

Sanctuary First

December 2010

Theme Summary - Don't Put The Light Out

Item	Notes								
VIDEO	Don't Put The Light's Out								
SONG	Listen to the song "Guess You Are The Light Of The World" (mp3 file)								
DRAMA	"The Shape Of The World Around" (see attached drama script)								
PRAYER	<p>Lighten Up Their Darkness</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>LEADER</td><td>Lord we pray for those who have lost all hope Who cannot see a way forward Who are locked up in silent grief and sorrow</td></tr><tr><td>PEOPLE</td><td>Rescuing God, Lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their prison And lead them into the light of salvation</td></tr><tr><td>LEADER</td><td>We pray for those who are captive to an ideology of greed who cannot give unless they receive Who are prisoners of their own happiness</td></tr><tr><td>PEOPLE</td><td>Rescuing God lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their prison And lead them into the light of salvation</td></tr></tbody></table>	LEADER	Lord we pray for those who have lost all hope Who cannot see a way forward Who are locked up in silent grief and sorrow	PEOPLE	Rescuing God, Lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their prison And lead them into the light of salvation	LEADER	We pray for those who are captive to an ideology of greed who cannot give unless they receive Who are prisoners of their own happiness	PEOPLE	Rescuing God lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their prison And lead them into the light of salvation
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	LEADER	<p>We pray for those who are tortured for their faith Who cannot speak the truth for fear of others being wronged Who are silently crying and patiently believing your word of rescue</p>
	PEOPLE	<p>Rescuing God lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their prison And lead them into the light of salvation</p>
	LEADER	<p>We pray for those who have lost their value and sense of worth Who feel discarded and no longer useful Who believe their life and future has been lost</p>
	PEOPLE	<p>Rescuing God Lighten up their darkness Open the doors of their eyes to see their value And lead them into the light of your salvation</p>
SONG	The Light Of Christ Has Come Into The World	
DRAMA	“An Invitation To Hope Against The Odds” (see attached drama script)	
COMMENT	<p>Nothing seems to change through the centuries. The religious leaders who should believe “God can do impossible things” often doubt such things.</p> <p>And the insignificant in the eyes of the religious establishment, who have little knowledge of God believe the impossible and end up the true believers.</p>	
VIDEO	<p>Mary’s Dance</p> <p>www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3O_cV4bxRk</p>	
DRAMA	“What Shape Is God” (see attached drama script)	
SONG	Light Of The World	

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REFLECTION	<p>Did you know that from the day of his birth there were people looking to kill Jesus. His parents became asylum seekers in Egypt. In an attempt to save his life. Hundreds of innocent children were killed as the powers that be tried there best to find him and remove this precious light that had been born into the world.</p> <p>Persecution still exists in many parts of the world tonight we'd like to invite you to keep the light of hope burning for many who are imprisoned for standing up for justice.</p> <p>I guess the truth is You Just Can't PUT THE LIGHT OUT.</p>
MESSAGE OF HOPE	<p>(Invite people to write a message of hope to one of many people who are imprisoned unjustly. You can use the attached PDF form Amnesty International which highlights some people who are imprisoned. Have this set up in an area where people can take time to think about the situations of injustice around the world. The messages give strength and hope to their recipients, and sends a message to police, prison staff and political authorities that the world is watching what they are doing.)</p>

THE SHAPE OF THE WORLD AROUND

(A person crouches in the corner of the stage with a dim spot light on them they begin to muse about life and the world on the screen. On the screen there is a picture of a dark grey damp tenement building with a cold windy look.)

“Is this the shape of things to come ?

I ask myself

I’m in a dark place

Nothing’s real

Its all lost

I’m lost

I’ve no time left

To fuss about

Things

Cars

Jobs

Bank statements

Debt means nothing

when no one’s counting

I get agitated too easily

with people making demands

final demands

You can’t make demands in the dark I said

Your in the wrong place

The wrong world

In the dark there is

Nothing to see

Nothing to be

Nothing to touch

Nothing to own

Nothing to rob
When your nothing
You become invisible
You merge
Into the background
You lose your shape
There are no expectations in the dark
But you still - think
If you try to keep your self in the dark
That's when the problems start
You can't hide self
You can't hide from yourself
Self is only known in relation to another
So who else is in the dark?"

(the screen image changes to a sunrise)

"If I put the light on
Everything changes
Its another world
Of shapes and colours
Even to think the word light
It changes the landscape
It changes the language
It invites me to hope for more."

AN INVITATION TO HOPE AGAINST THE ODDS

(The front of the church is covered with smoke from a smoke machine a blue light mingles its way through the mist and the fog. A person (Zachariah) dress as a minister with a cassock and collar stands in the middle of the stage.

(The following audio/video track of Zachariah's thoughts is played)

(AUDIO TRACK STARTS)

I'm supposed to be positive
I'm supposed to say the church is in good shape
I'm supposed to believe in Angels
I'm supposed to know everything about God
People even believe that God speaks to me
Its never happened to me
It never will
Yet sometimes I dream it might
I pretend
I hope
I pray
That God would change our situation
Two things I ask
Give us a Child
And rid us of the occupying army
I flirt with the idea that something big is going to happen
God is going to turn up in church one Sunday
God is going to rescue us
God would use my son
The one I don't have - Can't have
To make a difference
To prepare the way
For something big to happen

Why do I torment myself believing
Knowing I'm a doubter
You see these things only happen in Sacred Scripture
Big things don't happen in small towns – do they?
I tell you this I'd be dumbfounded if something big happened !
...Am I seeing things ...are you an angel?

(AUDIO TRACK ENDS)

Two woman move to meet on the other side of the stage from Zachariah.
Elizabeth and Mary. Elizabeth speaks.

ELIZABETH

“Hm!”

(Shakes her head. Looks over at her husband)

“Look at him

He's like a rabbit caught in the headlights
More like a rabbi whose just been enlightened
He's never spoken a word for six months
Many in the congregation say it's a blessing”

(She laughs)

“You know what - in a kind of way I think it is.

Something happened to him

And now he's waiting

Something big is going to happen soon

I just know it

And I think he knows it too

I think he's beginning to believe it

Hm.. I feel it in my womb

I'm learning to expect more

Look what God has done in my life

I'm a walking miracle
This is going to be one special day
Look whose coming up the path
Mary
You know what I'm going to speak it out
Just tell her what I think
What I feel
Hey what the both of us feel"

MARY

"Your absolutely blessed
God has honoured you
Your child is blessed
You believed
The angel
Something very big is happening
(They join Zachariah in the freeze position)

WHAT SHAPE IS GOD

(A person sits on a bench reading a newspaper then he looks up and starts talking - no one recognises that he is actually an angel)

ANGEL

“I read in the newspaper today
The headline “God is dead”
Someone has written God’s Obituary
I felt sad
I felt a tear roll down my face
Not for God
Rumors of his death have been greatly exaggerated
I felt sorry because the person who wrote the obituary
Has never met God
They knew a lot about him
But they didn’t know him.
So what is God like you ask
Like a rescue mission.
He’s all around you
He takes on many shapes
He’s outsized
You can’t contain him
He’s full of surprises
God is like an unexpected gift
That just appears”

(At this point a couple enter with a baby and have a conversation)

READER 1

Why did you keep doing it

READER 2

Doing what

READER 1

Putting the light out

READER 2

I wanted to see his face

READER 1

You should have put the light out

READER 2

Well I was so excited

READER 1

I wanted to sleep

READER 2

I wanted to think - I just can't believe it

READER 1

You should have put the light out

READER 2

Well I did eventually

READER 1

No you didn't

READER 2

I did you know

READER 1

Well the light was on all night

READER 2

I know there are some lights you can't turn off

READER 1

What you mean

READER 2

His face was shining in the dark all night, for me he's the light of my world

READER 1

You mean the light of the world.