**Godspell**

**(St Cyprians Edition)**

*Jesus speaks over musical chords. The cast, entranced, form a line in the middle of the stage, facing upwards.*

JESUS *(v/o, poss pre-recorded)*

My name is known: God and King. I am most in majesty, In whom no beginning may be and no end. Highest in potency I am, And have been ever. I have made stars and planets in their courses to go. I have made a moon for the night and a sun to light the day also. I have made earth where trees and grasses spring, Beasts and fowl, both great and small, all thrive and have my liking. I have made all of nothing for man's sustenation And of this pleasant garden that I have mostly goodly planted I will make him gardener for his own recreation.

*John the Baptist/Judas appears from the back of the auditorium and approaches the stage.*

**Song 01 – PREPARE YE**

John the Baptist
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

*The cast come out of their freeze and regard JOHN as he approaches the stage. He carries a bucket with a sponge inside it. The cast look at him with a growing mixture of excitement, fear and anticipation.*

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

 *The cast erupt into cheers and leaps of joy. The lights become full colour and intensity, like a black-and-white film has suddenty turned into colour.*

 *During the following, JOHN comes onstage and each member of the ensemble receives a baptism [confetti] in an individual and amusing way.*

Full Cast:
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

John the Baptist *(seeing JESUS for the first time)*
Do *you* come to *me*?

JESUS
Yeah, I wanna get washed up.

John the Baptist
I need rather to be baptized by you.

Jesus
No, no. Look, let it be so for the present; we do well now to conform with all that God requires.

 *As on-stage JOHN baptises him by giving JESUS a light sponge bath, the cast sing. JESUS & JOHN exit after verse one and join with the cast and song downstage.*

**Song 02 – DAY BY DAY**

DAY BY DAY
DAY BY DAY
OH, DEAR LORD THREE THINGS I PRAY.
TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,
LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY
FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY
DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY BY DAY BY DAY BY DAY…

**The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Gatherer**

Narrator
Gather round, brothers and sisters, because two men, I said two men, went off to the temple to pray. One, a Pharisee,

All
Boo! (General derision)

Narrator
and the other a tax gatherer.

All
Ahhh!

Narrator
The Pharisee, why he just stood right on up, and praaaaayed thus:

Pharisee
I thank thee, O God, that I am not like other men, greedy, dishonest, adulterous, or, for that matter, like that tax gatherer. I pray twice a week - get that, twice a week - and pay taxes on all that I get."

Narrator
But the other kept his distance and would not even raise his eyes to the good Lord in Heaven. I said the good Lord in Heaven, chile.

All
Amen, sister!

Narrator
But beat upon his breast, saying,

Tax collector
Oh, God, have mercy on me, sinner that I am!

All
Hallelujah! Amen! (etc.)

Jesus
And it was this man, I tell you...

Pharisee
Oh, you've got to be kidding!

Jesus
... and not the other who went off and quitted of his sins for - Every man who exalts himself…

 *Pharisee does a leap.*

 shall be humbled.

 *He taps her on the shoulder and she collapses.*

 but every man who humbles himself,

 *Jesus tries to pick the tax collector up, but he is heavy.*

 shall be exal-

 *Narrator helps him pick him up to his feet.*

ALL

Shall be exalted!

 *All cheer.*

**Song – LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL**

TSEYONE:

I can see a swath of sinners settin' yonder
And they're actin' like a pack of fools.

ANGEL:

Gazin' into space lettin' their minds wander,
'Stead of studyin' the good Lord's rules.

BOTH:

You better pay attention,
Build your comprehension,
There's gonna be a quiz at your ascension.
Not to mention any threat of hell,
But if you're smart you'll learn your lessons well!

MIA:

Ev'ry bright description of the promised land meant,
You can reach it if you keep alert.

NICOLE:

Learnin' ev'ry line and ev'ry last commandment
May not help you, but it couldn't hurt.

BOTH:

First ya gotta read 'em, then ya gotta heed 'em.
Ya never know when you're gonna need 'em

ALL 4:

Just as old Elijah said to Jezebel
"You better start to learn your lessons well!"

**The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

 *As the narrator narrates, the scene is acted out in mime at the front of the stage by the robbers, the priest, the judge and the Good Samaritan, who act out in time to the narration. The intention is of a silent movie.*

 *Robbers: Amber, Kyrie & Mia*

Jayden (COWBELL)
A man was on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell in amongst robbers, who beat him, stripped him, and left, leaving him half dead.

 *Priest: Jazzlyn*

Marlea (BELL)
It so happened that a priest came upon the place and saw him and went past to the other side.

 *Judge: Tseyone*

Stelios (HAND CLAPPERS)
So, too, a judge came to the place and saw him and went past to the other side.

*Samaritan: Demetra*

Ariana (COCONUTS)
But, a Samaritan who was making the journey came upon him, and when he saw him, was moved to pity. He went up and bandaged his wounds, bathing them in oil and wine. Then he put him onto his own beast, brought him to an inn, and looked after him there.

 *Innkeeper: Razvan*

Nathaniel (FINGER CYMBALS / TRIANGLE)
The next day he produced two pieces of silver and said, "Look after him and if you spend anymore, I will repay you on the way back."

Jesus
You have learned that you were told, "Love you neighbour, hate your enemy," but what I tell you is this, "Love, love, love, your enemies. And pray for your persecutors.

Cast
You don't mean...?

Jesus
I do! Only so can you be called the Children of your Heavenly Father who makes the sun rise and set on good and bad alike, and sends the rain on the honest and the dishonest.

**Song 06 – OH BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL**

ISABELLY
O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS GRACE TO THEE PROCLAIM
AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME JOIN
TO BLESS HIS HOLY NAME!

OH YEAH

AISHA
O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS MERCIES BEAR IN MIND!
FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS!
THE LORD TO THEE IS KIND.

GIRLS
HE WILL NOT ALWAYS CHIDE
HE WILL WITH PATIENCE WAIT
HIS WRATH IS EVER SLOW TO RISE

BOYS GIRLS
(O BLESS THE LORD) AND READY TO ABATE
(O BLESS THE LORD) AND READY TO ABATE
(O BLESS THE LORD)

KALYMNOS GIRLS
AND READY TO --

TINOS GIRLS
AND READY TO --

BOYS
AND READY TO

ALL
AND READY TO ABATE

OH YEAH

GIRLS BOYS
HE PARDONS ALL THY SINS (ALL THY SINS)
PROLONGS THY FEEBLE BREATH (FEEBLE BREATH)
HE HEALETH THINE INFIRMITIES
AND RANSOMS THEE FROM DEATH

O BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL (O BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL)

HE CLOTHES THEE WITH HIS LOVE (WITH HIS LOVE)
UPHOLDS THEE WITH HIS TRUTH (WITH HIS TRUTH)
AND LIKE THE EAGLE HE RENEWS
THE VIGOUR OF THY YOUTH

GIRLS
THEN BLESS HIS HOLY NAME
WHOSE GRACE HATH MADE THEE WHOLE
WHOSE LOVING KINDNESS CROWNS THY DAYS

BOYS GIRLS
(OH BLESS THE LORD) BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL
(OH BLESS THE LORD) BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL

KALYMNOS GIRLS
OH BLESS THE LORD

TINOS GIRLS
O BLESS THE LORD

BOYS
O BLESS THE LORD

ALL
O BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL!

OH BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL (X8)

BLESS THE LORD (X8)

MY SOUL

O BLESS THE LORD (O BLESS THE LORD) MY SOUL
O BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL!

*(As they leave the stage to sit on the side benches, the following occurs downstage.)*

**SERMON ON THE MOUNT**

Cast member #1 *enthusiastically*
Master, Master! Blessed are the poor in spirit...

Jesus
For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Cast member #2 *as if experiencing a revelation*
Blessed are they that mourn...

Jesus
For they shall be comforted.

Cast member #3 *adding their tuppanceworth*
Blessed are the meek...

Jesus
For they shall inherit the earth.

Cast member #4
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice...

Jesus
For they shall be filled.

Cast member #5
Blessed are the merciful...

Jesus
For they shall have mercy.

Cast member #6
Blessed are the poor in heart...

Jesus
For they shall see God.

Cast member #7
Blessed are the peacemakers...

Jesus
For they shall be called the children of God

Cast member #8
Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...

Jesus
For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Judas
Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely.

Jesus
Did I ever tell you that I used to read feet? No, it's true; some people read palms and tea leaves, I read feet. Look what it says. It says rejoice.

Cast member
No it don’t, it sez made in China

Jesus
No no, rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in Heaven.

**Song – ALL FOR THE BEST (ROMELLO, NYAMIYE & CHORUS)**

Jesus
When you feel sad, or under a curse
Your life is bad, your prospects are worse
Your wife is sighing, crying,
And your olive tree is dying
Temples are greying
And teeth are decaying
And creditors weighing your purse

Your mood and your robe are both a deep blue
You'd bet that Job had nothing on you
Don't forget that
When you go to heaven you'll be blest
Yes, it's all for the best.

Judas
Some men are born to live at ease
Doing what they please
Richer than the bees are in honey

Never growing old
Never feeling cold
Pulling pots of gold from thin air

The best in every town
Best at shaking down
Best at making mountains of money

They can't take it with them
But what do they care?

They get the center of the meat
Cushions on the seat
Houses on the street where it's sunny
Summers at the sea
Winters warm and free
All of this and we get the rest

But who is the land for?
The sun and the sand for?
You guessed -
It's all for the best.

JesUS
Now, how can you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye, when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

Judas
I don't know. How can you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

Jesus
You hypocrite! First take the plank out of your own eye so you can see clearly enough to take the speck of sawdust out of your brother's.

Judas
I’m afraid I just don’t see it that way.

Jesus
Why not?

All
Because he’s got a great plank in his eye!

Jesus JUDAS
When you feel sad, or under a curse Some men are born to live at ease
 DOING WHAT THEY PLEASE,
 RICHER THAN THE BEES ARE IN HONEY
Your life is bad, your prospects are worse NEVER GROWING OLD, NEVER FEELING
 COLD, PULLING POTS OF GOLD FROM THIN AIR

Your wife is sighing, crying, THE BEST IN EVERY TOWN,
 BEST AT SHAKING DOWN,
And your olive tree is dying BEST AT MAKING MOUNTAINS OF MONEY
Temples are greying THEY CAN’T TAKE IT WITH THEM
And teeth are decaying BUT WHAT DO THEY CARE?
And creditors weighing your purse

Your mood and your robe are both a deep blue THEY GET THE CENTRE OF THE MEAT
 CUSHIONS ON THEIR SEAT
 HOUSES ON THE STREET WHERE IT’S SUNNY
You'd bet that Job had nothing on you SUMMERS AT THE SEA
 WINTERS WARM AND FREE
 ALL OF THIS, AND WE GET THE REST
Don't forget that
When you go to heaven you'll be blest BUT WHO IS THE LAND FOR,
 THE SUN AND THE SAND FOR?
Yes, it's all for the -- YOU’VE GUESSED! IT’s ALL FOR THE --

Jesus
All your wrongs will be redressed.

All
Yes, it's all for...

Jesus
You must never be distressed.

All
Yes, it's all for...

Judas
Someone's got to be oppressed.

All
Yes, it's all for the best.

**The parable of THE PRODIGAL SONG**

 *Actors mime the roles of the father and the sons as they are mentioned in the script.*

 *MAN: Zakariya
 SON: Rawdah, Jacob*

AMARI, Narrator 1
Once upon a time there was a man… who had two sons… and the younger said to his father

 *(In SON’s voice, as mimes)*
Father, give me my share of the property.

*(In own voice)*
So, he divided his estate between them.

*LATORE (servant) separates a painting of a house and each son takes half.*

 *GREEK CHORUS (reckless living / famine): Tevyen, Victoria, Diana, Jessica.*

Narrator 2

A few days later the younger son turned the whole of his share into cash and left home for a distant country, where he squandered it in reckless living.

 **ABBA - Money, Money, Money (5-second clip)**

 He had spent it all, when a severe famine fell upon the country and he began to feel the pinch.

Jacob
Ouch!

 Kalel *(landowner)*

Narrator 2

So he decided to attach himself to one of the local landowners who sent him to the field to mind the pigs.

GREEK CHORUS

Pigs??

Kalel (Landowner)

PIGS!

 *The GREEK CHORUS become pigs, scoffing food noisily.*

MIA, Narrator 3 *(melodramatically)*He would have been glad to have filled his belly with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. Then he came to his senses and said

Son *(miming)*

How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they can eat, and here I am starving to death. I will set off and I will go to my father and I will say to him: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.”

Narrator 4
So he set out for his father's house, but while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and his heart went out to him. The son ran to meet his father, threw his arms around him, and kissed him, saying

Narrator 4 *in son’s voice, while son mimes on his knees, melodramatically*

"Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.

Uchie (Narrator 4)

But the father called to one of his servants

Uchie (As Father)

"Kvick, fetch me my robe, my best one, put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet and bring the fatted calf and kill it - a nice Kosher vun - and let us have a veast to celebrate the day, for this son of mine was lost and is found."

All

And the festivities began.

**CELEBRATION - Kool and the Gang (5-second clip)**

Isabelly

Now, the elder son was out on the farm, working; And on his way back, as he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called to one of the servants and asked him what it meant. The servant said

Aisha (miming, servant)
Uh, uh, uh, your nephew - nope, nope, nope, your brother-in-law, nope, nope, nope - your cousin - your brother, your, your brother's come back home again and your father's killed the fatted calf cause he has him back safe and sound, yup, yup, yup!

Isabelly:

But the brother was irritated.

Rawdah (brother)

Oh, c'mon!

Narrator 5

He was so darn mad, he refused to go in the house. The father came out and pleaded with him but he retorted, saying

Narrator 5 *voices Brother, while Brother mimes his angry words*

"You know how I've worked for you all these years and I never once disobeyed your orders and you never gave me so much as a kid for a feast with my friends, but once this son of yours turns up, after running through your money with his women you kill the fatted calf for him?!?!?!”

Narrator 5 *voices Father with accent*

My boy, you are always with me and everything I have his yours. Now, how could we help but celebrate this happy day, for your brother here was dead and has come back to life - metaphorically speaking - was lost and is found."

Jacob & Rawdah (whining)

No, I don't wanna. Please don't make me, Jesus... oh, all right!

 *They hug.*

Chorus
Aw!

**Song – WE BESEECH THEE**

NAHUM
Father, hear thy children's call
Humbly at thy feet we fall
Prodigals confessing all
We beseech thee, hear us!

JACK
We thy call have disobeyed
Into paths of sin have strayed
And repentance have delayed
We beseech thee, hear us!

ALL BOY GROUP
Come sing about Love!
That caused us first to be
Come sing about Love!
That made the stone and tree
Come sing about Lo-o-ove!
That draws us lovingly
We beseech thee, hear us!

EVERYONE
Sick!

BOY GROUP
We come to thee for cure

Guilty! We seek thy mercy sure
Evil! We long to be made pure

EVERYONE
We beseech thee, hear us!

Blind! We pray that we may see
Bound! We pray to be made free
Stained! We pray for sanctity

evERYONE
We beseech thee, hear us!

Come sing about Love!
That caused us first to be
Come sing about Love!
That made the stone and tree
Come sing about Love!
That draws us lovingly
We beseech thee, hear us!

**Everyone**Grant us hope from earth to rise
And to strain with eager eyes
Towards the promised Heavenly prize
We beseech thee, hear us!

(chorus)

Come sing about Love!
That caused us first to be
Come sing about Love!
That made the stone and tree
Come sing about Love! Love! Love!
Come on, sing about Love! Love! Love!
Come on, sing about Love! Love! Love!
That draws us lovingly
We beseech thee, hear us!

BOOM, chick a BOOM, chick a BOOM, chick chick
Chick a BOOM-a, chick a BOOM-a, chick a-BOOM chick chick!

Chick chick!
Boom chick!

**SONG - LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

Jesus
Is there a man among you who will offer his son a stone when he asks for bread?

All
Is there a man among you who will offer his son a stone when he asks for bread?

Jesus
A snake if he asks for fish?

All
No!

Jesus
Well if you now, bad as you are, now, know how to give your children what is good for them, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things...

All
Good things! Good things! Good things! Good things! Good things! Yeah!

Jesus
... to those who ask for them. Always treat others as you would have them treat you

All
Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

Jesus
Well, that is the law and the prophets.

All
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS
THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS

**SONG: LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

SOLO
YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

ALL
YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

SOLO
BUT IF THAT LIGHT'S UNDER A BUSHEL
IT'S LOST SOMETHING KIND OF CRUCIAL.

ALL
YOU'VE GOT TO STAY BRIGHT
TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

SOLO
YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

ALL
YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

SOLO
BUT IF THAT SALT HAS LOST ITS FLAVOUR
IT AIN'T GOT MUCH IN ITS FAVOUR

ALL
YOU CAN'T HAVE THAT FAULT AND BE THE SALT OF THE EARTH

SO LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN
LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE
SO THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW SOME KINDNESS AGAIN
WE ALL NEED HELP TO FEEL FINE

SOLO
YOU ARE THE CITY OF GOD

ALL
YOU ARE THE CITY OF GOD

SOLO
BUT IF THAT CITY'S ON A HILL
IT'S KIND OF HARD TO HIDE IT WELL

ALL
YOU'VE GOT TO STAY PRETTY IN THE CITY OF GOD

SO LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN
LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE
SO THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW SOME KINDNESS AGAIN
WE ALL NEED HELP TO FEEL FINE

SOLO
YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

ALL
YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

SOLO
BUT THE TALLEST CANDLESTICK
AIN'T MUCH GOOD WITHOUT A WICK

ALL
YOU'VE GOT TO LIVE RIGHT TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

JESUS

Stop. It is the beginning

*The disciples move into positions for the Last Supper through the course of the song. Each one says goodbye to Jesus in a different way.*

**Song – BEAUTIFUL CITY**

RAWDAH
Out of the ruins and rubble
Out of the smoke
Out of our night of struggle
Can we see a ray of hope?
One pale thin ray reaching for the day

Rawdah & AIYANNA
We can build a beautiful city
Yes, we can; yes, we can
We can build a beautiful city
Not a city of angels
But we can build a city of maN

AIYANNA
We may not reach the ending
But we can start
Slowly but truly mending
Brick by brick, heart by heart

Now, maybe now
We start learning how

CHORUS
We can build a beautiful city
Yes, we can; yes, we can
We can build a beautiful city
Not a city of angels
But we can build a city of man

EVERYONE:
When your trust is all but shattered
When your faith is all but killed
You can give up, bitter and battered
Or you can slowly start to build

A beautiful city

Yes, we can; yes, we can
We can build a beautiful city
Not a city of angels
But finally a city of man
A city of man

**THE LAST SUPPER**

*The Cast sit in their line at the front of the stage, with Jesus in the middle.*

Jesus
I tell you this: One of you among us will betray me.

Each cast member, individually
Can it be me, Lord?

*Until Judas breaks the pattern.*

Judas
Rabbi, can you mean me?

Jesus
The words are yours. Do quickly what you have to do.

 *Judas runs offstage.*

Take this and eat; eat for this is my body. Take this and drink for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant shed for the forgiveness of sins, and I tell you I shall never again drink from the fruit of the vine until I drink it again with you in the kingdom of my Father.

 *The cast spread out.*

Jesus
Stay here while I go over there to pray. My heart is ready to break with grief. Stop here and stay awake with me.

 *As he prays, the cast fall asleep.*

Jesus
Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass me by, yet not as I will, but as Thou wilt.

 *As he speaks, the cast wake up.*

What! Could none of you stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and be spared the test. Oh, the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.

I tell you this, tonight before the cock crows you will all betray me three times. Father, if it be not possible for this cup to pass me by without my drinking from it, thy will be done.

Cast member 1 *(demon)*
If you are the son of God, turn these stones into bread!

Jesus
Man does not live by bread alone. He lives on every word that God utters.

Cast member 2 *(demon)*
If you are the son of God, throw yourself down, for Scripture says: "He will send his angels down to support you and they will hold you in their arms."

Jesus
You shall not tempt the Lord your God.

Cast member 3 *(demon)*
All these things I will give you if you will do me homage.

Jesus
Be gone, Satan!

You shall do homage to the Lord your God and worship him alone.

(Judas returns)

Friend, do quickly what you have to do.

*Cast member swings for Judas, but Jesus intervenes.*

Put down the sword; he who lives by the sword, dies by the sword.

 *The cast look on, shocked.*

Do you not suppose that I could appeal to my Father who would at once send to me twelve legions of angels?

Do you take me for a bandit, that you come after me with swords and cudgels? Day after day I sat teaching in the synagogues and you didn't come after me then, but all this has happened to fulfil what the prophets have written.

**Song – FINALE**

Jesus
Oh God, I'm bleeding!
Oh God, I'm bleeding!

Cast
Oh God, you're bleeding!

Jesus
Oh God, I'm dying!
Oh God, you're dying!
Oh God, I'm dying!

 *Music break in which the cast wail in mourning.*

Oh God, I'm dead!

Cast
Oh God, you're dead!
Oh God, you're dead!
Oh God, you're dead!

VICTORIA
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God

 *BOYS take JESUS down and carry him through the audience to the back of the auditorium.*

KALYMNOS GIRLS (entering individually with Victoria)
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God

ALL KALYMNOS
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God
Long live God

ALL KALYMNOS ALL TINOS
Long live God Prepare ye the way of the lord
Long live God Prepare ye the way of the lord
Long live God Prepare ye the way of the lord
Long live God Prepare ye the way of the lord

THE END

(Jesus and Company return for curtain call, DAY BY DAY reprise).