

Palm Sunday Play

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This script is very simple and can easily accommodate more or less children depending on your group. For example, Narrators one and two could simply be one person if you have very few children. If you have many participants, the lines for the villagers could easily be shared among more children. Another tip is to pair up an older child with a younger child for the villager lines. This way, all of the children can participate, but the very young children don't have as much pressure to deliver a line all by themselves. Don't forget that your older children and teens can serve as the behind the scenes crew and directors as well!

PARTS:

Narrator One
Narrator Two
Jesus
Disciple 1
Disciple 2
Villager 1
Villager 2
Pharisee 1
Pharisee 2
Villager 4
Villager 5
Villager 6
Villager 7
Colt

Narrator 1: Welcome to our Palm Sunday Play presented by the Children's Religious Education Group!

Narrator 2: We've worked very hard to get ready for you! We hope you enjoy the play!

All Children sing "Twelve Holy Feasts" song by Kh. Sylvia Dorham

(after song, children file to the back of the church except Jesus and the 2 disciples)

Narrator 1: As the children sang, there are twelve Holy Feasts in our Liturgical year, but today, Palm Sunday has arrived! The children will now present for you this blessed Feast.

Narrator 2: On that day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them,

(Center stage stand Jesus and 2 disciples)

Jesus: Go to the village, and as you enter it, you will find a donkey tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it to me.

(Jesus exits to the back of the nave. The two disciples go and find a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untie it, four villagers are standing by watching. They are standing to stage right.)

Villager 1: "What are you doing?"

Villager 2: "Why are you untying our colt?"

Disciple 1: The Lord needs it

Disciple 2: He will send it back here shortly.

Villager 1 & 2: May it be done as you say! (both villagers wave goodbye)

(Disciples take the donkey to the back of the church down center aisle. Villagers exit stage right)

Narrator 1: They brought the donkey to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the donkey and put Jesus on it. They began their journey towards Jerusalem.

Narrator 2: The crowds of people took palm branches and went out to meet Jesus, shouting, and joyfully praising God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

(Children dressed as villagers enter from back of the audience to stage center.)

Villager 4: Jesus, Jesus, now we see, you've come to visit us this day!

Villager 5: Excuse me, please move, we want to see! May-

be if I climb this tree!

Villager 6: People are waving in the street! Palms and coats lay at His feet!

Villager 7: Shout and clap! Hosanna we will sing!

ALL Groups: Welcome, welcome to our long awaited king!

(Jesus walks down the main aisle)

Disciple 1: Isn't this all amazing?

Disciple 2: How do they know he is the Lord?

Villager 1: It must be because they saw him raise Lazarus from the dead.

Villager 2: Of course! And they have seen all of Jesus's other miracles and signs.

(Villagers all waive and smile and surround Jesus)

Narrator 1: Only after Jesus was glorified did the disciples truly understand what had happened. This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

Narrator 2: "Say to Daughter Zion,

'See, your king comes to you,

gentle and riding on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey

Narrator 1: Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem was joyful and full of excitement. But, not everyone was pleased with this welcome for Jesus.

(Pharisee 1 and 2 enter from stage right)

Villager 1 & 2: Hail the King of Peace! He's the son of David!

All Villagers shout: Alleluia!

(Pharisees enter stage left)

Pharisee 1 and 2: "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

Pharisee 1: Who do you think you are?

Pharisee 2: Only God should act as you do!

Jesus: I tell you, if the people keep quiet, even the stones will cry out. If you had only known that this day would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will dash you to the ground because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you.

All: Amen! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

All Children stand and bow.