

SCENE ONE: Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Location(s): The city streets of Jerusalem.

Characters: Townsfolk, Jesus, Donkey, Judas, Peter, James, John, Other Disciples, Priests, Judas.

Set/props: Palm leaves, cloaks, bag of coins.

Opening set up: Narrators positioned at discretion of production team. Townsfolk stand in groups in various positions (standing, sitting, kneeling etc.) across stage, leaving path from upstage right to downstage left.

Narrator	Line	Stage Direction
	SONG ONE: The Road to Jerusalem	During song: All onstage characters face outwards and sing expressively. Choreography as suggested in production notes.
	One glorious sunny day, Jesus travelled to Jerusalem with his disciples. The people of the city had been awaiting his arrival eagerly, and they greeted him with much enthusiasm and joy.	Jesus (holding donkey), and disciples walk down path. Jesus exchanges waves and handshakes with townsfolk. Townsfolk exchange excited looks with each other.
	They had heard all about the amazing things Jesus had done, like healing sick people and helping the blind to see. They wanted to welcome him in a special way, so they cut down palm branches and waved them high in the air.	Townsfolk wave palm leaves in various positions (high in air, straight out etc.).
	The people of Jerusalem laid their cloaks on the ground to make a path for Jesus to travel on. He rode into the city on a humble donkey, as this is what God's prophecy had foretold.	Some townsfolk lay cloaks on path. Jesus pats donkey on head.
	His followers cheered and shouted, "Hosanna!" which means "Save us now!" Jesus was happy to see his people, and knew that he had indeed come into the world to save them all.	All but Jesus shout, "Hosanna" in sync with narrator. Jesus faces audience and opens palms away from chest.

	<p>The priests of the city were jealous of Jesus, and feared the power of his message. They were plotting to have him arrested and punished. Judas was a disciple and one of Jesus' closest friends, but he had been thinking about betraying Jesus for money for some time.</p>	<p>Priests enter, then point and give disapproving looks from downstage right. Priests tap fingers together to show cunning. Priests point urgently at Judas, who briefly steps forward and freezes downstage centre, before walking over to priests.</p>
	<p>After some convincing, Judas agreed to help the priests, saying he would lead them to where Jesus was. The priests promised Judas 30 pieces of silver, a small fortune, for his assistance in bringing Jesus in.</p>	<p>Priests cajole Judas, who eventually nods sadly. Priest produces bag of coins from robes, smiles and lifts eyebrows, before snatching bag away as Judas reaches for it.</p>
	<p>After the deal was struck, Judas went back to Jesus and acted as if everything was normal.</p>	<p>Judas returns to Jesus downstage left, who hugs him warmly. They mime conversation.</p>
	<p>The priests were delighted that Judas was going to help them. They celebrated Jesus' impending capture and hoped it would mean the end of his radical teachings.</p>	<p>Priests rub palms together and pat each other on back.</p>
	<p>Although Jesus knew that Judas was planning to betray him, he still loved him as a friend. Judas' heart was filled with sadness and guilt, but he didn't know how to stop what he had started.</p>	<p>Jesus turns from Judas to converse with others. Judas faces out to audience, putting palms to sides of face.</p>
	<p>SONG TWO: Will You Lead Us to Jesus? *During applause, commence track/piano accompaniment replay for scene change.</p>	<p>During song: All onstage characters face outwards and sing expressively. Choreography as suggested in production notes.</p>