



C.S. Lewis, author,
The Chronicles of Narnia

THEOLOGY OF JOY: THE MAGICAL WORLD OF C. S. LEWIS *As Performed by Evan Hodkins, M.A., M.Div.*

**Special Talk at Regular worship Services
Saturday, February 6 at 5 pm
& Sunday, February 7 at 10 am**

His clothes were, to him, a matter of complete indifference. He had an extraordinary knack of making a new suit look shabby the second time he wore it. But he believed in the power of the imagination and trusted that the spontaneous images of a wintry day, a talking faun with an umbrella slung across its front leg, and a gas lamp in the forest just might provide the seed for some curious adventure.

The soul comes equipped with the imagination in order that we may return to God one image at a time. Imagination is like a ladder back to the heart of God.

C. S. Lewis had a sunny heart and an enormous capacity for angelic mirth. He was a pleasant, gregarious tea-drinker, generous in spirit, pugnacious at times, to be sure, but gifted with an astonishing flare for human congeniality. Lewis was, indeed, so affable that he could easily walk into your heart without knocking. Above all, Lewis's method of theology is striated with an unbelievable dose of pure radiance and joy.

Lewis loved children, and without fail, dispensed handwritten letters to each inquiring child who wrote to ask him about Narnia. In fact, he knew in his heart that these precious responses were part and partial to his divine calling. And if ever we needed Lewis's counsel, that moment is precisely right now.

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~Evan Hodkins

Evan Hodkins, M.A., M.Div., taught Oriental Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art while pursuing graduate studies at Kent State University. He coordinated the South Jersey Foreign Film Festival, has acted and directed several musicals and plays, including Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story* and William Saroyin's *Hello, Out There*. He pioneered the use of Sacred Dance in worship, served as a board member on the national UCC Council on Religion and the Arts, and in that capacity, once elocuted at the Smithsonian Institute. A composer, musician, recording artist, poet, philosopher, and purveyor of human merriment, he will tickle your heart and scintillate your mind. He is profound when he is silly and silly when he is profound. Oh, and yes--he has seen fit to totally immerse himself in the ever-refreshing jollity of an enchanting writer by the name of C. S. Lewis.



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