I raise my eyes
To find your face of love.

MALE SOLOIST I think that I have been through all there is to bring me down,
All there is to break my back, and fill my soul with sorrow.
I make myself so safe and so secure. But still I'm by myself...

FEMALE SOLOIST Myself...

MALE and FEMALE SOLOISTS To you, I raise my eyes
To search the skies above.
To you, I raise my eyes
To find your face of love.

MALE SOLOIST The sun rises on the bad and good.
The rain falls on the righteous and dishonest.
The birds soar so high in the sky.
The wild flowers grow so bright in all their colors.
I see all of this
When I open up my eyes...

FEMALE SOLOIST On the bad and good.
Righteous and dishonest.
Soar...
Wildflowers grow.
When I open up my eyes...

MALE and FEMALE SOLOISTS To you, I raise my eyes
To search the skies above.
To you, I raise my eyes
To find your face of love.

To find your face of love...

GOD IS COMING

GUEST PREACHER I woke up today,
I heard the clitter clatter of a thousand lost souls...
They were sprinting,
and running,
and clamoring,
back down that escalator leading up to that great gig in the sky.
They were all attempting to redeem themselves,
oh but I say that it was too late,
oh, too too late,
poor unfortunate ones...

MINISTER (*spoken*) Now you know...
(*sings*) There comes a time, oh don't you know,
When the sun starts settin down and the cold winds start to blow.
And at that there time, it's time to go
To meet the great commander or his enemy below.

MINISTER (*sings*)
Continued

Now when that time comes, it's far too late
To go running all around and try to polish up your slate.
So what I say, while you and you are here:
Listen, can't you hear that the train is running near?

So, don't sit around, get up I say!
Get going now and do all the good you can today!
Don't put it off until tomorrow, do all...
Do all the good you can today!

MINISTER & CAST Aaaaaamen!
MINISTER (*spoken*) Sing!
MINISTER & CAST Aaaaaamen!
MINISTER (*spoken*) A-one, two, three!

MINISTER

God is coming,
Save your soul!
God is coming,
Save your soul!
Don't be shut out,
In the co-o-old.
God is coming so save your soul!

God is coming,
He's a coming!
God is coming,
He's a coming!
Don't be caught up,
Don't be locked out of doors!
Don't be sleeping, don't be snoozing,
God's a coming, Oh mighty Lord!

Start a running,
Start a loving,
Sing with angels
Up above'n.
Pray your praying,
Call his na-a-ame!
He's floating down just like a dove.

He's a roaring
Like the lion.
He's a burning,
Like the sun.
Lightning flashes,
And sinners ru-u-un!
His day of judgment has begun!

Whoa (*ad lib*)

He's a roaring
Like the lion.
He's a burning,
Like the sun.
Lightning flashes,
And sinners ru-u-un!
His day of judgment has begun!
His day of judgment has begun!
CAST

MINISTER & CAST His day of judgment has begun!
Aaa-aaa-men!

(*echoes MINISTER*)

God is coming,
Save your soul!
God is coming,
Save your soul!
Don't be shut out,
In the co-o-old.
God is coming, so save your soul, save your soul!

Yes he is!
Oh mighty Lord!
With a fire!
A mighty sword!
Unawares!
Locked out of doors!
Sleepin'! Snoozin'!
God's a comin', Oh mighty Lord!

Start a running,
Start a loving,
Sing with angels
Up above'n.
Pray your praying,
Call his na-a-ame!
He's floating down just like a dove, just like a dove.

He's a roaring
Like the lion.
He's a burning,
Like the sun.
Lightning flashes,
Sinners ru-u-un!
His day of judgment has begun, it has begun!

Whoa

He's a roaring
Like the lion.
He's a burning,
Like the sun.
Lightning flashes,
Sinners ru-u-un!
His day of judgment has begun, it has begun!
His day of judgment has begun, it has begun!

ACT II

GOD IS COMING REPRISE

CAST Oooh

God is coming!
Save your soul!
God is coming!
Save your soul!
Don't be shut out,
In the co-o-old.
God is coming so save your soul...

A-men!

JOHN THE BAPTIZER/CONDUCTOR (*spoken loudly*) Sing!

CAST A-men!

HOLY HOSANNA

MALE EMCEE(1 or 2)
Everybody say ho!
Ho! Ho!
Everybody say ho!
And give it up!

CAST
Ho!
Ho! Ho!
Ho!

Everybody say ho!
Ho! Ho!
Everybody say ho!
In the house! Yeah!

Ho!
Ho! Ho!
Ho!

Everybody say ho!

Ho!

Everybody say ...holy!
Holy!
Holy!

Holy!
Holy!
Holy!

Everybody say holy! Holy!
Holy! Holy!
Holy! Holy!

Holy! Holy!
Holy! Holy!
Holy! Holy!

Everybody say, everybody say, everybody say holy!
Holy!

Holy!
Holy!

Everybody say, everybody say, everybody say holy!

Holy!

Everybody say holy!
Holy !
Holy!

Holy!
Holy!
Ho!

CAST ALTO GROUP (*sing 10 times*)

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy

CAST SOPRANO 1 GROUP (*Joins. Sing 8 times*)

Holy, holy, holy, holy

CAST SOPRANO 2 GROUP (*Joins. Sing 6 times*)

Holy, holy, holy, holy

CAST MEN (*Joins. Sing 4 times*)

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy

CAST

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Sing, sing, sing, sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing, sing, sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing, sing, sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing, sing, sing Hosanna!

MEN
ALTOS
SOPRANOS

Praise to David's son, Sing Hosanna!
Holy, holy is our Lord!
Bless this King who comes, Sing Hosanna!

CAST In the name of God so great!
Hosanna! Hosanna!

SOLOIST The prophet says, "Tell the city Zion:
Her humble King is on his way
And all the angel choirs say,"

CAST Hosanna! Hosanna!

CAST STAGE RIGHT	CAST STAGE LEFT
If the people will not praise him,	If the people will not praise him,
If the people will not praise him,	If the people will not praise him,
If the people will not praise him,	If the people will not praise him,
If the people will not praise him,	If the people will not praise him,

CAST If the people will not praise him,
Then the stones will shout it out!

CAST Hosanna! Hosanna!

Sing, sing sing sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing sing sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing sing sing Hosanna!
Sing, sing sing sing Hosanna!

MEN Praise to David's son, Sing Hosanna!
ALTOS Holy, holy is our Lord!
SOPRANOS Bless this King who comes, Sing Hosanna!
CAST In the name of God so great!

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna! Hosanna!

STOP!

JESUS Stop!
This is it, now it begins. This is it, now it begins.

CAST This is it, now it begins. This is it, now it begins.

JESUS Stop!

LAMENT FOR JERUSALEM

JESUS Jerusalem. Jerusalem. Jerusalem.

O Jerusalem, O Jerusalem
The prophets I have sent you stone them.
The messengers I send, you murder them.

How I long to cradle you,
How I long to comfort you,
To hold you ever close,
To feel you in my arms.

If there was some way you could know
What is needed to bring peace.
Still, Your eyes turn blind, your ears are sealed,
Your enemies are on their way.

They'll seal you off and close you in,
They'll cut you down to shreds
And all your peoples there within.

Jerusalem. Jerusalem. Jerusalem.

JESUS
Continued

O Jerusalem, O Jerusalem.
Marvel at the beauty of your kings
Who dwell in stately majesty on your walls.
No stone will stay in place,
Nothing will remain,
No, not a trace because your eyes are blind, your ears are sealed.

How I wish to sing to you the happy news I bring:
God is here right now,
He has come to save you!
And yet you turn away...

Jerusalem. Jerusalem. Jerusalem.

It is not right for a prophet to be killed anywhere but in
Jerusalem.

REPRIMANDING PHARISEES

JESUS (*spoken*) It always makes me sing the blues.

(*sings*) Go and weep, go and cry,
You pathetic hypocrites,
You priests and scribes and lawyers.
You Pharisees,
You wash your cup on the outside only.
Don't be fools, you are smart enough to know
That the maker of that cup made the inside good and clean,
But you have made it dirty.

Go and weep, go and cry,
You sorry, sorry souls,
You lousy excuse for leaders of the people,
Who honor you and praise you.
Well you pay your taxes, well you pray your prayers,
But you show no love to the God who deserves it so.

Go and weep, go and cry,
You thieving, lying scoundrels,
You sit in your high and mighty robes.
You break all the backs of the people with impossible jobs.
Sit back in your chairs, don't you lift a finger,
But I'm telling you right now, you're gonna pay for it all!

Go and weep, go and cry,
You assassins, you murderers,
You twist around all the words of the prophets I have sent you,
And you stone them til their blood has spilled in the streets.

So it is written in the wisdom of God:
Woe to you, you're gonna pay for it all.

So it is written in the wisdom of God:
Woe to you, you're gonna pay for it all.

So it is written in the wisdom of God:
Woe to you, you're gonna pay for it all.

HOE-DOWN

JESUS (*Spoken, can ad lib, improvise*)
And now, take heed about those days of Final Judgment, and it all begins with a mighty...

CAST w/ JESUS YeeHaw!

SOLOIST 1 If you know the Lord is coming soon, then why you sitting humming tunes,
And doing nothing passing all your time away each day?

SOLOISTS 1,2,3 Cause you better start to washin all that sinning
You been doing and-a change the way your living,
Drop to your knees and start to pray.

CAST When is the day? Oh, we just don't know.
 What is the hour? Oh we just don't know.
 It may be in the night time, it may be at the dawn.
 He may come when the sun sets, or when the sun is high at noon.

SOLOIST 1 Yes the Kingdom's getting nearer and the signs are getting clearer,
 You can almost see the gates and all it's shimmering, shining walls

SOLOIST 1,2,3 If you think you'll miss the things you can't get,
 Well, surely there's a day you'll regret
 When all you feel around you are the Devil's wicked claws!

CAST When is the day? Oh, we just don't know.
 What is the hour? Oh we just don't know.
 It may be in the night time, it may be at the dawn.
 He may come when the sun sets, or when the sun is high at noon.

CALLER Bow to your partner.
 Curtsy to your partner.
 Bow to your corner.
 Curtsy to your corner.
 Bring your partner in and out.
 Make some noise, y'all now give a shout.
 Swing your partner round and round.
 Now let's make this a hoe-down.

 Doesy Doe, it has begun.
 And everybody's having fun!
 Change direction, prance around.
 Smile big now, don't you frown!
 Slap them knees, a-one by one.
 Kick em out and lift em high
 Stomp the ground. Loud and strong, now.
 Meet your neighbor and don't be shy.
 Grand weave!

CAST Aah

 When is the day? Oh, we just don't know.
 What is the hour? Oh we just don't know.
 It may be in the night time, it may be at the dawn.
 He may come when the sun sets, or when the sun is high at noon.

 It may be in the night time, it may be at the dawn.
 He may come when the sun sets, or when the
 Sun is high at noon.

 Oh Yeah!

TASTE AND SEE

CAST Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!
 Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!

 SOLOIST (*interacting with JESUS*) CAST (*dancing*)

When I was lost in a land of despair, wandering all alone,
You led me along with a fire so bright in the sky.
When wicked men sharpened all of their words,
And cut me down with their swords,
You were there to protect me in the shadow of your wings.

 SOLOIST with JESUS Aah aah Aah aah

When I'm on my own or lost in a crowd,
I'm gonna stop and sing out loud!
I'm gonna stop, and sing out loud!

 ...Gonna stop! and sing out loud!
 Gonna stop! and sing out loud!

CAST Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!
 Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!

SOLOIST (*interacting with JESUS*)
When I was swimming in sin, and my mind was all black,
And my eyes had grown blind to goodness,
And you know it was so dark inside,
You cleansed my heart and made it pure,
You brought my spirit right back to you,
yeah, my spirit right back to you.

CAST (*pantomiming Good Samaritan*)
Ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ah aah

Ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ah aah

When the storms were all thundering,
lightning was flashing,
And kingdoms were shaking and crumbling and tumbling
Right down to the ground,
You know I found some safety in the shelter of your love.

Ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ah aah

Ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ah aah

SOLOIST with JESUS
When I'm on my own or lost in a crowd.
I'm gonna stop ... and sing out loud!
I'm gonna stop, and sing out loud!

Aah aah Aah aah
...Gonna stop! and sing out loud!
Gonna stop! and sing out loud!

CAST
Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!
Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!

SOLOIST
When I'm on my own or lost in a crowd,
I'm gonna stop! ... and sing out loud,
I'm gonna stop! and sing out loud!

CAST
Aah aah Aah aah
...Gonna stop! and sing out loud!
Gonna stop! and sing out loud!

CAST
Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!
Oh Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!

CAST
JESUS
CAST
SOLOIST
CAST
JESUS
CAST
SOLOIST
Oooh, ooh ooh ooh, ooh sweet love!
Like a big fat Hershey Kiss!
Oooh, ooh ooh ooh, ooh sweet love!
Like a rich Boston Creme Pie!
Oooh, ooh ooh ooh, ooh sweet love!
Like a luscious cinnamon Bun!
Oooh, ooh ooh ooh, ooh sweet love!
Like a juicy red apple-oh!

CAST
JESUS
CAST
SOLOIST
CAST
JESUS
CAST
SOLOIST
CAST
JESUS
CAST
SOLOIST
CAST
Oh!
Wah-oh!
Wah-oh!
Oh yeah!
Oh yeah!
Oh yeah!
Oh yeah!
Wah-hoo!
Wah-hoo!
Hey!
Hey!
Wah ah ah ah oh!
Wah ah ah ah oh!

JESUS
CAST
JESUS
CAST
JESUS
CAST
JESUS
CAST
Tasty!
Love!

CAST
Taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!
Oh taste, taste and see the sweet love of God!

Oh taste, taste and see... the sweet love... of God!

WASHING DOWN (OF THE FEET)

JESUS By this water may you come clean.
Let your feet be washed down well.
For anyone can take a bath.
There's still more to do to save you from eternal hell.

PETER Stop! I can't let you wash my feet,
They've stepped in all kinds of stuff in the street.
I'll go and find another one to do this chore,
And we will sit and listen if you tell us more.
Yes, tell us more of what's still in store.

JESUS You just don't know what I do now,
But later on your eyes will open wide.

PETER No, Lord, never will you wash my feet and kneel before me,
No matter what it is in the future I might see.

JESUS If I don't wash your feet, my friend,
You cannot follow me,
Your life with me will end.

PETER Now, wait! Wait a minute! Don't let me upset you.
Don't stop with my feet, wash my hands, and my head up, too!

JESUS By this water may you come clean.
Let your feet be washed down well.
For anyone can take a bath,
But still their feet are dirty, and the dirt is close to hell.

Do you see the washing I have done?
I who you have rightly called your teacher and your Lord
Do now for each other what I have done for you,
I who you have rightly called your teacher and your Lord.

This is my example, wash each others' feet.
It's what you should do for each other,
And all whom you will meet on the street [*aside*] with dirty feet.

I speak the truth to you: no slave is greater than the master,
No messenger outranks the one who sent him, the one who sent him.
Now you know the truth, live and share this with all the world.

I speak the truth to you, whoever receives my messenger receives me, too.
And whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.
Now you know the truth, live and share this with all the world.

So, by this water may you come clean.
Let your soles be washed down well.
For anyone can take a bath,
There still is more to do to save you
From eternal, from eternal, from eternal hell.

By this water may you come clean.

CAST By this water may you come clean. (*repeat, Jesus ad lib*)

LAST DINNER

TWO FEMALE DISCIPLES By this water, may you come clean

JESUS Blessed are you, O Lord, our God,
King of the Universe,
Who bids us eat bitter herbs.

My last wish, my one desire: Love one another as I have loved you.
The greatest gift of all is to lay down your life for a friend.
When I am gone, you will grieve and sorrow.

JESUS
Continued

But you soon shall forget all your grief and rejoice!
Your joy will be like a mother's joy who forgets all her childbearing pains
When she cradles her newborn child in her arms.

You know the truth, you have faith in me.
You believe in me and in Him who sent me.
Do this in the memory of me.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe
Who brings forth bread from the earth.

Take this bread and eat for this is my body.

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe
Who creates the fruit of the vine.

Drink of this wine for this is my blood.

I make a new promise, a covenant of God and his people:
This is my body, this is my blood,
Poured out for all, the seal and the sign.
Here is the cup I drink, can you drink this cup with me?

CAST

Ooh

JESUS

All of my hours are gone, it is time, this I tell you.
One will betray me who eats along with me here...

Go, go and do quickly what you have planned, it cannot be changed
Soon all the earth will receive the great promise of God.

The hour has come for the light to shine for all the world.

CAST

Ooh

PRAYER IN THE GARDEN

JESUS

The hour has come,
Stay here while I go now to pray.
How my heart is filled with grief and sorrow.
Stay and keep watch with me here.

Let not your hearts be troubled,
Neither let them be filled with sorrow.

Father, the hour has come, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering away.
Yet, not what I will have done, but what you will have done. Let it be done.

Stay awake, I beg of you, stay awake!
Pray, pray that you do not fall into sin.
The spirit is willing but the flesh is so weak.
Pray! Pray! Pray!

Father, if it is not possible to take this cup of suffering away,
Then thy will be done!

PASSION & DEATH

LULLABY (CLOSE YOUR EYES)

MARY

You've closed your eyes, your light has gone somehow.
It was a light I thought would stay, and I feel colder now.
I didn't think that it would come to this.
I cannot stop the trembling in my hands.
It is dark and I am suddenly alone.

MARY
Continued

My love for you, it cannot ever die.
I do not want to even think how I can say good-bye.
How all your words have touched me deep inside.
I've tried to understand, dear Lord, I've tried.
Now I can't escape this pounding in my heart..

I hope you've gone away where they can't hurt you anymore,
A place where all their lies and hate can't touch you now.
I hope you're far away and shining like the sun,
And safely tucked away where nails can't pierce your precious skin.

But still I can't believe that you are really gone.
If tonight falls, can the sun still rise at dawn?

MARY
So close your eyes,
The night has taken you.

MARY MAGDALENE (FEMAL SOLOIST)
Just close your eyes,
The night has taken you.

MARY & MARY M. Wherever you have gone, may peace be always with you there.
Let the blanket of the darkness tuck you in.
Let the world you knew in day fade far away,
And may your spirit rise and sail up to the sky.

MARY Yes, may your spirit soar, and may you watch over me here.
Just close your eyes.

FINALE: RESURRECTION AND SENDING FORTH

SOLOIST I stood in front of you, face to face,
And gazed into the fire of the light inside your eyes,
I thought I saw it all.

A sheet of darkness falls, the fire has died.
As the night grows I am falling, I am falling,
And my hope has disappeared.
Darkness, darkness sometimes can consume you.
No!

ANGEL 1 See the light!
There is no sorrow here,
No sorrow here.

ANGEL 2 Taste the light! Do not be frightened of the night.
No, don't be frightened of the night.

ANGEL 3 Share the light!
If what you seek is alive,
Look not among the dead.
You should be looking in the light,
Looking in the light,
Looking in the light.

ANGELS 1,2,3 See the light!
Taste the light!
Share the light!

JESUS & ANGELS Be the light!

CAST The word lives on and shines,
The night gives way to day,
Death is defeated and darkness is light!

No more to stumble and fall,
No more in vain shall we call,
The truth has come out and it's beautifully bright!

MARY All of the children of Adam will no longer live to be hungry.
Far too long has God listened to the tears his dear little ones cry.

CAST & MARY He has saved you all from dying,
No more will shadows creep out of the night.
Taste it and see it, share it and be it,
Come now and live in the light of the world!

CANON SOLOISTS In the beginning was the Word,
And the Word was with God,
And the Word was God,
And the Word became Flesh!

ROCKIN' SOLOIST I have to tell you how his love
Has lifted me up ever higher!
And how his Son who walked with me
Has set my heart on fire, oh yeah!

CAST God's awesome spirit is upon me now!
I am anointed, I am opened for the world.
I am the fire burning in the dark of night
Sent forth to set ablaze the lowly ones.

And so the hour has come to heal the heavy hearted,
Shatter all the shackles of the slaves.
Set the prisoners free, open all the doors,
Announce the great forgiveness of our God.

With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

With joy and gladness the time has come,
The crippled now will walk, the blind again will see!
Sing your songs and the prophecies of old!
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

CAST
All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

ONE TENOR, ALTO, SOPRANO
Share the light!
Be the light!

All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

See the light!
Taste the light!

All will be fulfilled, the signs are all around,
God has sent the savior to the world.

Share the light!
Be the light!

CAST See the light!
Taste the light!
Share the light!
Be the light! *(Repeat 3 more times)*