

# St. John's

Episcopal Church

&

# Kramer's Deli



## Hollywood: The Holy City?

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Opening Remarks and Discussion of Overarching

Themes: *The Rev. Rick Morley*

Discussion Group Warm-Up

- Introduce yourselves: where are you from, do you have a church, etc.
- Have you seen the movie? When? How many times? Did you read the book? How much of a Narnia-nut are you? (Be honest!)

Discussion Questions:

- What struck you about the movie? Did anything jump out at you?
- Did it say anything to you personally about faith, God, or the kind of life that God intends us to live?
- Which of the four children reminds you most of yourself? Why?
- There is an absurdity in the storyline which Peter and Susan bring out well: Here they are supposed to be avoiding a war in London, and

they're in charge of fighting a war in Narnia!? It's not their war to begin with! First of all, why do they stick around for this battle, AND what does the absurdity of the battle say about a life of faith?

- At the end of the movie Mr. Tumnus tells Lucy that Aslan is "not a tame lion." In the book Mrs. Beaver tells the children that Aslan isn't "safe." What do they mean by this? What is C. S. Lewis trying to say here about God – Christ?
- What's the difference between Aslan's power and the Witch's magic? (Besides what they use their powers for – what's the REAL difference here?)
- Why do you think that C. S. Lewis wrote this story in the first place? What was his purpose? Why did Hollywood make a movie into a major motion picture, and why has it become such a blockbuster when it is such an overtly religious movie.

Future Discussions:

- The Shawshank Redemption: February 21<sup>st</sup>
- The Matrix: March 21<sup>st</sup>
- Star Wars: April 18<sup>th</sup>
- Bruce Almighty: May 16<sup>th</sup>

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