

SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

His Birth and Resurrection

Act II: *His Resurrection*

A musical drama presented by
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Savior of the World: His Birth and Resurrection
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Act II
Scene 1
Segment 1.1

[Music cue: “Entr’acte” underscore]

(The garden tomb, just before sunset on the day of the crucifixion. Howling wind, thunder, nearly dark. JAMES, THOMAS, MARY MAGDALENE, MARY MOTHER OF JAMES [MARY MOJ], SALOME, JOANNA, JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA, NICODEMUS, and AARON, huddle around the rectangular opening of the tomb. Inside, flickering lights and shadows can be seen before JOHN and PETER emerge with lamps. As the believers start to leave, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus roll a huge circular stone over the tomb opening. Howling wind and thunder rise. All exit. Thomas stands alone at the stone mourning. Lightning. Fade to black.)

[Music Cue: Segue into “Come, Lord Jesus—Opening Act II”]

(In the darkness the CHORUS, as angels on the colonnade, begins to sing.)

CHORUS

*Come, Lord Jesus, to the wounded,
 Broken heart and bended knee.
 Worthy Lamb, Thy love unbounded,
 Bid our souls to rest in Thee.
 Come in glory to the earth,
 Come to us to rule and reign.
 Ready us to kneel and greet Thee.
 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
 Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

(As the chorus continues to sing, TWO ANGELS dressed in flowing white robes enter and solemnly walk to the front of the tomb. Ceremoniously, the angels roll the stone away and enter the tomb opening. A light rises within. Fade to black.)

Segment 1.2

(A room in Jerusalem. The light rises on CLEOPAS, a middle-aged disciple, who packs a cloth bag. From offstage we hear the voice of DISCIPLE, his somewhat younger friend.)

DISCIPLE: Cleopas! Cleopas!

(Disciple enters, a packed bag slung over his shoulder.)

CLEOPAS: In here!

DISCIPLE: Cleopas! Jesus's body is gone!

CLEOPAS: What?

DISCIPLE: Yes, the women went this morning to anoint Him, and the stone was rolled away. They said angels came and said He's alive and gone into Galilee.⁴⁶

CLEOPAS: Angels?

DISCIPLE: Yes!

CLEOPAS: And Peter?

DISCIPLE: He and John went back to see the tomb for themselves.⁴⁷

CLEOPAS: Well, let's leave this in *their* hands.

DISCIPLE: Mary Magdalene went back as well. She's hopeful she can find His body.

CLEOPAS: Well, if she doesn't, the Saducees will say *we* took it, so we could claim He's risen from the dead.

DISCIPLE: Why?

CLEOPAS: Because they're the ones, they're the ones—our own people—who delivered Him to the Romans! That's why the sooner we get on the road to Emmaus, the better. (handing Disciple a robe) Here, put this in your bag.

DISCIPLE: What if Jesus does come to Galilee?

CLEOPAS: Peter would send for us.

DISCIPLE: But Galilee? That's where we started! Do you realize a week ago the Messiah was riding into Jerusalem—here where *everything* happens? He came as the king— thousands waving palms and crying hosannas— a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people.⁴⁸ People were finally listening and believing. The Kingdom of Heaven was right here, at hand.

[Music Cue: "Where Is He This Morn?"]

DISCIPLE (cont'd): It's over now, isn't it?

CLEOPAS: We all trusted He was the one who would redeem Israel.⁴⁹ But without Him . . . (overcome) Come, let's go home.

Segment 1.3

(As Cleopas and Disciple exit, fade to black. The light rises on Mary Magdalene kneeling at the tomb door. She rises and sings. Some of the Chorus Women have remained on the colonnade and later softly sing with Mary Magdalene.)

MARY MAGDALENE

Where is He who walked with us?

Where is He who prayed?

*Where is He whose voice rang out,
"Come forth from the grave"?*

Where is He who knelt alone,

Who for us did bleed?

Where is He who gave His life

For our cause to plead?

*It was He who taught all Galilee,
He who fed us by the sea.
With a smile He turned His head to say,
“Look on me, follow me,
Come to me, I am the Way!”*

*Where is He who dried the tears
Of the suff’ring soul?
Where is He who stayed our fears,
He who made us whole?*

CHORUS WOMEN

Ooo...

*He who healed the broken heart,
He who calmed the storm,
He who came to save us all,
Where is He this morn?*

(Mary Magdalene returns to the entrance of the tomb and begins to weep.)

[Music cue: “He Is Risen” underscore]

(A radiant light, representing the Savior, begins to fill the space. Mary Magdalene, sensing a presence:)

MARY MAGDALENE: Are you the gardener here?

SAVIOR (voice-over): Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?

MARY MAGDALENE (without turning toward Him): Sir, if you have carried him from here, please tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.

SAVIOR (voice-over): Mary.

MARY MAGDALENE (suddenly turning, rises): Rabboni!

SAVIOR (voice-over): Touch me not, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God and to your God.⁵⁰

(Mary Magdalene rises and makes her way out of the garden, which is then transformed into a street. In small groups, angels of all ages fill the stage.)

SAMUEL THE LAMANITE: And many graves shall be opened, and shall yield up their dead. And many saints shall appear.⁵¹

(As the music ends, the angels exit.)

Act II
Scene 2
Segment 2.1

(Peter, John, and Thomas enter, conversing.)

THOMAS: The stone was rolled away? What do you mean Peter? Did you see it yourselves?

PETER: Yes, Thomas. The tomb was empty.

THOMAS: Was it thieves?

PETER: We don't think so. His body had been unbound and the grave clothes left behind.

THOMAS: So it was the Romans.

JOHN: No, Thomas, the napkin for His head wasn't just tossed aside. It was folded, neatly, as if out of respect.⁵²

THOMAS: But, John, that could mean anything.

PETER: You're right, it could. But it's more than the grave clothes. It seems that something is happening here, Thomas, something more than we can see.

JOHN: We believe He has risen.

JAMES (running in): Peter!

THOMAS: Risen!

PETER: James.

JAMES: It's confirmed. People who have died have appeared all throughout the city. People are saying it's the resurrection.⁵³

PETER: We'd better quietly gather the believers. Thomas, would you find Mary Magdalene? She may be at the tomb.

THOMAS: Yes, Peter.

(Thomas runs off.)

PETER: This will inflame the Sanhedrin—

JAMES: They'll think He's risen.

PETER: If they believe.

(Peter, James, and John begin to exit. MARY steps out of the shadows.)

MARY: John . . . Peter . . .

JOHN: Mary? Peter! Is everything all right?

MARY: I'm sorry to alarm you, my son. Mary Magdalene returned and—

JOHN: Is she safe?

PETER: Where is she?

MARY (beckoning to Mary Magdalene): Mary, child, come here.

(Mary Magdalene steps out of the shadows.)

PETER: Mary Magdalene.

MARY MAGDALENE: Peter . . . Oh, Peter. . . .

PETER: You saw Him, didn't you?

MARY MAGDALENE: Yes. I thought He was the gardener.

PETER: Yes?

MARY MAGDALENE: Until He spoke my name. He said, “Mary.” He told me to tell you, “I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.”⁵⁴

PETER: We’re grateful *you* saw Him, and we rejoice with you. We’ll tell the others. Come, James, John, we should meet tonight.

(Peter, James, and John begin to exit.)

JAMES: In the upper room from before?

PETER :Yes.

JOHN: We’ll arrange it.

(They exit.)

[Music cue: “Alleluia”]

MARY

*Angels sang to wond’ring shepherds,
“Fear not, Christ is born this day.”
Marvel not that in a stable,
Heaven blessed His bed of hay.*

MARY MAGDALENE

*Angels brought the joyful tidings,
“Fear not, Christ is risen this day.”
Heav’n came down to tend His body,
Why I grieved I cannot say.*

MARY MAGDALENE and MARY

*Alleluia! Alleluia!
Rise, O Light of Bethlehem.
Calvary’s dark night is over,
Christ the Lord is come again.*

(Underscore continues. Joanna, Salome, and Mary MOJ enter, running.)

SALOME: Mary! Mary!

JOANNA: Mary! He is risen, as the angels said.

SALOME: He came to us on the road.

MARY MOJ: And He said “Tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.”⁵⁵

JOANNA

Angels sent us with a message,

SALOME

“Fear not, go to Galilee.”

MARY MOJ

Who could know we’d meet our Master?

JOANNA, SALOME and MARY MOJ

Who could know His face we’d see?

MARY, MARY MAGDALENE, JOANNA, SALOME, MARY MOTHER OF JAMES, HANNAH, SUZANNA, TIRZAH, MIRIAM, and CHORUS WOMEN

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rise, O Light of Bethlehem.

Calvary’s dark night is over,

Christ the Lord is come again.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rise, O Light of Bethlehem.

Calvary’s dark night is over,

Christ the Lord is come again.

SALOME: We must tell Peter about Galilee.

MARY: He was just with us.

JOANNA: He knows about Mary Magdalene?

MARY MAGDALENE: Yes. Come, we'll find him.

(They exit.)

Segment 2.2

(Cleopas and Disciple run on, breathless.)

DISCIPLE: Cleopas, wait!

CLEOPAS: I can see the lights of Jerusalem! Hurry!

DISCIPLE: I've got to rest. We already covered this road once today.

(They come upon a well.)

CLEOPAS (drawing water): I know, but if we don't hurry we may not find the apostles before nightfall. Here, drink. Tell me, when did you first recognize it was Jesus?

DISCIPLE: When He took the bread and blessed it.

CLEOPAS: Yes. It was just like in Galilee, when He fed the five thousand, there was that feeling . . . that

DISCIPLE: Yes.

CLEOPAS: It came back. And we're as full of joy as we ever were.

DISCIPLE: How could we have been so sad?

CLEOPAS: I called Him a stranger!⁵⁶

DISCIPLE: Yes! And we walked along telling Him everything that had happened to *Him*! Why did He come to us?

CLEOPAS: Because He wanted to teach us, to remind us of all that the prophets have spoken.

[Music cue: “Did Not Our Hearts Burn?”]

DISCIPLE: How could we have been so foolish, so slow to believe? How could we not recognize Him?

CLEOPAS

Were our eyes holden because of fear?

DISCIPLE

Could we not see Him for all our tears?

CLEOPAS

If we had listened beyond His words,

CLEOPAS and DISCIPLE

Would we have known now more than we heard?

Did not our hearts burn within us as He walked with us?

Did not He open the scriptures by the way?

Did not He come as promised to even us

To take our sins away?

(Underscore continues.)

DISCIPLE: Cleopas, He knew our hearts. He *knew* we were sad.

CLEOPAS: Not a sparrow falls to the earth except He knows it.⁵⁷

CLEOPAS (contd.)

And if we grieved for what had to be,

DISCIPLE

And knew not how He had set us free,

CLEOPAS

He tarried with us until the end,

CLEOPAS and DISCIPLE

Till eyes were opened and knees would bend.

(As they continue singing, the space is transformed to the upper room.)

CLEOPAS: Yes.

JOHN: Have you also heard that they have seen *Him*?

DISCIPLE: Who did?

JOHN: Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and some of the other women.

PETER: He gave them instructions. What did He say to you?

CLEOPAS: He taught from the scriptures, Peter, beginning with Moses and all the prophets.⁶¹ And He expounded the words written about Himself.

JAMES: And what did you learn?

CLEOPAS: All of this had to happen, Brethren. The Prophets knew it, and He knew it, too.

PETER: And not only knew it, He didn't stop it . . . He let it happen . . . He took it upon Himself.

(A man representing the Savior, dressed in a white robe, appears.)

[Music cue: "I Stand All Amazed" underscore]

SAVIOR: Peace be unto you.⁶²

JAMES: Peter!

(All kneel, frightened.)

SAVIOR: Why are ye troubled? And why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.⁶³

(The man in white extends his hands. Peter, James, and John come forward and touch the palms of his hands.)

SAVIOR: Have ye any meat? ⁶⁴

PETER (passing a basket of food forward): We have fish and honeycomb.⁶⁵

(The man takes the basket and eats. He hands the basket back to Peter.)

JOHN: Thou hast risen from the grave, Lord, and yet Thou eatest as a man.

PETER: Wilt Thou teach us, Lord, the meaning of these things?

SAVIOR: These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. ⁶⁶

JAMES: What things, Lord?

SAVIOR: Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. ⁶⁷

(As the light fades, the man representing the Savior walks away. The Apostles and disciples, at first overcome, slowly begin to stand.)

JOHN: Witnesses!

JAMES: To all nations!

PETER: Brethren, what we have seen, the people need to know. They are ready and many will listen. What we thought was the end is the beginning.

(The Apostles and disciples begin to leave.)

DISCIPLE: It's not over, Cleopas. There *is* something *we* can do.

CLEOPAS: And in *Jerusalem!*

JOHN (quietly): Peter, what about Thomas?

PETER: We will find him.

(Before exiting, Peter turns to look back into the room.)

BLACKOUT

Segment 2.4

(A home in Jerusalem. Mary; Mary Magdalene; Mary Mother of James; Salome; Joanna; and two children, REBEKAH and JOSHUA, are picking fruit from a lush green tree and packing it and other articles to go to Galilee.)

REBEKAH: When will we leave for Galilee?

JOANNA: We don't know, Rebekah, but soon. The angel said Jesus would go before us. And we'll meet Him there.⁶⁸

MARY MOJ (handing items to Rebekah): Rebekah, pack these too, please.

JOSHUA: I'm scared to see Him again.

JOANNA: Why, son?

JOSHUA: I thought they put Him in a tomb.

MARY MOJ: They did, Joshua. That's why the angel said, "Fear not."⁶⁹

SALOME: And Jesus said the same thing to us.

JOSHUA: He did?

SALOME: Yes, on the road. He said, "Be not afraid," and then we bowed down and held his feet, and worshipped Him.⁷⁰

JOSHUA: And you weren't afraid?

JOANNA: Oh, maybe a little. But we were also joyful. Very joyful.⁷¹

MARY MAGDALENE: It's true, what He said, isn't it—that this experience would be like childbirth?

MARY: Yes, “A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, . . . but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish.”⁷²

MARY MAGDALENE: We’ve been grieving for three days and suddenly the grief is forgotten!

MARY MOJ: Not forgotten—changed. Our sorrow became our joy.

JOSHUA: I still don’t understand why He had to die.

MARY: Come here, Joshua. Did you know that once, when He was not much older than you, we lost Him?

JOSHUA: No.

REBEKAH: Where?

MARY: Here, in Jersusalem. For three days Joseph and I searched frantically, worried for His safety, afraid He was lost. And finally we found Him. In the temple. He was teaching grown men, doctors, priests!⁷³ And he said to us, “Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”⁷⁴

JOSHUA: His Father’s business?

MARY: You see, it was His Father’s will that He leave us those three days. And for these past three days, when it seemed we had lost Him again, it was the will of His Father He’s been doing as always.

[Music cue: “Do His Will—Reprise”]

MARY (contd): That is why He laid down his life, so that He could take it up again, and us with Him.

JOSHUA: Did you know all this would happen?

MARY: No, not exactly, but I remember what He said, those many years ago.

REBEKAH: I don’t want to ever lose Him again.

MARY: You don't have to, Rebekah. Because if you follow Him, and remember Him, you'll always feel Him near.

REBEKAH: I'll follow Him, then, wherever He wants me to go.

JOSHUA: How will we know where that is? And what if we can't?

MARY: Oh, Joshua—it's good to wonder a little about ourselves, but we need never wonder about the Lord.

MARY (contd)

Ask God all your questions,

Hear His voice so still,

Let the Spirit's whisper

Teach how to do His will.

Then go and do His will.

(Thomas enters.)

THOMAS: Sisters!

SALOME: Thomas.

THOMAS: Mary Magdalene. I've been looking for you since yesterday. Peter said you'd gone back to the garden.

MARY MAGDALENE: I did.

SALOME: Thomas, He is alive, just as the angels said.

THOMAS: You saw Him, with your own eyes?

JOSHUA (cutting off Thomas's line): Yes, she did.

MARY MOJ: Yes. On the road. And Mary Magdalene . . .

(Cleopas and Disciple enter.)

CLEOPAS: Sisters! Thomas!

THOMAS: Cleopas!

CLEOPAS: Did Peter find you yet?

THOMAS: No. What's wrong? I thought you were going back to Emmaus.

CLEOPAS: We were, but Jesus met us on the way.

THOMAS: He did?

CLEOPAS: Yes.

THOMAS: He came to the women as well!

CLEOPAS: We know.

DISCIPLE: And then last night He came again.

THOMAS: Again?

CLEOPAS: Yes. The wounds were there. It was Jesus.

DISCIPLE: Yes, we were gathered in the upper room, and He appeared.

THOMAS: We? Who is "we"?

CLEOPAS: Peter, the Twelve, and some of the disciples.

DISCIPLE: Well, most of the Twelve.

THOMAS: And you were there as well?

CLEOPAS: Yes. He told us to be witnesses of Him—of His resurrection.

DISCIPLE: The work is going forward. Oh, Thomas, we can still serve Him!

THOMAS: I hope you will.

(Women and children begin to exit.)

JOANNA: Children—

REBEKAH: Can we take these to Jesus in Galilee?

JOANNA: Yes, come.

(Women and children exit, except for Mary and Mary Magdalene, who linger behind, listening.)

CLEOPAS: Thomas?

THOMAS: I'll do whatever I can to help.

[Music cue: "Except I Shall See - Part A"]

CLEOPAS: Shouldn't we be offering help to you?

THOMAS: No, I don't think so.

CLEOPAS: But you were called to be a witness.

THOMAS: How can I be a witness of what I haven't seen! (Pause) I'm sorry, Cleopas, but . . .

THOMAS (contd)

I cannot hear His words

If He's not with me.

I cannot feel His touch

If He's not here.

I cannot tell the world

My Lord still walks with me

If I can't see Him

And have Him near.

(Peter and John enter, listening.)

CLEOPAS: Thomas.

THOMAS

*Except I shall see, I will not believe.*⁷⁵

Except I behold His wounds,

I will always grieve.

Except I put my finger into the print of nails,

He has not risen up for me.

I will not, I cannot believe.

[Music cue: Segue into “Peter’s Witness” underscore]

PETER: Thomas.

(Thomas turns and sees Peter and John.)

THOMAS: Peter, John, I didn’t know you were here.

PETER: I’m sorry you didn’t see Him.

THOMAS: What I said about believing—

JOHN: We understand, Thomas. You want to see Him with your own eyes.

THOMAS: So I can be a witness!

PETER: You are a witness. Look, Thomas, we did see Him, but that is not enough for any of us.

THOMAS: What?

(As Peter speaks, Cleopas, Disciple, Mary, and Mary Magdalene gradually exit.)

PETER: Plenty of people saw him in life, watched his miracles and heard his teachings, and yet some of them were among those who condemned Him to the cross. To see Him, Thomas—to see Him as He is, for who He is—we must look with our hearts. (pause) Do you remember when we came to the borders of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked us “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?” And we answered Him, “Some say that thou art John the Baptist:

JOHN: Some Elias;

PETER: And others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.”

THOMAS: Yes.

PETER: And then He asked, a second time, “But whom say *ye* that I am?” And I looked at him and I said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And He said to me, “Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.”⁷⁶ You see, Thomas, it isn’t by flesh and blood that we know, but by what we feel. At first Mary Magdalene thought He was the gardener. And Cleopas walked along the road to Emmaus, thinking He was a rabbi. But when they felt Him, they knew. And one day, when you do see Him, you will not know any better than you know now that He lives, because you already feel—(pointing to Thomas’ heart)—here.

THOMAS: I do, Peter.

PETER: Then believe, Thomas, and see.

(Peter embraces Thomas, then exits.)

[Music cue: “Except I Shall See—Part B”]

THOMAS

If I can’t hear His words,

Then I will speak them.

If I can’t feel His touch,

His touch I’ll give.

And I’ll rejoice because my Lord called even me,

And by His teachings I’ll always live.

Segment 2.5

(The music continues as the scene is transformed into the Upper Room. Peter and the other Apostles enter.)

PETER: Thomas, have you given up hope?

THOMAS: Hope, no. But my demands, yes. It's been a week, Peter. Tell me what I need to do.

PETER: Trust that the Lord will fulfill His promises, in His due time.

THOMAS: In His due time.

[Music cue: Segue into “He Is Risen/Except I Shall See—Part C”]

(As Thomas and Peter embrace, a man representing the Savior, dressed in a white robe, appears before them.)

SAVIOR: Peace be unto you.

(All but Thomas kneel.)

PETER: Master.

(Thomas turns and kneels.)

SAVIOR: Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

(Thomas steps forward and touches his hands.)

THOMAS (falling to his knees, weeping): My Lord and my God.

SAVIOR: Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.⁷⁷

(The light fades, and the man representing the Savior walks away. Slowly, the Apostles rise and gather around Thomas, who still kneels.)

PETER: Now we can go to Galilee.

ANDREW: What would you have us do, Peter?

PETER: What we know how to do: fish. And there He will come to us again, as He said.

(All apostles but Thomas leave. Thomas rises.)

THOMAS

*I searched with my eyes,
But I was blind.
By His mercy eyes of faith I find!
Lord, what I asked afearing,
Thou answered with Thy love.
O Lord, my God,
I will believe,
I'll always,
Forever and ever,
Remember
That Thou hast come to me!*

(Thomas exits. Underscore continues as the scene changes. Immediate segue to...)

Act II
Scene 3
Segment 3.1

(The Sea of Galilee, on a fishing boat. Peter; James; John; Andrew; Thomas; and John's son, Aaron, are casting nets.)

AARON: When will He come, father?

THOMAS: He'll come when we're ready, Aaron, trust me!

(All chuckle.)

AARON: I'm ready.

PETER: But maybe *we're* not, like when I tried to walk on this water.⁷⁸

ANDREW: I wonder why He said He'd meet us here—in Galilee?

JAMES: Maybe because it's where we all started.

PETER: Where He called us.

AARON: What do you mean?

PETER: We were right over there, to the west, and He told us to cast in our nets.

JAMES: But on the right side of the boat.

PETER: Yes.

JOHN: And it was on a night just like this. Not a single fish.

PETER: And suddenly there were so many . . . so many

JOHN: So many our nets broke, son.⁷⁹

PETER: We weren't ready, Aaron —our nets weren't strong enough. So we couldn't bring in the fish and take them back to feed the people.

JOHN: And that's when He called us to be fishers of men.⁸⁰

AARON: Of men? So why are we fishing for *fish*?

THOMAS: Especially when there aren't any!

[Music cue: "Did Not Our Hearts Burn—Reprise" underscore]

SAVIOR (voice-over as if coming from shore): Children, have ye any meat?⁸¹

THOMAS (to the others on the boat): Is that man talking to us?

PETER (calling to shore): No, not today!⁸²

SAVIOR (voice-over): Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find!⁸³

(One by one they quickly stand and look in amazement.)

AARON: What is he saying?

THOMAS: He doesn't know we've been fishing all night.

JOHN (realizing): Yes, He does.

PETER (also realizing): Do it!

AARON: Why would there be fish now?

THOMAS: I don't see any.

JAMES: Shh. Peter, what is it?

PETER: He's here. He's here with us.

JOHN: It is the Lord.

THOMAS: You can tell from here?

PETER: Yes.

(Peter jumps off the boat and crosses downstage. Back on the boat:)

THOMAS: Look! Look!

JAMES: It's a draught, again!

JOHN: As many as before! Maybe more!

THOMAS: Pull!

JAMES: Careful, the nets!

JOHN: They're holding, James. This time the nets are holding!

THOMAS: Pull! Pull!

(They pull in a large net of fish. On shore, Peter steps into a pool of light and discovers a small fire with fish cooking on a spit.)

PETER: Is this a meal for us, Lord?

SAVIOR (voice-over): Bring of the fish which *ye* have now caught.⁸⁴

JOHN (from the boat): Peter, come!

JAMES: Peter, we must have caught over a hundred fish. And the nets didn't tear!

THOMAS: At least a hundred and fifty, and big ones.⁸⁵

AARON: It's Jesus, isn't it, father?

JOHN: Yes, son, it is Jesus.

SAVIOR (voice-over): Come and dine.⁸⁶

(Aaron exits as the men on the boat make their way downstage.)

JAMES: A meal!

JOHN: Is this for us, Lord?

PETER: Food was never so welcome.

JOHN: We thank Thee, Lord.

(The Apostles gather around the fire and eat.)

SAVIOR (voice-over): Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?

PETER (turning downstage, into the light): Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.

SAVIOR (voice-over): Feed my lambs.

(Music ends. Peter begins to turn back to the Apostles.)

SAVIOR (voice-over): Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?

PETER (turning toward the light): Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.

SAVIOR (voice-over): Feed my sheep.

(Peter turns to the Apostles again.)

SAVIOR (voice-over): Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?

(Silence. Peter faces the light squarely. The other Apostles rise.)

PETER: Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.

SAVIOR (voice-over): Feed my sheep.⁸⁷

(Peter stands, resolute. As he does, the other Apostles kneel behind him, recognizing the charge given him.)

[Music cue: “Feed Thy Sheep”]

PETER (with understanding and resolve): James, John, let us divide what we have been given with others. We will feed Thy sheep, Lord, withersoever thou wilt.

(All Apostles rise.)

JOHN

As we're fed, we'll feed them.

JAMES

As we learn, we'll teach.

(The rest of the Apostles enter.)

THOMAS

As we're blessed, we'll lift each other.

JOHN, JAMES, and THOMAS

We will feed Thy sheep.

ALL APOSTLES

Feed Thy lambs, O feed Thy sheep!

Shepherds we'll become.

*Help us find the wandering lambs,
Make Thy flock as one.*

(The music continues as the Apostles kneel. The light before them becomes intense, again representing the Savior.)

PETER: Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

SAVIOR (voice-over): It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you.⁸⁸ Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.⁸⁹ And, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.⁹⁰

Segment 3.2

(The scene is gradually transformed to a hillside, which the Apostles climb. The Chorus sings from offstage.)

APOSTLES

*On our right and left hand,
Thou wilt always be.
We will go to all the world.
We will feed Thy sheep.*

THADDEUS: And he led us out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed us.⁹¹

SIMON ZELOTES

And while he blessed us, he was parted from us, and carried up into heaven.⁹² And a cloud received him out of our sight.⁹³

APOSTLES and CHORUS (under dialogue)

*Feed Thy lambs,
O feed Thy sheep!
Shepherds we'll
become.*

*Guide us to the wandering lambs,
Make Thy flock as one.*

(On the hill, the Apostles look up. From the colonnade, two Angels speak. The Chorus continues to sing under the dialogue.)

ANGEL 1: Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?⁹⁴

ANGEL 2: This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.⁹⁵

(The chorus fills the stage as the Apostles address them.)

[Music cue: Segue into “Come, Lord Jesus—End of Act II”]

PHILIP: Now there was in the days of Herod a certain priest named Zacharias.⁹⁶

ANDREW: And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.⁹⁷

MATTHEW: And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field.⁹⁸

NATHANAEL: Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden.⁹⁹

JAMES ALPHEUS: And we took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre.¹⁰⁰

THOMAS: And Jesus stood in the midst of us, and saith unto us, “Peace be unto you.”¹⁰¹

PETER: For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.¹⁰²

JAMES: For the Son of man shall come in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.¹⁰³

JOHN: And I John saw these things, and heard them. He is the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. He which testifieth of these things saith, Surely I come quickly. . . .Even so, come, Lord Jesus.¹⁰⁴

ALL

*Come, Lord Jesus, Great Redeemer,
Light of morning from the east.
We will be Thy children ever,
Dry our tears, all weeping cease.
Come in glory to the earth,
Come to us to rule and reign.
Ready us to kneel and greet Thee.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

*Jesus, once of humble birth,
Now in glory comes to earth.
Once He suffered grief and pain;
Now He comes on earth to reign.
Now He comes on earth to reign.¹⁰⁵*

(All assemble beneath a column of light, gazing upward into heaven, some reaching up toward the light.)

ALL

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

BLACKOUT

END OF ACT II

NOTES

46. See Matthew 28:1-7.
47. See John 20:3-4.
48. See John 12:12-13.
49. See Luke 24:21.
50. See John 20:14-17.
51. See Helaman 14:25.
52. See John 20:5-7.
53. See Matthew 27:52-53.
54. John 20:16-17.
55. Matthew 28:10.
56. See Luke 24:18.
57. See Matthew 10:29.
58. See Luke 24:16.
59. See Luke 24:29-30.
60. See Luke 24:30.
61. See Luke 24:27.
62. Luke 24:36.
63. Luke 24:38-39.
64. See Luke 24:41.
65. See Luke 24:42.
66. Luke 24:44.
67. See Luke 24:46-48.
68. See Matthew 28:7.
69. Matthew 28:5.
70. See Matthew 28:9-10.
71. See Matthew 28:8.
72. John 16:21.
73. See Luke 2:41-49.
74. Luke 2:49.
75. See John 20:25.
76. See Matthew 16:13-17.
77. John 20:26-29.
78. See Matthew 14:22-33.
79. See Luke 5:1-11.
80. See Matthew 4:19.
81. John 21:5.
82. See John 21:5.

83. John 21:6.
84. John 21:10.
85. See John 21:11.
86. John 21:12.
87. John 21:15–17.
88. Acts. 1:6–8.
89. Mark 16:15.
90. Matt. 28:20.
91. See Luke 24:50.
92. See Luke 24:51.
93. See Acts 1:9.
94. Acts 1:11.
95. Acts 1:11.
96. See Luke 1:5.
97. Luke 2:7.
98. Luke 2:8.
99. John 19:41.
100. See Mark 15:46.
101. See Luke 24:36.
102. 2 Peter 1:16.
103. See Matthew 24:30–31.
104. See Revelation 22:8, 16–17, 20.
105. *Hymns*, no. 196.