

He Is Risen: An Easter Play for Kids

7 minutes · a narrator reads Matthew (KJV), children act it out

Parts: Narrator (an adult or strong reader) · Crowd (any number) · Disciples (any number) · Centurion · Joseph · Keepers (two to six) · The angel (an older child) · Mary Magdalene · The other Mary. **No child plays Jesus:** the narrator reads His words, and the cast faces the cross or the tomb. **Lines in bold** are said by the children. Everything the narrator reads in quotation marks is the King James Bible.

Scene 1: Hosanna!

The crowd stands along both sides of the stage, holding branches and coats.

Narrator: "And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way." (*The crowd lays coats and branches down the middle of the stage.*)

Crowd (together): Hosanna to the Son of David!

Narrator: "And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said,"

Crowd (together): This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

Scene 2: The Last Supper

The disciples sit around the small table with the bread and the cup.

Narrator: "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Narrator: "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." (*The disciples fold their hands and walk off slowly.*)



Scene 3: The cross

Everyone faces the cross at the back of the stage and stands very still.

Narrator: "Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost."

Centurion: Truly this was the Son of God.

Narrator: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (*Romans 5:8*)

Scene 4: The tomb

Joseph walks to the tomb with a folded white cloth. The keepers stand beside the stone.

Narrator: "And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed." (*Joseph rolls the stone across the door and walks off.*) "So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch."

Scene 5: He is risen!

The two Marys walk slowly toward the tomb.

Narrator: "And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it." (*The angel rolls the stone aside and sits on it.*) "And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men." (*The keepers shake and fall down.*)

Angel: Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.

Narrator: "And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him." (*The Marys kneel and bow their heads. Then the disciples walk back on, and the Marys run to them.*)

The Marys: He is risen!

Everyone (finale): He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. **Matthew 28:6!** *Then sing the chorus of Low in the Grave He Lay together.*

