

## **Christmas Pageants**

“Christmas Pageants 2020” by Practical Resources for Churches is a very helpful guide to digital Christmas pageants. It offers very helpful suggestions and recommends several scripts.

Download the booklet at <https://www.prcli.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Christmas-Pageants-2020-booklet.pdf>

**Do Not Be Afraid: A Virtual Christmas Pageant** by Illustrated Ministry. Designed to be an expandable, shrinkable, pre-recordable, Zoom-able, intergenerational pageant that can be adapted to your setting, no matter what is happening in the world. Cost: \$49.99.

[https://store.illustratedministry.com/collections/new-releases/products/do-not-be-afraid-a-virtual-christmas-pageant?ck\\_subscriber\\_id=835323713](https://store.illustratedministry.com/collections/new-releases/products/do-not-be-afraid-a-virtual-christmas-pageant?ck_subscriber_id=835323713)

### **Script for Pre-Recorded Christmas Pageant**

[This script](#) was created by Sarah Bentley Allred for her congregations pre-recorded pageant in 2020. It is already broken into seven scenes. Each scene can be performed by 1-3 actors, with plenty of room for additional cast members. The script uses mostly direct words of scripture. There is a suggested hymn between each scene which provides an additional opportunity for members of the congregation to share their gifts. Sarah plans to have different households record the seven scenes and six hymns.

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland took a unique approach to telling the Easter story and plans to do the same for Christmas. It could easily be a Christmas pageant of sorts. Check it out at <https://episcopalmaryland.org/event/diocesan-christmas-pageant-video/>

In [On-the-Spot Christmas Pageant](#), Sharon Ely Pearson offers a basic no-prep pageant outline that includes four readings from the Gospel of Luke interspersed with four Christmas carols. A simple live Zoom pageant might consist of four narrators reading from scripture and musicians leading the congregation in the refrains of four familiar carols (safely from separate locations). Narrators could be costumed or not. For a visual, members of the congregation of different ages could be asked to illustrate the four sections of scripture ahead of time to be shown during the readings.

- Reading: Luke 2:1-4
- Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
- Reading: Luke 2:5-7
- Carol: “Silent Night”
- Reading: Luke 2:8-14
- Carol: “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”
- Reading: Luke 2:15-20
- Carol: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

### **Crib Service on Zoom with PowerPoints**

[This service](#) is designed to last about half an hour. There is an opening section with a brief prayer, and some text from John 1, followed by the Christmas story in three parts (Annunciation, Nativity, Shepherds), and then closing prayers which everyone participates in. This would also work well as a late-Advent special event for young children and their grownups, to help them hear the Christmas story before the Christmas season.

[No Stress, No Fuss Christmas Pageant](#) - It's crunch time and you need an interactive, intergenerational, theologically sound pageant and/or worship service. Here it is in two parts, [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#), from Presbyterian Pastor Theresa Cho, a second generation Korean-American whose blog includes several art-filled worship resources.

Cathy's Music has 5 Christmas programs from children that can be adapted to be done online. Check them out at <https://cathysmusic.com/virtual-christmas-programs-for-children/>.

"The Greatest Digital Christmas Pageant Ever!" Digital Planning Packet is for churches and faith-based childcare centers who are looking for a safe socially distance alternative to a traditional in-person Christmas pageant for children and/or youth. Written in the same vein as the "no rehearsal" Christmas pageants of the past, "The Greatest Digital Christmas Pageant Ever!" allows those who work with children (and/or youth) to conduct a traditional Christmas pageant online with little planning or preparation. You are able to keep your community safe by hosting online and make sure your church community is still making holiday memories! Cost is \$12. <https://www.tumbuh.org/digital-christmas-pageant/>

**Pastor Dan Fugate** serves as the Assistant to the Bishop for Discipleship in the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. He stands ready to partner with you and your congregation to help you develop a clear plan for faith formation and provide resources necessary to help your members grow in faith. Faith formation resources, networking opportunities with other congregations and leaders, planning, training, and support are some of the ways he can assist. Contact Pastor Fugate at [dfugate@iksynod.org](mailto:dfugate@iksynod.org) or by phone at 317.775.4876.

