

## A Script for Easter Sunday

### Introduction

The three synoptic gospel evangelists are meeting up to chat, and as they do so they compare their very different takes on who Jesus was and is. As they narrate their experiences, Jesus and other characters appear and speak/act out some of the story. Each evangelist envisions Jesus a little bit differently, and their entrances and stories are structured in the basic movements of worship (Gathering, Proclamation, Response, Sending Forth – see pg. 18 for more):

- **Mark**, who was the first to write a Gospel, enters first during the gathering portion of worship. His narration describes Jesus as an Action Hero, constantly on the move. (see the introduction to Mark in the NIV Student Bible)
  - Jesus during Mark’s story-telling is sort of like **Rambo Jesus**; maybe wearing a T-shirt with muscles painted on it and a bandanna. We used **Captain America Jesus**...
  - Potential Passages to utilize:
    - § Mark 16:1-20 (resurrection narrative):  
Even Mark’s narration of the resurrection is like an action movie. Here (and in Mark alone!) Jesus tells his followers all the amazing things they might do!
    - § Additional things to note: Throughout Mark’s Gospel Jesus “immediately” goes on to do something. Mark does not spend nearly as much time sharing Jesus’ teachings as do the other three evangelists, emphasizing Jesus’ action over his words.
- **Matthew** enters during the proclamation & response portion of worship. His narration describes Jesus as a Great Teacher, reminiscent of and yet better than Moses.
  - Jesus during Matthew’s story-telling is **Teacher Jesus**, sort of like Bill Nye the Science Guy, wearing glasses and a black tie.
  - Potential Passages to utilize:
    - § Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20 (resurrection narrative):
    - § Additional things to note: Matthew structures his gospel of Jesus around 5 major speeches that Jesus makes, which is intentional – it would remind good Jews listening to the story of the five books of Moses. In addition, the greatest of the speeches (the “Sermon on the Mount” of Matthew 5-7) is delivered on a mountain, just as Moses brought the 10 Commandments down from Mt. Sinai. Matthew is showing people who believed Moses was a great prophet and teacher that Jesus is even greater.
- **Luke** enters toward the end of proclamation and response. His narration describes Jesus as though Jesus were part of a movie musical, with characters bursting into song because of their great joy. Because Luke’s story inspires song, we send everyone out singing joyfully. (see the introduction to Luke in the NIV Student Bible)
  - Jesus, during Luke’s story-telling, is **Movie Musical Jesus**... in 2015 and 2017 we used Danny Zucco from *Grease*...(could be anyone from a musical...)
  - Potential Passages to utilize:
    - § Luke 24:1-12, 13-35 (Emmaus), 36-53. Note especially v. 52-53 “worshiped him... great joy... praising God...”
    - § Additional things to note: Luke is full of passages of praise to God, including many that became hymns in the church: Lk. 1:46-55 (the “Magnificat”), Lk 1:68-79 (Zechariah’s Song), Lk 2:14 (the angels’ song), Lk 2:29-32 (Simeon’s song).

**Worship Leaders** (in order of appearance):

1. MARK, The Evangelist<sup>1</sup>
2. JESUS
3. MARY MAG(dalene)
4. MARYMom (Mother of James)
5. SALOME (mostly non-speaking)
6. ANGEL
7. PETER
8. JOHN
9. JAMES
10. ADDITIONAL DISCIPLES
11. MATTHEW, The Evangelist
12. LUKE, The Evangelist<sup>2</sup>
13. JOANNA

Setup

- Table w/ three chairs stage
- Location for entrances/exits from tomb (we used doors to the chancel closet)

Costumes / Props Needed: (Except for the specifics listed, costuming can be normal, modern, casual clothing.)

- Jesus, Captain America Costume:
  - 1) Captain America **Shield**
  - 2) Captain America **T-Shirt**
  - 3) Spray **bottle**. (Or a super soaker works; Disciple John can run up and “baptize” him)
- Jesus, Teacher Costume:
  - 1) Bow **tie**
  - 2) **Glasses** with dark frames
  - 3) Dry Erase **Board**
- Jesus, Danny Zucco Costume:
  - 1) White **T-shirt**
  - 2) Leather **Jacket**
- Salome:
  - 1) **Red hood** for Little Red Riding Hood.
- Angel:
  - 1) **White** clothing for Angel
  - 2) Angel **wings**.
  - 3) Thor’s **Hammer**
  - 4) Ideally, **chest-piece** like The Mighty Thor.
  - 5) Angel **Puppet**, with wings.
- Additional props:
  - Fishing pole; Yoda ; Snacks ; Snakes

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<sup>1</sup> Mark is hyperactive, talkative, prone to distraction, fan of Peter

<sup>2</sup> Luke is exuberantly happy; tends to burst into song

## MUSIC FOR GATHERING

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Scene 1 (ref. Mark 16:1-8)

MARK: Hi! I'm Mark, the author of Mark. Are you here to talk about Jesus? Would you like to talk about Jesus? I love Jesus!

I know a lot about Jesus. And Peter. He's cool, too.

Wait till I tell you what happened today. To Jesus. Not Peter, though Peter is part of the story, too.

He's gone! Jesus. He left! These women I know all went to the tomb and the rock was gone! It was a big rock, so whoever moved it must have been really strong. You know who's strong? My friend Peter! Where was I?

Oh, yes, the tomb is empty. Isn't that great! He is risen!

**DISCIPLES:** (in congregation, stand up and shout) **"He is risen, indeed!"**

MARK: Oooh. That was cool. Let's all do it again. He is risen!

**DISCIPLES: He is risen, indeed!**

MARK: You can't say that sitting down! Please, stand up and join me:

† **GREETING** ("Mark" leads)

L: He is risen.

**All: He is risen, indeed!**

**(music starts)** (as music starts, Mark looks into congregation and says)

MARK: Oh! There's Peter!

† **OPENING SONG/HYMN**

*"He Lives"*

† **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

MARK: Hey, that sounded like something my friend Luke would sing. Oh, so I'm here to meet up with a couple of my friends, Matthew and Luke. Like me, they wrote Matthew and Luke. Well, I wrote Mark, and Matthew wrote Matthew and Luke wrote Luke. Do you know them? Great!

Well, I'm sure you might have some friends here, too; or maybe you are about to make a new one! Why don't you take a few minutes to greet one another on this wonderful morning!

(after a bit of time for greeting, return with song/chorus)

† **RESPONSE**

*"Crown Him With Many Crowns"*

**Scene 2** (ref. Mark 16:1-20)

MARK: So, like I said, I'm here to meet a couple friends, Matthew and Luke. They wrote about Jesus, too. We're going to talk about Jesus, who was amazingly cool. Do you know about Jesus?

Great! I know about him, too. My friend Peter has been telling me all about him and I've been writing it down. Jesus is totally like a hero, you know?

(Captain America Jesus enters – ***"The Raiders March"*** (*Indiana Jones* theme) playing in background)

I mean, in the first chapter of my book I write that Jesus keeps "immediately" doing these really amazing things!

(Jesus acts out each action as Mark keeps talking)

He gets baptized by his cousin John in the Jordan River,

(Jesus spritzes himself with a spray bottle; or John can squirt him with a squirt gun)

MARK: and then he *immediately* goes into the wilderness where he is tempted by Satan for forty days! The devil is all like, "Jump off a building!" and Jesus is all like

JESUS: No way, Devil!

MARK: And then Jesus goes into Galilee and *immediately* starts preaching:

JESUS: "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives! Trust this good news!"

MARK: And then he *immediately* calls some disciples

(while casting out a fishing pole...)

JESUS: "Come, follow me and I'll show you how to fish for people."

MARK: Which sounds weird but it's totally a metaphor, so don't freak out. And then Jesus *immediately* casts out a demon...

JESUS: "Silence! Come out of him!"

MARK: and then he goes home with this cool guy he meets, named Peter, and heals Peter's mother-in-law...

JESUS: "Be well."

MARK: and then she totally makes lunch for everyone. And then that very evening people brought crowds of people to Jesus who were sick or demon-possessed. Like the whole town gathered at their front door. It was a mess. I couldn't even get in to talk with Peter. And then Jesus is like

JESUS: "Let's go to the next village, so I can preach there too."

MARK: And then they travelled all around Galilee, preaching in synagogues and throwing out demons.

JESUS (to congregation):  
And that's just chapter 1!

(Jesus exits)

MARK: See what I mean? Jesus is totally like an action hero. Anyway, I've got to tell you what happened this morning! Very early Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salom, I mean Salami, Salmonella, Sal... (clearly frustrated)

(during above line, three women enter carrying things, but one stomps out after the next line)

Um, We'll just stick with Mary and Mary.  
So Mary and Mary came to the tomb.  
And they were saying to one another:

MARYMAG: "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?"

MARK: Because it was a very large stone. But when they got to the tomb, the stone was like totally blown away by Jesus' awesome power.

(Captain America Jesus pops up flexing)

MARYMAG: Um, actually, it looks like it just rolled right over there.

(Disappointed, Jesus leaves)

MARK: So the two women went into the tomb.

MARYMom: Wait, we're going in there?

MARYMAG: Yeah, I don't know about that; it's kind of dark.

MARK: Yes, you went in. That's what you told me.

MARYMom: Oh. Well, in that case, I brought a light. (pulls out a small battery tea light)

MARYMAG: That's not a light. *This* is a light! (pulls out a large Mag Light or lantern; look into "tomb")

MARK: And they saw a young man in a white robe, and they were startled.

(Angel enters from tomb, carrying Thor's hammer)

MARYs: Startled!

MARYMom: Are you an Avenger?

(Angel is holding Thor's hammer)

MARYMAG: (elbows her) Angel. He's an Angel!

(Angel puts away hammer and speaks)

ANGEL: "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter..."

MARK: (interrupts) He's down there! (points into congregation)

ANGEL: "...that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you."

(Angel leaves)

MARYMom: (pulls out phone) Siri, can I get directions to Galilee?

SIRI<sup>3</sup>: Finding directions to Galleria Mall...

MARK: Overcome with fear, the women took off and, later, found Peter, who is one of the disciples but I think clearly the best disciple ever. He's cool.

MARYMom: (to Mark) Yes, yes, we get it.

MARYMAG: (down ramp, to choir room) Hey, Peter, wait till you hear what we have to tell you.

(The women "exit" down the ramp to the choir room)

MARK: So, even though Peter is totally cool, at first he didn't believe the women, like at all. Neither did the other disciples. But then a couple of them were walking along out in the countryside and Jesus appeared to them and talked to them.

(Disciples 3 and 4 enter from choir room, walking up ramp; Jesus appears from Tomb)

JESUS: What's up guys?

MARK: Those disciples ran back and told their story...

DISCIPLE 3: Really? We have to run back?

MARK: Yes, that's what my gospel says.

(Disciples 3 and 4 run back to choir room; all disciples enter as Mark speaks, gathering toward bottom of chancel stage; Jesus enters from tomb and speaks down to them)

MARK: Those disciples ran back and told their story, but still no one believed them. Then the disciples were all together in one place and Jesus appeared to them while they were eating. And he was like:

JESUS: Why didn't you believe?

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<sup>3</sup> Someone off stage, speaking into microphone?

MARK: And

JESUS: Why are you being so stubborn? Why couldn't you believe the women and the disciples I appeared to?

MARK: But soon it was all as cool as Peter, and eventually Jesus told them to

JESUS: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved."

(Disciples move around up to chancel stage)

MARK: And then, because Jesus was always doing these amazing things like healing people and feeding 5,000 people with just a few loaves and fish and casting out demons, he also told the disciples:

JESUS: "These signs will be associated with those who believe: you will throw out demons in my name."

JOHN: Demon, be gone!  
(tries to cast a demon out of MARYMAG, who is insulted)

MARYMAG: Hey!

JESUS: "You will speak in new languages."

PETER: Hola! Como estas? Me llamo Peter.

MARK: See, Peter gets it! I can totally see him preaching in a big city, like Jerusalem, and converting thousands of people. I bet he could convert, like, 3,000 people all at one time!

JESUS: You will pick up snacks with your hands.

JOHN: Snacks? I love snacks! (picks up and throws some snacks)

MARYMAG: This has just gotten weird.

MARK: No, no, not snacks. Snakes.

PETER: Look, I'm good with the languages but I'm not touching snakes.

JAMES: I will! See! (picks up snake[s])  
Ow! (drops snake[s])

JESUS: You will place your hands on the sick, and they will get well.

JOHN: (touches the disciple who was bitten) Be well.

JAMES: I'm totally well! Where'd the snake go? Let's do that again!

(James looks for more snakes, picking them up, meanwhile John starts handing snakes to other disciples...)

JOHN: You get a snake!  
And *you* get a snake!  
*Everybody gets a snake!* (throwing a bunch of snakes out to all the disciples)

MARYMom: Yes, this has definitely turned weird.

(Jesus, Women, and Disciples all exit...)

MARK: Isn't it cool, though? Jesus totally tells us that we can do all the same amazing, super things that he did in his gospel! I'm totally writing all of this down in my gospel, in chapter 16. You can check it all out yourself! So Jesus rose from the grave and then promised the disciples, especially Peter, that they would go out into the world and do amazing things! That means you and I can do amazing things, because Jesus is alive!

## SONG/HYMN

*“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”*

### Scene 3 (ref. Matthew 28:1-10)

(Matthew enters from choir room, up ramp to Mark's table, pulling a dry erase board with him; the dry erase board includes text from the sermon on the mount])

MATT: Greetings, Mark.

MARK: Matthew! It's so cool to see you again! Have you heard? The women were totally telling me this story about the tomb being empty, and then Peter told me that he ran to the tomb with John, but being so cool he totally let John go in first and then followed him, and they saw that the tomb was empty. Empty! Jesus isn't in the tomb.

MATT: Mark, Mark, calm down. I know. I heard you telling these folk what happened this morning... but I have a feeling they didn't quite get the full picture. You're always going on about how active Jesus was, sometimes you seem to forget how wise he was, too. He was wiser than the wisest Jedi.

(Yoda puppet appears over railing wall while **“Main Title” (Star Wars theme) plays in background**)

Not even a teacher of 900 years could be as wise as Jesus.

MARK: You've kind of lost me Matthew.

MATT: That's okay. I was just thinking back to a time long, long ago...

(Yoda disappears as music fades/stops)

MARK: I like your dry erase board. Can I draw on it?

(Mark moves to board, behind Matthew; erases big chunk of text, starts drawing picture, “Peter and Mark, Best Buds Forever.”)

MATT: (to congregation)

Anyway, as Mark has told you, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb early this morning.

(Mary and Mary enter from choir room, up ramp)

MARK: And Salami, Salmon-y... the other woman was there, too!

(Salome enters up ramp from choir room)

MATT: It's "Sal-o-may." Yes, well, I don't know about that. I don't remember her being there.

(Matt looks at Salome and shakes his head, dismissing her with his hand; Disappointed, Salome leaves)

MATT: But I do know that there was a violent earthquake.

MARYMAG (to the other Mary):

What's the difference between a violent earthquake and a regular one?

MATT: (referring to a graphic on the screen, talking about tectonic plates)

Well, an earthquake is a sudden movement of the earth's crust caused by the release of stress accumulated along geologic faults, or by volcanic activity. Such activity generates seismic waves that can be minor or can be destructive and violent.

But on this occasion, it was because an angel of the Lord rolled away the stone.

(Angel enters from Tomb)

And the same angel said to the women:

ANGEL: Don't be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He isn't here, because he's been raised from the dead, just like he said. Now hurry, go and tell his disciples, "He is risen!"

**DISCIPLES: He is risen, indeed!**

MARK: Don't forget to tell Peter!

(Angel exits)

MATT: And the women said to one another:

MARYMom: OMG. Quick! We need to text the other disciples.

MARYMAG: Where do you think they are?

MARYMom: They're somewhere praying...

MARYMAG: This is totally like Jesus taught us.

(As MaryMom speaks, Jesus enters, stands on chancel stage; ADDITIONAL DISCIPLES sit at his feet)

MARYMom: He was always so wise. Like remember that time we were all on the mountain and Jesus began to teach us:

JESUS: Bueller? Bueller? Bueller?

DISCIPLE3: I think he's sick.

MARYMom: No, not that time, the other time.

JESUS: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

MARYMAG: My favorite was always

JESUS: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

MARYMom: I always liked

JESUS: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

(Teacher Jesus and ADDITIONAL DISCIPLES exit)

MARYMom: (to MaryMag) Do you really think he is risen?

**DISCIPLES: He is risen, indeed!**

MARYMag: Remember the parable of the mustard seed? Just a little faith and we can move mountains.

MATT: See, Jesus had taught them all many things. And though they did not understand them fully at first, after they encountered the angel the women began to understand and to believe. And just as that was happening, Jesus appeared to them on the road.

(Teacher Jesus enters, encounters Mary and Mary)

JESUS: Greetings!

MARYMag: Rabboni!

MATT: Which is what she called him and which means "teacher."

(Turning to Mark at the board)

See Mark, Jesus was totally a teacher. He... Hey, that took me all day!

MARK: (Sheepishly) But Peter makes everything better...

MATT: (A bit exasperated, back to congregation) Anyway, Jesus then told the women,

JESUS: Don't be afraid. Go and tell the other disciples to go to Galilee, there they will see me.

(Jesus exits to tomb; Women exit to choir room)

MATT: So the women ran and found the disciples together, praying. And they told them everything that had happened. And some doubted, and some worshipped, and they stayed together and prayed, just like Jesus taught them to do. Do you know that prayer? Let's take a moment and pray together:

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### Scene 4 (ref. Matthew 6:2-4, 19-21)

MARK: I like your story. I totally forgot to write about that whole Sermon on the Mount. That's like, what, 3 chapters of your book? In my book Jesus is always really busy. He doesn't seem to have as much time to sit down and teach.

MATT: Yes, Jesus was always busy doing things: teaching in synagogues, preaching to crowds, healing the sick, even casting out demons. I think you told some good stories of that.

MARK: Peter told them to me!

MATT: But Jesus also taught that the things we do should be for the right reasons. He shared that when we pray, we shouldn't use big words to sound important, but just share our thoughts and hopes with God. And when we give, we shouldn't alert others to our giving with the use of trumpets, but simply offer to God some of what God has given us.

MARK: Like our talents to write these gospels?

MATT: Sure. And our hearts. But also some of the money we have. Jesus taught we should continue to give our offering at the temple, while also changing our hearts and lives to be more in tune with God.

MARK: Sounds like a good idea. When can I give?

MATT: How about now? We can invite you all to offer your hearts and lives to God on this amazing Easter morning, even as the ushers collect our offering...

## OFFERING OUR SELVES AND OUR GIFTS

### SPECIAL MUSIC FOR OFFERING

### Scene 5 (ref. Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-20)

MARK: Did I hear you say there was an earthquake?

MATT: Oh, yes. When the angel rolled the stone away there was a violent earthquake.

MARK: Oh, I didn't realize that. But I remember the angel speaking to the women, and they were totally afraid and at first didn't want to tell anyone. But then they did. And then Jesus told them all to

(Jesus enters, holding Captain America Shield over his bowtie)  
Captain  
America

JESUS: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.”

MARK: And he totally told them that they would drive out demons, and speak in new tongues, and pick up snakes, and drink poison, and heal the sick.

MATT: I remember him telling the disciples to

(Teacher Jesus drops Captain America shield)

Teacher

JESUS: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

MARK: That’s right. I remember reading that part after you wrote it. Our stories are kind of different, aren’t they?

MATT: Yes. Well, perhaps our impressions of Jesus have something to do with who we are. You seem a bit more active, after all, and so when you wrote you focused more on the things Jesus did and said.

MARK: And since you’re more of a teacher, you tend to focus on what Jesus taught. Right?

MATT: I suppose so. We all get to know Jesus a bit differently, I guess.

MARK: Do you hear something?

(Luke enters, singing *loudly*)

LUKE: *Christ the Lord is risen today! Hallelujah!*

Hey, everyone! It’s Easter! You’ve got to sing! Stand and join me!

† **EASTER HYMN**

*“Christ The Lord is Risen Today”*

LUKE: Okay, you can sit again!

**Scene 6** (ref. Luke 24:1-12)

MARK: Hi, Luke. Wow, you are in a good mood today!

LUKE: That’s...

< music >

(sings) *Because I’m Happy!*

*Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof...*

*because I’m happy!*

*Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth!*

*because I’m happy!*

*Clap along if you know what happiness is to you.*

*because I’m happy!*

*Clap along if you feel like that’s what you want to do.*

< music stops >

MATT: You are just a whole other kind of gospel, aren't you?

LUKE: Have you two heard? I just found out from the women that went to the tomb...

MARK: Yes, yes. We know. We've been telling the same story. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary found the tomb empty.

(MaryMag and MaryMom enter from choir room)

LUKE: Yes, that's right! Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James were there! And some other women, too.

MARK: Like Salmon-y?

(Salome enters)

MATT: (correcting Mark) Sal-oh-may.

LUKE: I don't know if she was there, but I know Joanna was.

(Joanna enters)

SALOME: Why does she get to stay?

MARK/LUKE: Because we can say "Joanna."

(Disappointed, Salome leaves)

LUKE: Anyway, the women saw two angels.

(Angel enters)

LUKE: I said, the women saw **two** angels.

ANGEL: Are you sure there were two?

LUKE: Yes, and the two angels told the women:

(ANGEL pulls out a "mini-me" Angel – puppet dressed similarly; makes head move as he talks)

ANGEL: Why are you looking for Jesus among the dead?  
Remember what he told you while he was in Galilee? The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and three days later rise to life. He is not here. He is risen!

**DISCIPLES: He is risen indeed!**

LUKE: That's right!

(sings) **Up from the grave he arose!**  
**With a mighty triumph o'er his foes;**  
**He arose a victor from the dark domain,**  
**And he lives forever, with his saints to reign.**  
**He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

MARK: (interrupting song) It is amazing, isn't it!

I wonder what it was like when he was raised?

LUKE: I've got my idea of what happened...

< KARAOKE music cue: "You're The One That I Want" >

( Piano part begins as Luke speaks, then bass riff. DZ JESUS enters on stage left, and sings: )

**DZ JESUS:** I got chills! They're multiplyin'.  
And I'm com--ing back to life.  
'cause the power  
God's supplying –  
It's electrifying!

< music stops >

MATT: Look, Luke, I love your exuberance. Your enthusiasm for our Lord is amazing. But I just don't remember the people in Jesus' life bursting into song quite as often as you suggest.

LUKE: Okay, maybe not. But don't you think they should have? Especially today! I mean, He is risen!

**DISCIPLES: He is risen indeed!**

LUKE: That's cool.

MARK: *I know!*

LUKE: I mean, this is life-changing, world-altering news. Jesus Christ is not among the dead. He is among the living! And we've all been given a chance to find out for ourselves. The women, Peter and John, and we, too, can all make our way to see the empty tomb and know that He is risen!

**DISCIPLES: He is risen indeed!**

MARK: Uh, oh. I think I know where this is going...

(Evangelists stand at their table; Disciples come to main chancel area on stage; Women on stage left by ramp but visible)

**"Into the Tomb"** (Original Lyrics as reference, from 10:18 point of "Prologue" of *Into the Woods*)

[CINDERELLA & BAKER]

Into the woods,  
It's time to go,  
It may be all  
In vain, you know.  
Into the woods-  
But even so,  
I have to take the journey.

[PETER, JAMES, & JOHN]

Into the tomb,  
It's time to go,  
It may be all  
In vain, you know.  
Into the tomb –  
But even so,  
I have to take the journey.

[CINDERELLA, BAKER & WIFE]

Into the woods,  
The path is straight,  
You know it well,  
But who can tell-

[BAKER & WIFE]

Into the woods to lift the spell-

[CINDERELLA]

Into the woods to visit Mother-

[BAKER'S WIFE]

Into the woods to fetch the things-

[BAKER]

To make the potion-

[CINDERELLA]

To go to the Festival-

[CINDERELLA, JACK,  
JACK'S MOTHER, BAKER, WIFE]

Into the woods  
Without regret,  
The choice is made,  
The task is set.  
Into the woods,  
But not forget-  
ting why I'm on the journey.  
Into the woods  
to get my wish,  
I don't care how,  
The time is now.  
Into the woods

[JACK'S MOM]

to sell the cow!

[JACK]

Into the woods to get the money!

[BAKER'S WIFE]

Into the woods to lift the spell

[BAKER]

To make the potion

[CINDERELLA]

To go to the Festival!

[MARYMAG, MARYMOM, JOANNA]

Into the tomb,  
The stone is large,  
We saw it set,  
But who can tell...

[MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE]

Into the tomb to tell this tale-

[MARY MAG]

Into the tomb to anoint Jesus...

[PETER & ALL DISCIPLES]

Into the tomb to check these things...

[MARK]

To follow Peter-

[MARYMag, MARYMom, JOANNA]

To see the Messiah!

[ALL]

Into the tomb  
Without regret,  
The act is done,  
Our hope is set.  
Into the tomb,  
But not forget-  
ting why I'm on the journey.  
Into the tomb  
to see our Lord,  
We don't know how,  
The time is here.  
Into the tomb

[PETER]

with no more fear!

[MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE]

Into the tomb to tell the story!

[PETER, JAMES, JOHN]

Into the tomb to check this tale!

[MARK]

To follow Peter!

[MARYMAG, MARYMOM, JOANNA]

To see the Messiah!

[LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD]

Into the woods to grandmother's house!  
Into the woods to grandmother's house!

[ALL]

The way is clear,  
The light is good,  
I have no fear,  
Nor no one should.  
The woods are just trees,  
The trees are just wood.  
No need to be afraid there-

[BAKER]

There's something in the glade there...

[ALL]

Into the woods,  
Without delay,  
But careful not  
To lose the way.  
Into the woods,  
Who knows what may  
Be lurking on the journey?  
Into the woods  
To get the thing  
That makes it worth  
The journeying.  
into the woods-

[STEPMOTHER & STEPSISTERS]

To see the King-

[JACK & MOTHER]

To sell the cow-

[BAKER & WIFE]

To make the potion-

[ALL]

To see-  
To sell-  
To get-  
To bring-  
To make-  
To lift-  
To go to the Festival!  
Into the woods!  
Into the woods!  
Into the woods,  
Then out of the woods.....  
And home before it's dark!

[SALOME AS RED RIDING HOOD]

Into the woods to grandmother's house!

(pause; everyone looks at her; Salome throws down hood and leaves)

[ALL]

The way is clear,  
The light is good,  
I have no fear,  
Nor no one should.  
The Lord is risen!  
He said that he would.  
Jesus is not inside there -

[MARY MAG]

Someone's in the garden there...

(Jesus and Mary meet)

[ALL]

Into the tomb,  
Without delay,  
Be careful not  
To lose the way.  
Into the tomb,  
Who knows what may  
Be waiting on this journey?  
Into the tomb  
To see this thing  
That makes it worth  
The journeying.  
Into the tomb-

[MARYMag, MARYMom, JOANNA]

To see the King-

[PETER & ALL DISCIPLES]

With no more fear-

[MATT, MARK, LUKE]

To tell the tale-

[ALL]

To see-  
To tell-  
To check-  
To get-  
To know-  
To save-  
To see the Messiah-!  
Into the tomb!  
Into the tomb!  
Into the tomb,  
Then out of the tomb.....  
And home before it's light!

JESUS: (to congregation)  
However we tell the story or experience it for ourselves, Jesus is risen.

**DISCIPLES: He is risen indeed!**

JESUS: So as we go forth from this place this day, let the good news of our risen Lord bring joy to our hearts and inspiration to our lives! Amen.

LUKE: We invite you to stand and join us as we leave here singing!

(during song, youth move to back door to greet worshippers as they exit)

† **CLOSING SONG**

(note: This works really well with the guitar riff from "Spirit in the Sky")

***"Up From The Grave He Arose"***

† **BENEDICTION**

Youth line up to greet at the door.

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Did you know? There are four basic “movements” in a worship service:

### **1. Gathering**

The church is a community of people coming together in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The “Gathering” movement of worship invites us in to the space, reminds us of God’s presence, and helps us be more aware of God in this particular time (one might say it helps prepare us to experience God among us). The Gathering often includes elements of worship such as:

- “Prelude” or Music for Gathering, inviting people to begin to think about God
- Greeting one another. The renewing of our community is a part of our entrance into worship together!
- Announcements about ministries of the church and welcoming
- Formal words of greeting
- Opening Hymn(s) or Songs of praise. We often sing hymns or songs that are full of praise because Psalm 100:4 says to come into God’s presence with thanksgiving and praise.
- Opening Prayer
- “Doxology.” This is a Greek word that simply means “short hymn of praise to God.”

### **2. “Proclamation”**

As the church, we also gather to hear God speak to us. This is done primarily through the reading and reflection on God’s word, which can include the following elements:

- Prayer for illumination. This is a short prayer inviting God to inspire our hearts as we listen to the Bible.
- Reading Scripture
- Watching a video about or related to Scripture
- Hearing songs based upon Scripture
- Sermon preached that helps to explain the Scripture and make it “alive” for us today

### **3. Response**

God’s Word calls us to do many things. You may note that many times elements of response occur at different times of worship, and are often mixed with readings and reflections on Scripture:

- Prayers of the People, Morning Prayer, Concerns and Prayers
- Prayers of Confession, Pardon, and Peace
- Offering
- Prayer of Thanksgiving
- The Lord’s Prayer
- Holy Communion
- Baptism

### **4. Sending Forth**

An encounter with God touches our hearts, and perhaps even changes us. Ideally, each worship experience sends us forth to live as people committed to following Jesus Christ. The final movement of worship sends us forth in Jesus’ name, and may include:

- Closing Prayer
- Closing Song
- Benediction. This is a closing prayer, a blessing to people to go and live as disciples.
- Prayer with others