



Rescue in the Night

Chancel Drama 2021

Nassau Presbyterian Church

August 22, 2021 10:00 AM



Prelude

Little Prelude in C minor

J. S. Bach

♦ Call to Worship

At the sign ♦ you may stand. Bold text is read in unison.

We call out to you,
“Be the God we dream!”

You respond by being the God you are.

We discuss you and
define you and expect of you.
But you unravel our expectations and definitions.

We seek now.
You bid us wait.

We seek obvious salvation.
You send a child.

We seek clear-cut and easy answers.
You give us hope.

Upside-down Divinity,
give us the strength to resist a culture
of greed, of haves, and have-nots.

Turn our eyes away from the gold statues,
our idols of selfishness and fear,
and the hungry lions of our time.

Help us to let go of our expectations of you
so that we might be ready to hear your voice
through the children that sing. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

**God, who walks with us in the light,
and stays beside us in the dark.**

Hear now the confessions of our hearts:

**For the times we failed to share,
and when we've wanted to take for ourselves
more than what was right or needed:**

**dessert on the table, gifts around the tree,
or money where we could find it...**

We are sorry. Forgive us.

**For the times we have bullied others
into getting what we wanted:**

using words that hurt, our hands or feet in anger, our tears...

We are sorry. Forgive us.

**For the times we sought answers to problems everywhere,
except from:**

Your Word, Your Son, You...

We are sorry. Forgive us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Even when we are greedy,

God loves us.

When we intimidate others with words and actions,

God loves us.

When we search for answers and consider God last, if at all,

God loves us.

God loves us and forgives us

and is always our friend.

Amen.

Words of Welcome



Proclaiming the Word

We encounter the Word in speech and song
as we interpret and expound scripture.

Words of Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Daniel 6 : 1–5

NRSV

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, and over them three presidents, including Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. Soon Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. So the presidents and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. The men said, “We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.”

Chancel Drama

Rescue in the Night
(The Story of Daniel in the Lions’ Den)

Tom S. Long & Allen Pote

Rescue in the Night

A Man of Mystery

The Wisdom Contest

The Plotting Song

What Will Become of Daniel?

Here I Am

Tell the King!

Step Into Our Den

The One True King



Thanksgiving

We respond by presenting our offerings, setting the table,
lifting prayers, and praising the triune God.

♦ Affirmation of Faith

Romans 8 : 31, 35, 37-39

What then are we to say about these things?

If God is for us, who is against us?

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

**Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine
or nakedness, or peril or sword?**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through God who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death,

Nor life,

Nor angels,

Nor rulers,

Nor things present,

Nor things to come,

Nor powers,

Nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation,

Will be able to separate us from the love of God

in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer



Sending

We follow the Word into the world, sent forth with
God's blessing to lives of service and love.

♦ Closing Hymn

In Silence My Soul Thirsts

Red Hymnal 790

♦ Benediction

Postlude

Rescue in the Night (reprise) Tom S. Long & Allen Pote

Preachers

The cast of *Rescue in the Night*

Liturgist

Wendi Werner

Rev. Wendi L. Werner is pastor of Dayton Presbyterian Church, located in South Brunswick, NJ where she has served since 2009. A past moderator of the former New Brunswick Presbytery, Wendi served on the NJ Missional Communities Working Group which was responsible for creating a plan for four presbyteries from our original seven. She is currently active in the shaping of our new presbytery. Wendi and husband, Noel Werner share college-bound Sophie & high school freshman Emily.

Musicians

Ian Lewono, Ingrid Ladendorf, Noel Werner, pianists
The Lord Family Singers,
The Werner Family Singers

Sound Engineer

Nick Mastalesz

Livestream Operators

Doug Ladendorf
Jeff Santoro

Front Cover Art

“Rescue in the Night” a drawing by Sophie Werner

Back Cover Art

“Rescue in the Night” a drawing by Isabel Lewono

Chancel Drama Week

Over the course of five afternoons this past week, this ensemble of children and youth grades 3-12 have worked to prepare “Rescue in the Night” for our worship today. Daily outdoor rehearsals included: bible study, music and staging, improvisation games and snacks, creation of armor and lion manes, a mission service project, and a Friday evening potluck dinner with families. Participants in the chancel drama helped to shape the prayer of confession and prayers of the people. This cast has quickly and enthusiastically learned, memorized and embodied the telling of this bible story!

An important part of our music ministry, every August our chancel drama is possible because of the generosity of our dedicated youth and adult volunteers. We give thanks to God for this community.

Rescue in the Night Ensemble

Luke Alnor
Elena Barreto
Nico Barreto
Rachel Berliner
Sarah Berliner
Sam Carter
Julia Hill
Daina Kuppe
Jayden Kuppe
Isabel Lewono
Lee Lord
Ned Lord

Thomsen Lord
Vinnie Lord
Rachel Mitchell
Eme Moorhead
Lila Njeim
Phoebe Pierson
Anna Ruddy
Isaac Stucky
Symphony Tsai
Alex Valvanis
Charlotte Valvanis
Emily Werner

Rescue in the Night Adult Helpers

Adult Volunteers: Carrie Mitchel,
Lauren Valvanis, Janel Stucky, Anne Lord,
Karen Berliner, Fiona Christano,
Holley Barreto, Cara Ruddy

Stage Director: Heather Riehl

Stage Manager: Sophie Werner

Music Director: Ingrid Ladendorf

Bible Study: Wendi Werner

Musicians: Noel Werner, Ian Lewono

Props/Set/Costumes: Marcia Wood

Nassau Staff Support: Lauren Yeh, Edie Estrada,
Verny Cano

Photography: Karen Barrows

Sound Engineer: Nick Mastalesz

Video Engineer: Brandon Ascari Digital



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