

Readers Theatre for Matthew 17:1-9 (NRSV)

Jesus, Peter, James, John enter from back of sanctuary and walk to front.

Narrator Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

If possible, have Jesus start with a drab cloak and here put it off to reveal white clothes underneath.

If you have a spotlight, now's the time to use it.

Jesus faces the congregation, face and hands lifted up.

Jesus And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Moses and Elijah appear from off stage front, say their line, then "talk" (silently) with Jesus.

Moses&Elijah Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Narrator Then Peter said to Jesus,

Peter "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

Lights come down. Add a cloud entering if you can figure a way that isn't too cheesy. Maybe a fog machine?

Narrator While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said,

Voice (offstage) "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

Disciples cower down and cover their heads.

Narrator When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

Lights go OUT. Moses and Elijah (and Cloud) exit.

Narrator But Jesus came and touched them, saying,

Jesus "Get up and do not be afraid."

Narrator And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them,

Jesus "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."