

First United Methodist Church

Building A Village of Faith

July 25, 2021 – 11:00 AM

Worship Theme: Of Theater and Theology IV

Today we conclude our consideration of the connection between theater (or film) and theology (or religion) by taking another look at an earlier theme: That the world of fantasy belongs to theater, while the harder stuff of reality is the realm of religion. Today's angle on this is reflected in the theatrical genre of "problem plays." As the name suggests, these plays work through a problem in real life but do not resolve it in "real-life" ways. That's up to us to do...with insights gained from the theater and the "working capital" of our faith. Curtains, please!

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

- Proverbs 3:5 [NIV]

* It is customary to stand at these times; however, please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

Words of Welcome & Greeting

Pastor Steve

Music to Set the Tone for Worship

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
Joe Henry, piano/organ

W. J. Kirkpatrick/arr. T. Smith

* Call to Worship

Wayne Salladé

Leader: God of the heavens, we gather with joy this morning,

People: Thankful that your ways are infinitely higher than our own.

Leader: God of the Earth, we gather with joy this morning,

People: Thankful that your thoughts surpass our own with immeasurable margin.

Leader: God of all life, we gather with joy this morning,

People: Thankful that your dreams and desires for your Creation find fulfillment in the power of your Word. [Adapted from Isaiah 55:8-10]

* Hymn of Celebration

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

UMH #89

* Opening Prayer (Aloud Together)

Wayne Salladé & Congregation

Let us join in our opening prayer together:

Loving God, you model for us extravagant creativity in the profound elegance of your Creation. The gift of imagination, put into the loving service of making life better for all is, perhaps, our highest calling as beings made in your image and likeness. When faced with problems that have no apparent solution, please remind us to trust in you with all our heart. And help us to remember that reliance on you for the direction of our path isn't weakness, but wisdom – and holy humility. In the power and presence of the risen Christ we pray. Amen.

* The Gloria Patri

"Glory Be to the Father"

UMH #70

Children's Message

Video Clip

Anna Aleksa

Special Music

"Be Thou My Vision"

Dan Forrest

Choir Quartet - Phillis Schuhmann, Camille Redding, Amy Gibbs, Lisa Nilsen

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3:5-6 [NIV]

Wayne Salladé

Message

"Problem Plays and Divine Solutions"

Pastor Steve

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Steve

Time for Reflection & Response

"Trust and Obey"

D. B. Towner/arr J. Henry

Prayer of Thanksgiving w/ The Lord's Prayer		Wayne Salladé
Doxology	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"	UMH #94
* Going Forth in Song	"Go Forth for God"	UMH #670
* Benediction		Pastor Steve
Postlude	"Cortége"	G. Young



Prayers for Our People & Beyond

- For the family of Marian Gross who passed away 7/5 in Denver.
- For Ashley Goldthwaite's Aunt Becky who underwent critical breast cancer surgery.
- For the family of Clint Maxfield who passed away 7/5. Cards of sympathy can be sent to his daughter: Andrea (Robert) VanGundy, 8391 E. Amherst Cir., Denver, CO 80231.
- Nell Rozelle who is recovering at Eagle Ridge of Grand Valley. Care cards can be sent to her home at 2103 Gunnison Ave. GJ 81501.
- **Praying for our District Churches** (1 every week) – This week is Tongan UMC in Salt Lake City, Utah. This congregation is pastored by Rev. Sione Tukutau.

To add someone to the phone prayer chain, please call Peggy Price at 242-4206

*Thank you for participating in our worship service today.
We hope you continue to be with us!*