

Jesus Appears to Many after Rising from Death  
About 8 minutes, from all Gospels & Acts

Participants (*No need to memorize lines; the aim is to relive sacred events, not to perform*)

Mary Magdalene

Angel

Voice (of Jesus)

Peter

Cleopas

Prompter Shouts a brief phrase and Echoes repeat it.

Echoes All who want to take part repeat Prompter's words. Echoes need no script.

Mary Magdalene I am Mary Magdalene.  
On the first day of the week after Jesus died, I come early to His tomb.  
A surprise awaits me; the big rock no longer covers the entrance.  
I look inside. Oh! Help! Angels!

Angel Do not be afraid. Why do you weep?

Mary Magdalene They took away my Lord.  
Oh, there is the gardener; he will tell me where he put Jesus.  
Sir, if you moved him, tell me where, and I will take him away.

Voice Mary!

Mary Magdalene Rabboni!

Prompter & Echoes Master!

Voice Stop clinging to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father.  
Go to my brothers; tell them I ascend to my Father and your Father.

Mary Magdalene I do as Jesus says. I, and other women who had come, run to tell  
the disciples that Jesus has risen, but they do not believe us.  
Meanwhile, Jesus appears to two others on the road to Emmaus.

Voice Friends, what is this you are talking about?  
Why are you so sad?

Cleopas Are you unaware of what has happened here in these days?  
Jesus the Nazarene was a mighty prophet,  
but our rulers crucified him.

Voice O foolish men and slow of heart to believe what the prophets have  
spoken! Hear what the Scriptures say about the Christ  
in Moses and the prophets.

Prompter & Echoes The Old Testament speaks of Jesus!

Cleopas We arrive in Emmaus.  
Friend, it is almost night; come stay with us.  
Please, do us the honor of breaking the bread for us.  
Oh look! It is the Lord! He has opened our eyes!  
Now he has gone! No wonder our hearts burned in us  
while he explained God's Word!

Peter I am Peter. We disciples are hiding behind locked doors in Jerusalem.  
Oh look! It's Jesus!

Voice Peace be to you.

Prompter & Echoes It's his spirit!

Voice Why are you frightened? See my hands and feet. Touch me.  
A spirit has no flesh and bones as you see I have.  
Have you anything to eat?

Peter Here is some fish. Look! He is eating it!  
Now he opens our minds to see how he has fulfilled the Law,  
the prophets and the Psalms.

Voice It is written that the Christ would die and rise from the dead  
the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins  
would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations.  
You are witnesses of these things.  
As the Father has sent me, I also send you.  
Receive the Holy Spirit; if you forgive the sins of any,  
their sins will be forgiven them,

Prompter & Echoes Forgive in Jesus name!

Peter Thomas was not with us when Jesus appeared last week.  
He said he'd not believe it unless he saw the nail holes in Jesus' hands,  
and put his hand into Jesus' pierced side.

Prompter & Echoes He would not believe!

Voice Peace be with you! Thomas,  
See my hands; put your hand into my side.

Peter Thomas cries out, "Lord and my God!"

Voice You saw and believed.  
Blessed are they who do not see, and yet believe.

Prompter & Echoes Blessed faith!

Mary Magdalene Peter has gone fishing in the Sea of Galilee, and the others joined him.

Peter We've caught nothing all night. Now it's morning; let's go to shore.

Prompter & Echoes No fish!

Peter We're almost to the shore.  
Oh, look! Someone is waiting.

Voice Children, cast the net to the right and you will find a catch.

Peter We do so, and cannot haul in the net because of so many fish.  
John recognizes the Lord, and I jump out and swim to the shore.  
Ashore, they find a fire kindled and fish placed on it, and bread.

Voice Come. Have breakfast.  
Bring some of the fish that you caught.

Peter Oh, Jesus is going to scold me for denying him!

Voice Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?

Peter Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.

Voice Tend my lambs.  
Simon, son of John, do you love me?

Peter Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.

Voice Shepherd my sheep.  
Simon, son of John, do you love me?

Peter Oh, Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.

Voice Tend my sheep.

Prompter & Echoes Three times Jesus asks him!

Mary Magdalene Later, they meet on a mountain in Galilee.

Voice All authority has been given to me in heaven and earth.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son  
and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey all that I commanded you.  
Look, I will be with you always, even to the end of the age.

Mary Magdalene And again, Jesus appears to his disciples in Jerusalem.

Voice Wait here for what the Father has promised.  
You will soon be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Peter Lord, will you now restore the kingdom to Israel?

Voice It is not for you to know the times that the Father has fixed.  
Look, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you;  
stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.  
Now, come walk with me up the Mount of Olives.

Mary Magdalene In Bethany, Jesus raises his hands to bless them.  
They hear his final orders for all believers.

Voice You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;  
and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea,  
in Samaria, and in the remotest parts of the earth.

Peter He is rising! A cloud has received him out of our sight!  
Oh! Angels!

Angel Galileans, why stand looking into the sky?  
Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven,  
will come the same way as you saw him go.

Prompter & Echoes He will return the same way!