Volume 3 The King Is Here

A New Testament Musical Play

(for mixed voices and drama groups of all ages)

Musical Play Series

A collection of 14 songs based on New Testament text with skits, dialogues and narratives.

by

Jeanne Brickman

Music co-written and arranged by Will Goldstein

Musical Arrangements include:

Lyrics, Melody and Chord Symbols (lead sheet format)

This edition includes an *option* for a **cd recording** ((**Music Only:** orchestral trax to songs only <u>no</u> vocals, narrative or dialogue)

Optional skits may be performed in costume throughout the play accompanying the songs, narratives & dialogue.

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Preface



As a Christian school teacher, I had a deep desire to teach Scripture to children sequentially and in a memorable way. My first idea was to gather together all the children's songs about Bible stories and arrange them chronologically. When I had finished this task, I had only a small handful of songs.

At that time, reasoning that the God who had enabled a donkey to speak could use me to write songs, I began to pray that He would use me to tell His story. I had virtually no knowledge of music or songwriting, but the donkey, after all, had not studied Hebrew, and so I began. When I prayed for help with

music, arranging, and recording, Will Goldstein joined me in the project. I thank God for carrying me through.

In His Name,

Jeanne Brickman

Scripture: Many of the songs in this book have been adapted from translations of the Holy Scriptures, and are marked in the songs & the skits. We acknowledge using the following Bible Translations:

The Holy Bible, New International Version. © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission. King James Version

How To Produce This Musical

The King Is Here can be produced very simply on a small stage or platform, which would be available in most schools and churches. It has actually been performed without a stage. In the productions that I have directed, we used only basic lighting. If available, occasional spot lights may be used, as desired, for the skits, dialogues, etc. I have always used 3 to 4 microphones in conjunction with the orchestral sound trax, which were played through a sound system. It is possible, however, to produce this with as little as a boom box, or to play the music live on a piano, keyboard, or guitar, using the lead sheets. If available, a drummer and bass player may be added, making a contemporary rock band. There are no vocal harmonies; the music is simple, appropriate for group singing or solos, if desired. This musical contains a total of 23 narrations and dialogues of various lengths which may be performed by a series of chosen narrators. Most are interspersed throughout the book, but three of them are included as a prelude on the lead sheets with the songs. The songs including narration are "The Boy in the Temple," "The Lord's Prayer," Triumphal Entry," and "The Great Commissison." Skits (actions during songs and narratives) are optional. Suggestions are included with the readings throughout the book.

Costumes are a major consideration in producing this play. They may be simple, for example, bath robes & bed sheets, or more elaborate, such as hand made or purchased costumes. Most characters require only a robe and head covering. A few characters may need more specialized costumes. For example, Jesus could be dressed in a white robe and head covering. Kings and queens would likely wear red or purple robes & crowns. If animals are desired during "Mary and Joseph," they may be dressed in sweats and masks.

Props include crowns for royalty may be purchased inexpensively, or made from gold or silver tinsel or pipe cleaner. A large baby doll may be used for Baby Jesus. Various characters could carry swords or spears during certain scenes.

The entire production takes slightly less than one hour. It is appropriate for school plays, presented during school hours, or as an evening performance at the school or a local church.

Worship Services, Sunday School and CCLI

All songs in this musical also have ccli #'s, and are licensed to be used in church services for congregational singing. The scores are marked with suggestions such as "opt.- solos" and "all sing" (congregation). Information concerning CCLI and licensing for congregational worship can be found on page 46.

The King Is Here

MARY AND JOSEPH

(Luke 1: 26-38: 2: 1-6)

MARY: You know, Joseph, I've been thinking...

JOSEPH: Uh-oh.

MARY: No, it's nothing you've done. I've been thinking about the way God

works.

JOSEPH: That's good!

MARY: Like bringing us to this manger for the baby to be born.

JOSEPH: (Looks around and sniffs) That's bad!

MARY: Oh, it's not so bad, Joseph. It's just...surprising. There have been a lot of

surprises, like when the angel came and spoke to me...

JOSEPH: That's good!

MARY: And he told me that I was going to be expecting a baby before we were

even married.

JOSEPH: That's bad!

MARY: And that it wasn't even going to be *your* baby...

JOSEPH: That's *really* bad!

MARY: He said it was going to be the Son of the Most High! Imagine, Joseph,

the Son of God!

JOSEPH: That's good!

MARY: Yes, but when you found out, you wanted to divorce me – before we were

even married!

JOSEPH: That's bad!

MARY: But then the angel came and spoke to you, and told you not to do it.

JOSEPH: That's good.

MARY: So we got married.

JOSEPH: That's really good!

MARY: And then right away, we were notified that we had to return to your home

town for a census so that they could tax us.

JOSEPH: That's bad!

MARY: But God helped us, and we made the trip just fine!

JOSEPH: That's good.

MARY: And then when we got here, there was no room at the inn for us – and the

only place we could get was this manger.

JOSEPH: (Looks around and sniffs) That's bad.

MARY: Well, we were so tired, it sounded almost good. And then the baby was

born.

JOSEPH: That's good.

MARY: Imagine, Joseph, I was chosen among all women to be the mother of our

Lord!

JOSEPH: That's really good.

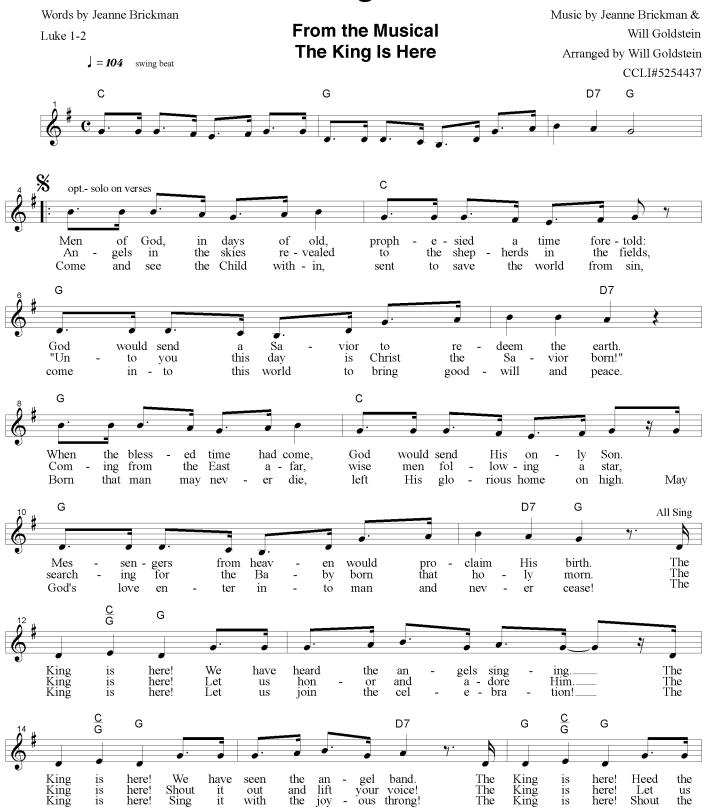
MARY: And you were chosen, from all men, to be his earthly father.

JOSEPH: That's unbelievable!

MARY: And now here he is! Our baby is here. The King is here!

JOSEPH: THAT'S GOOD!

The King Is Here



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(2:40 sec.)



THE WISE MEN

(Matthew 2)

Melchior: (Stands alone, looking heavenward)

Baltasar: (Enters, looks at Melchior, then skyward)

What are we looking for?

Melchior: Don't you see it?

Baltasar: See what? There's nothing up there but a bunch of stars.

Melchior: That's what I'm talking about. Don't you see a star that looks kind of...

special?

Baltasar: Oh, you mean that really bright one? That odd-looking star...or group of

stars?

Melchior: Yes, that's the one.

Gaspar: (Enters, looks at Melchior and Baltasar, then upward, and continues to

stare at the sky)

Why are we doing this? Oh, look at that funny-looking star over there!

Baltasar: (Sarcastically) Oh, you see a star?!!

Gaspar: What does it mean? It's so different from all the others.

Baltasar I can't tell if it's a bright star or more than one together. In all the years

I've been studying the heavens, this is the most unusual thing I've ever

seen.

Melchior: It's the strangest thing any of us has ever seen. There is something very

special about that star. It can mean only one thing!

Gaspar: Right! (Looks confused) But we don't know what it is!

Baltasar: No, we don't know. But we're going to find out. We'll have to study our

records and sacred writings to discover the meaning of this star. Let's

meet here again tomorrow night.

Melchior: I'll be here.

Gaspar: So will I.

(The men separate. Each goes to his scrolls to read and to ponder.)

(The men reassemble the next night)

Melchior: I have spoken with others, who agree that the star we have seen is of great

importance.

Baltasar: I have studied the ancient Babylonian writings, and I believe that I am

beginning to understand the meaning of this star. But it seems almost too

marvelous to be true.

Gaspar: Tell us.

Baltasar: Truly, much of our wisdom comes to us from the ancient Babylonian wise

men. And much of their wisdom comes from Daniel. He was a prince in

Judah, who was captured and taken to Babylon. He was chosen as

advisor to kings of Babylon and Persia.

Gaspar: I remember! I've heard a lot of stories about Daniel and his friends.

Wasn't he the guy who ate the lion?

Melchior: He was a man of great wisdom who could interpret dreams and see far

into the future.

Baltasar: Daniel was a great man. The kings put him in charge over all the wise

men of Babylon. They must have learned a great deal from him.

Melchior: Daniel gave all the honor to God for everything he did. Even the kings he

served came to respect Daniel's God.

Baltasar: Daniel studied the writing of the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah. He

understood that there would be signs given to men of a Messiah who

would come to redeem God's people.

Gaspar: Could it be true? You think it's possible that this star is the star that has

come to proclaim the birth of this Savior? This would be the king of Is-

rael!

Ruler of the world!

Melchior: We must go to find him. This is no ordinary king. His birth will be

honored by royalty from around the world.

Baltasar: Daniel spoke of the kingdoms that would conquer Babylon, Persia,

Greece, and even Rome. If this is the king that the prophets spoke of, then his kingdom will conquer all others. We must go. This star comes

to announce his birth. It will also be our guide.

Melchior: Let's follow this star. We must find him, this king of the Jews. We will

honor him with our finest gifts!

Gaspar: You are right. Let's go see this king who's going to smash Rome!

Baltasar: I will bring frankincense.

Gaspar: I think I'll bring some myrrh.

Melchior: I have gold. Let's get ready to go.

HEROD

There sure seems to be a lot of excitement around here! What is wrong with this picture? Something doesn't seem to be quite right... I know! Nobody is paying attention to ME! That's what's wrong! Let me look out my royal window and see what could be so important that everybody would forget about ME!

What is going on out there? Look at that! Wise men and camels and donkeys. Wow! Look at all those presents! They must be coming to see ME! This is exciting! I'll send a messenger down to see what's going on.

*** (pause while Herod pretends to talk to someone offstage)

I can't believe what that messenger said! Those wise men say they're coming to seek the King of the Jews?! That's ME! Why don't they get up here with my presents? Oh, yeah. He said they were looking for a baby. King Baby? Why would they be looking for a little kid instead of ME?

Fine! I'll send my messenger down to tell them to keep looking. I'll tell them that when they find him they should come and tell ME so that I can worship him too. And when I find him, that will be the end of that young upstart! There is only room for one King of the Jews, and that's ME! Once he's gone, the world can start revolving around ME again!

HEROD THE GREAT

(Matthew 2:1-22)

- 1: Man, Herod was a real meanie!
- 2: Which Herod?
- 1: You know, Herod in the Bible the one who killed the babies. He was one bad dude!
- 2: Herod was more than just one bad dude. There were a number of bad Herods.
- 1: You mean a lot of guys had the same name? And they were all bad dudes?
- 2: Sort of. Herod was not a name it was a title, like King, or Pharaoh.
- 1: I get it. So were they all mean?
- 2: Quite a few were. For example, Herod the Great, who had all the babies killed after Jesus was born.
- 1: Herod the Great the great big meanie, that is! I'd like to get him!
- 2: God already did.
- 1: Oh, yeah. He died, huh?
- 2: Yes, but it wasn't an easy death. No matter what he ate, he was still hungry. His stomach hurt all the time. Then everything hurt all the time. The pain drove him crazy. then he died.
- 1: Wow! Where does the Bible say all that?
- 2: The Bible doesn't say it the history books do. The Bible says that God does not let evil go unpunished. It also says that children are precious to God. Herod was one bad dude, all right. And he made one BAD mistake!

62 Words by Jeanne Brickman

Where's That Boy?



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tem - ple that

day.__

JOHN THE BAPTIST

(Luke 3-4)

Girl: Here, sheep. Where are you? I'm getting hungry. Boy, am I getting tired of raisin cakes. What's that? It looks like a bear!

John: Hello!

Girl: Aaaah! A talking bear!

John: Where?

Girl: Oh, you're just a man. But what ... unusual clothes. Who makes them for you?

John: Oh, this old thing? I made it myself out of animal skins. Like it?

Girl: Well ... it looks a little ... scratchy. Would you like a raisin cake?

John: No, thanks; I just had a bite to eat. Care for a locust?

Girl: A WHAT?!?

John: Locust. They're pretty good with honey.

Girl: No, thanks. I LIKE raisin cakes!

John: (Shrugs) OK; suit yourself. What are you doing way out here?

Girl: Looking for my father's lost sheep. What about you?

John: I've been staying in the desert, but I'm on my way to town now.

Girl: What were you doing in the desert?

John: I've been talking with God. I've got a big job to do. I have to warn the people. Sure you don't want a locust?

Girl: I'm sure! Why do you have to warn the people?

John: I have to warn them to turn away from their sins. You know, God has promised us a Messiah. He's coming now, and God has told me to get the people ready.

Girl: Get them ready? How? What are you doing?

John: I'm baptizing people in water. It's a symbol of washing their sins away. the Messiah will do the rest.

Girl: Who is this Messiah?

John: I've sent some of my friends to ask and make sure, but I think it's my cousin, Jesus. He even wants me to baptize him! I'm not worthy to tie his shoes.

Girl: Jesus? Jesus. I think I've heard about him. Is he the one doing all the miracles?

John: He's the one.

Girl: I'd better hurry and find my father's sheep. Then I'll run and tell my father and brothers about you, and about Jesus. Maybe we'll meet again soon!

John: I hope so. Goodbye.

TEMPTATION

(Luke 4:1-13)

So the devil tried to attack and confuse,
And the words of the Scriptures he tried to misuse.
But for every one of Satan's lies,
Jesus used the whole Word of God to reply.
He faced the same temptations as men,
Yet he remained without blemish or sin.

DEVIL'S DEFEAT

(Luke 4:1-13)

SATAN: Well, looky, looky here. If it isn't Jesus of Nazareth. What a surprise finding you here.

JESUS: Speak of the Devil! You knew perfectly well I was here.

SATAN: I did? And just what are you doing way out here all by yourself? Why aren't you with your friends?

JESUS: I needed time alone with my father before I begin my real ministry on earth.

SATAN: Isn't your father home in the carpentry shop, doing all the work all by himself?

JESUS: My earthly father is at home in his carpentry shop. My brothers can help him. He understands that I must spend time with my heavenly father to prepare.

SATAN: Prepare for what?

JESUS: For my mission on earth. I have come to bring the people back to my father. I have come to die for their sins.

SATAN: Oh, nonsense! Let's not talk about dying! Put that out of your mind! You look kind of skinny. When is the last time you had a good meal?

JESUS: I haven't eaten for forty days.

SATAN: Forty days! No wonder you look terrible! Why don't you just turn some of these stones into bread and we can have a little picnic. You'll feel much better after you've eaten, and you'll forget all this nonsense about dying.

JESUS: Get out of here, Satan! It is written that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

SATAN: You don't want to eat? Well, then, let's have a little fun. Let's climb to the top of the pinnacle on the temple and jump off. You go first. Isn't it written that God will send his angels to protect you and keep you from

striking your foot against a stone? Surely God wasn't lying.

JESUS: It is also written "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

SATAN: Don't you ever think about anything except the word of God? Maybe you'd like power! I can arrange for you to control all the kingdoms of the world. That's my domain. Aaaaall you have to do is bow down and worship me, and it's aaaall yours. What do you say?

JESUS: I say get lost, Satan! I don't need anything from you. My father already owns the earth and everything in it. I already know your end, and it isn't pretty!

SATAN: Oh, yeah? Well, I'm off to visit some of the religious leaders! At least THEY still listen to me. I'll cause you trouble; you wait and see. This isn't over!

Jesus Called Them



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(2:25 sec.)

Check It Out!

Words by Jeanne Brickman Music by Jeanne Brickman & From the Musical Will Goldstein John 1-3 The King Is Here Arranged by Will Goldstein] = **69** CCLI#5254420 G+⁷ F С С Check it out! Check it out! G+⁷ C7 С С How could there be an - y doubt?_ He's the Sa - vior! Check it out! Come see what it's all a-bout!__ Je - sus went___ to a wed-ding in Ca-na, turned the wa - ter to the fin - est wine, Cleared the tem-ple of buy-ers and sel-lers, touched the lives of ev-'ry-one He knew. С С7 G7 fish - es, fed the peo - ple with the loaves_ yeah! and the Filled nets when His the dis - ci - ples went_ fish - ing, whew!_ С of the time. Stay - in' bus - y all Healed a at the pool of Be - thes-da, man Je - sus had_ _ plen - ty to do! Met and taught Sa-mar - i - tan wom-an, a С healed the lep - ers and the lame and blind,_ spoke to the lone-ly and He ate with sin-ners, yeah! changed her life _____ by the things He said,__ fed all the hun-gry and He cast out de - mons, yeah!_ G7 Stay - in' bus - y all of He the time. Some were e - ven raised from the dead!_

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(2:25 sec.)



POWER

(Mark 4:35-39)

Wife: Peter! Thank goodness you're safe! I saw the storm over the sea while you were fishing, and I was afraid.

Peter:So was I, at first. But did you see how the storm suddenly stopped?

Wife: I did, and I was glad, but that was really strange. How do you think it happened?

Peter:Jesus did it.

Wife: Jesus? How?

Peter:He just told the wind to stop blowing, and it did. It was amazing! Jesus has more power than the storm!

Power



BEATITUDES

(Matthew 5)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, said Jesus, For the kingdom of heaven is theirs. But God carries all of our burdens; Our sorrows He lovingly bears.

Blessed are they who mourn,
For I shall comfort them, said the Lord.
I will give My love and mercy,
To those who will walk in My word.

Blessed are the meek, said Jesus, For they shall inherit the earth. The Father above will give them, His blessings of infinite worth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, After righteousness, said the Lord; I have reserved great blessings, For those who will live by My word.

Blessed are the merciful, Jesus said, For mercy they too will be shown. Blessed are the pure in heart, He said, For they shall see God on His throne.

Blessed are the peacemakers, He taught us, For they shall be called sons of God. God's Son, the Prince of Peace, bought us, And the price was His own precious blood.

The persecuted are blessed, taught Jesus, For theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Our Father above always sees us;

Our reward by Him we are given.

When men revile and falsely accuse you, So did they the prophets before you. When you walk in the footsteps of Jesus, This world will despise and abhor you.

You are the salt of the earth, said the Savior.
You are My light among men.
But if the salt loses its flavor,
It can never be useful again.

Hide not your light under a bushel; Let it shine for the world to see. Let your good deeds praise your Father. Whose salvation and mercy were free.

The Lord's Prayer

Reading: PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

The disciples came to Jesus one day, and said,

"Please teach us how to pray.

"We don't know the words to say." He taught them how to pray this way:

From the Musical The King Is Here

Music by Jeanne Brickman & Will Goldstein

Arranged by Will Goldstein

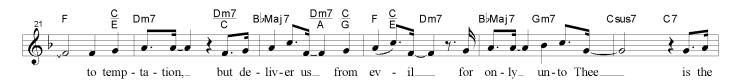
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HEROD ANTIPAS

(Mark 6:17-29)

- 1: Boy, that Herod was one bad dude!
- 2: Well, actually, there were several bad dudes called Herod.
- 1: You mean all the bad guys had the same name?
- 2: Herod wasn't a name it was a title like King of Caesar. Maybe they weren't ALL bad, but most were.
- 1: Didn't Herod kill John the Baptist?
- 2: Yes, that was Herod Antipas. NOT a nice man.
- 1: Why did Herod want to hurt John the Baptist anyway?
- 2: John told Herod he was wrong. Most people don't like being told they're wrong, but some take it better than others.
- 1: Wrong about what?
- 2: Stealing his brother's wife. Herod and his sweetie both wanted to kill John, but they didn't dare, because they were afraid of the people. Most of the people liked John a lot better than they liked Herod.
- 1: I remember this story! His wife's daughter did the hootchie-kootchie at Herod's birthday party.
- 2: We don't know exactly what kind of dance she did, but we know that Herod liked it. He promised her anything she wanted, up to half of his kingdom.
- 1: Wow! What did she ask for?
- 2: The head of John the Baptist?
- 1: What?! Was she crazy?!
- 2: She asked her mother what she should ask for, and that's what her mom told her. Remember, her mother hated John the Baptist.

- 1: I guess Jesus was really sad about that.
- 2: Sure. John was his cousin and friend, besides being a great prophet.
- 1: Boy, I'd like to give it to them!
- 2: God already did.
- 1: Did He strike them with fire from heaven?
- 2: God is usually more subtle than that. First, Herod heard about Jesus, and he got really scared, because he thought John the Baptist had come back from the dead. He didn't sleep too well at night. Then the Roman emperor got angry at Herod and his "wife," and made them leave. Herod lost his kingdom and money and died in disgrace.
- 1: Wow! Where does the Bible say that?
- 2: The Bible doesn't say it. The history books do. The Bible says that your sin will surely find you out, and that you shouldn't pick on a servant of God. Herod was a bad dude, all right, and he made a baaad mistake!

Words by Jeanne Brickman Reading: After all that Jesus had done, Health Heappeard that Heappeard Carlle Sone

Reading: After all that Jesus had done,
Hadn't He proved that He was God's Son?
The multitudes had been taught and fed,
But the Scribes and Pharisees wanted Him dead.
Even His friends did not understand,
That Jesus' death was close at hand

From the Musical The King Is Here

Music by Jeanne Brickman & Will Goldstein
Arranged by Will Goldstein



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Crucifixion



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Burial

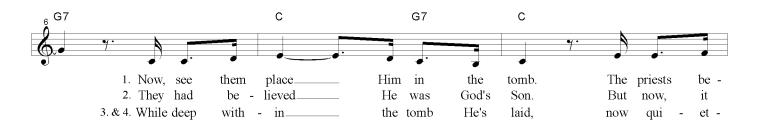
Words by Jeanne Brickman Mark 15:42-47

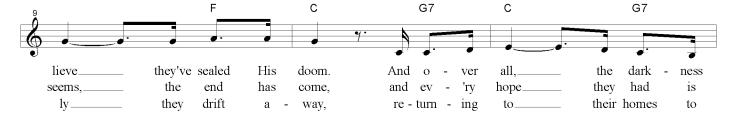
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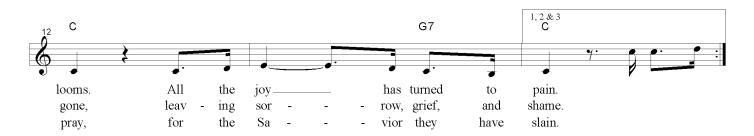
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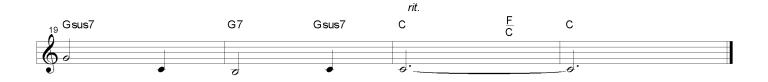












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(2:25 sec.)

70 Alive

way! dead?"

end!

Be - hold Him Be - hold

Him



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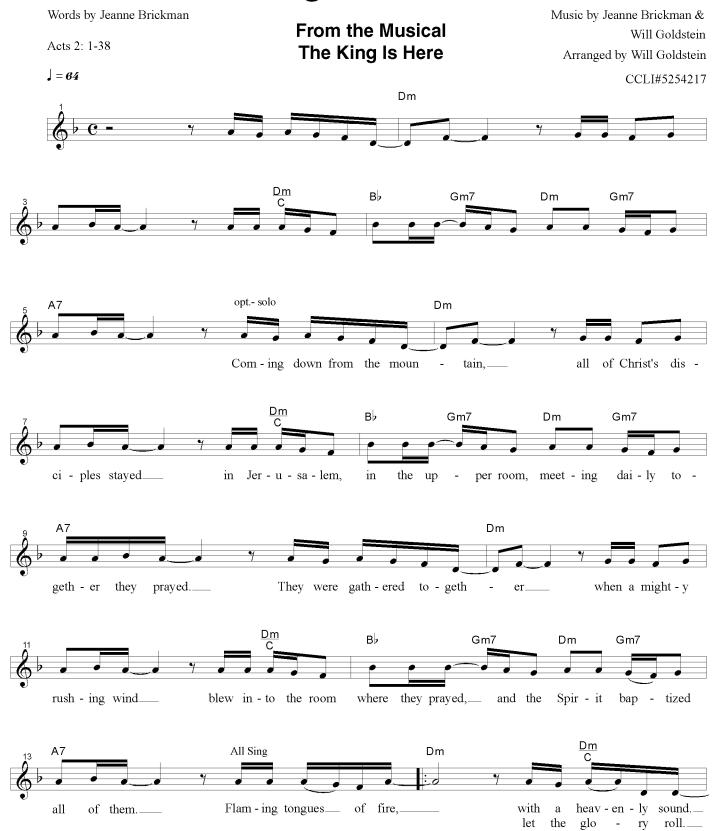
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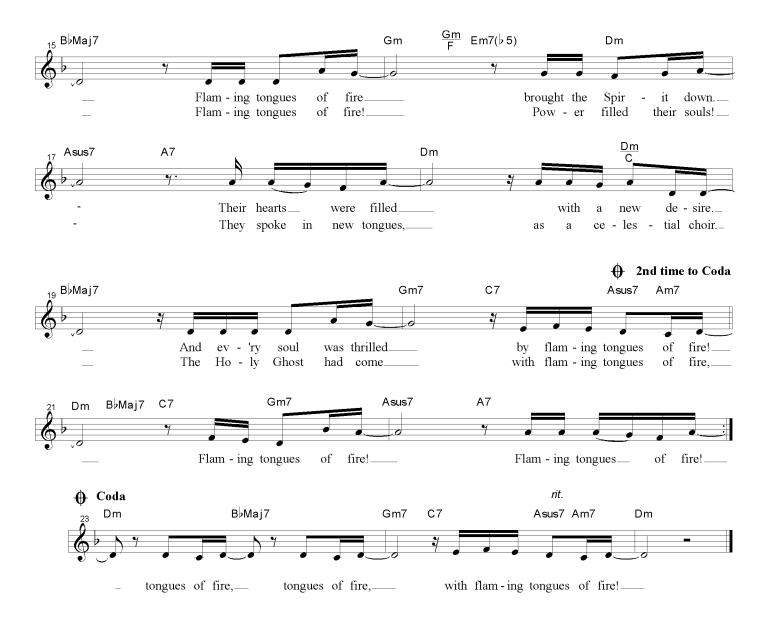
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Tongues Of Fire



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(2:00 sec.)



HEROD AGRIPPA

(Acts 12:1-17)

- 1: Ooo, that Herod. What a rotten guy!
- 2: Which Herod?
- 1: The one in the Bible
- 2: There are several Herods in the Bible.
- 1: Really? Was everyone with that name rotten?
- 2: Most were. But Herod wasn't a name. It was a title, like King, or Pharaoh, or Caesar. Which Herod were you thinking of?
- 1: The one who killed the disciple James, just to make some of the religious leaders happy. Then he put Peter in jail, planning to kill him too, but God sent an angel to help Peter escape.
- 2: That was Herod Agrippa, the one Jesus called a fox. You're right. He WAS rotten!
- 1: I'd like to teach him a lesson!
- 2: God already did.
- 1: He did?
- 2: Yep. Herod gave a public speech, and people who wanted favors from him tried to flatter him. They said, "It's the voice of a god, not a man!" Herod loved it.
- 1: The Bible says that we should not accept praise or worship that should be given only to God.
- 2: Right. But Herod was so full of pride that he encouraged them. So an angel of God struck him, and he got worms. Really bad. Within five days, he was dead.
- 1: Wow. I guess he knows now that men calling you a god doesn't make you one.
- I don't believe that he's confused any more about who God is. Herod was a bad guy, all right, and he made a really bad mistake.

"P" AS IN PETER

(Acts 4-6 and 9-12)

Prior to meeting Jesus, fishing was Peter's profession and preferred pastime. But Peter was a person of principle, who passionately proclaimed the truth to all people. His primary purpose was to present the Gospel plainly to people of every persuasion.

One particular evening, Peter peered into the darkness and perceived a person walking upon the water. "Jesus," he petitioned, "please prepare a path across the water for me also." When Jesus responded positively to his plea, Peter was pleased. But as he paced a path across the waves, his heart began to palpitate, and he panicked and pleaded profusely with Jesus for protection. Jesus pitied Peter, and protected him from this peril.

Later, proceeding the crucifixion, Peter was Jesus' preferred prayer partner, but kept placidly falling asleep. "I perceive no particular need for prayer; all appears peaceful, and peril seems implausible," pointed out Peter. Jesus tried to properly prepare Peter, for he perceived that Peter would soon deny Him. "Perfectly preposterous!" protested Peter pridefully. "I'll protect, even perish with you."

But Peter, who had proudly proclaimed himself Jesus' protector, protested publicly that he did not know Jesus. This perverse impertinence produced profuse guilt pangs and a powerful pricking of his conscience. He departed to a private place, weeping pitifully, and repented.

Because Peter was penitent, his pain was not permanent. He became a prominent spokesperson for the apostles. He made a public pledge that his purpose was to promote the pure gospel. He publicly professed that he was prepared to pay the penalty, even to perish or to be imprisoned.

As proof that God would prosper Peter's purpose, He gave him such power that people placed their sick in Peter's pathway, hoping that his shadow would be cast upon them as he was passing.

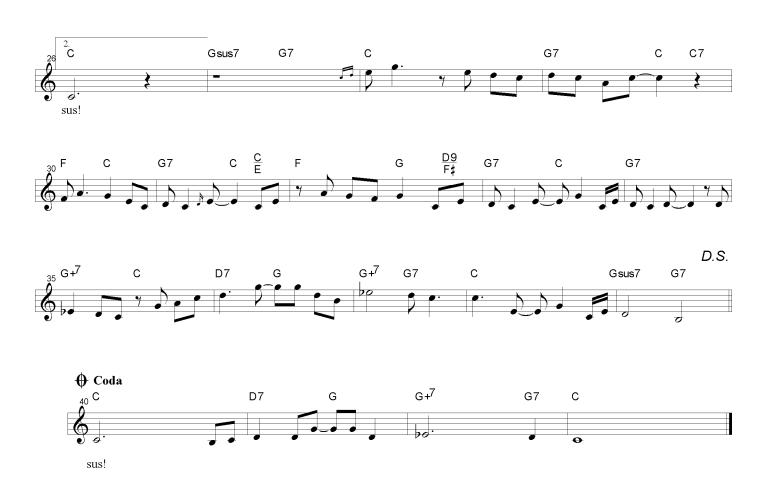
Peter rose to a position of prestige among the apostles, and although Peter was not perfect, he preached to the people with power that God's perfect will would prevail and produce a pandemic purging of sin.

Oh Me



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(3:00 sec.)



74 Paul



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THE END

(Philemon, I Timothy, and Titus)

- 1: What happened to Paul?
- 2: He got out of prison and kept working for Jesus.
- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good. He was later re-arrested and killed by the Romans.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. Paul wasn't afraid. He wanted to be with the Lord.
- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good. Things were hard for the Christians, and they really missed Paul.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. All the disciples kept on serving God.
- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good, because the religious leaders of the day continued to fight really hard to stop them.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. It drew more attention to the disciples and their message.
- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good, because then the Roman government got even meaner.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. Harsh treatment just drew the disciples closer to Jesus.

- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good. The persecution got much worse. Christians faced great hardships.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. Even as the Christians were persecuted, thousands were added to their numbers. They ate and prayed together daily.
- 1: Well, that's good!
- 2: No, not so good. Things became so bad that many had to flee the city to keep from being killed.
- 1: Oh, that's bad!
- 2: No, not so bad. Everywhere they went, they told people about Jesus. So the Gospel was spread all over the world; it's still being preached today.
- 1 & 2: Hey! That's good!

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