

Title: *Finding Christmas Again*

Setting:

A small church during the Christmas season. The play takes place in the church's main hall, with a piano, chairs, and a simple stage setup for the Christmas play.

Characters:

- **Mrs. Carol:** The church music director, who is flustered and struggling to find the true meaning of Christmas.
 - **Carly:** A thoughtful and kind-hearted girl who helps the kids practice the songs when Mrs. Carol is called away.
 - **Lucy:** Carly's outspoken and bossy friend who tries to assist
 - **Linus:** Carly's wise and philosophical friend who gently guides Mrs. Carol to the heart of Christmas.
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Scene 1: The Church Hall

(The stage is set with a piano, the choir, a few chairs, and a Christmas tree. Mrs. Carol enters, looking flustered and carrying a stack of sheet music.)

Mrs. Carol: (exasperated) Alright, everyone, we need to make this Christmas play perfect! We have so much to do and so little time.

(Carly, Lucy, and Linus enter, looking eager but slightly confused by Mrs. Carol's frantic energy.)

Carly: Mrs. Carol, why are you so stressed? Christmas is supposed to be joyful.

Mrs. Carol: (sighing heavily) There's so much to do—music, costumes, decorations. I'm worried it won't feel like Christmas at all if everything isn't perfect.

Lucy: (confidently while messing with the costumes) Don't worry, Mrs. Carol. I've got the costumes covered and can help with anything else.

Mrs. Carol: (overwhelmed) Thanks, Lucy. But there's just so much to do.

(A church member enters, needing Mrs. Carol's help with something urgent.)

Church Member: We need help with the decorations in the lobby. The lights aren't working.

Mrs. Carol: (flustered) Oh dear. Carly, can you keep them practicing while I take care of this?

Carly: Of course, Mrs. Carol!

(Mrs. Carol rushes off. Carly steps up to lead the rehearsal.)

Song 1: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (His Name Shall Be)

(Carly gathers the choir around the piano and leads them in practicing "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (His Name Shall Be) She helps them find their notes and encourages them to sing with joy.)

Scene 2: The Church Hall

(Mrs. Carol returns, looking even more flustered.)

Mrs. Carol: (frustrated) We're running out of time and nothing is coming together!

Lucy: (trying to help) I have been really busy while you were gone. I even have most of the costumes d... (noticing Mrs. Carol is distracted)

Mrs. Carol: (distracted) Thank you. But we need to move faster. Oh, looks like I'm needed again.

(Another church member enters.)

Church Member: (nervously) We have a problem with the sound system. It's not working properly, and we need it fixed before the performance.

Mrs. Carol: (sighing) Alright. Carly, could you take over?

Carly: Absolutely, We'll keep practicing.

(Mrs. Carol exits. Carly resumes leading the rehearsal.)

Song 2: "Away in a Manger" (ForeverAmen)

(Carly leads the choir in practicing "Away in a Manger" (ForeverAmen) They sing together, improving with Carly's encouragement.)

Scene 3: The Church Hall

(Mrs. Carol re-enters, visibly stressed.)

Mrs. Carol: (frustrated) Why is this so difficult? We're running out of time!

Lucy: (calmly) We're doing our best, and Carly's helping a lot.

Mrs. Carol: (grumbling) I know, but there is so much left to get ready and it has to be perfect. (lets out a sigh) Looks like there is another problem.

(A third church member enters.)

Church Member: Mrs. Carol, we can't find the baby Jesus statue for the outside nativity. Could you help us look for it?

Mrs. Carol: (defeated) Not again. Carly, please handle things while I'm gone.

Carly: Sure thing!

(Mrs. Carol exits. Carly continues with the rehearsal.)

Song 3: "Silent Night" (Jesus We Love You)

(Carly leads the group in practicing "Silent Night" (Jesus We Love You) creating a peaceful atmosphere with their harmonious singing.)

Scene 4: The Church Hall (Finale)

(Mrs. Carol returns, exhausted and frustrated.)

Mrs. Carol: (exasperated) I can't handle one more problem! Nothing is going right!

(A church member enters.)

Church Member: Mrs. Carol, we need your help with the Christmas tree. It's leaning and needs fixing.

Mrs. Carol: (frustrated) Not now! I'm at my wit's end. (Long pause)

(The kids and Carly look at Mrs. Carol. Carly steps forward.)

Carly: Mrs. Carol, maybe we need to remember what Christmas is truly about.

Mrs. Carol: (angrily) I know, but it feels like everything's falling apart!

(Mrs. Carol raises her voice.)

Mrs. Carol: (shouting) Does anyone even know what Christmas is all about?!

(The room falls silent. Linus steps forward.)

Linus: (gently) Mrs. Carol, I think I can help with that.

(Linus moves to center stage, spotlighted.)

Linus: (looking at the sound and lights team) Lights please.

(Sound and lights team: place single spotlight on Linus)

Linus: (calmly) "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men'.'" "

(Linus turns to Mrs. Carol.)

Linus: (softly) That's what Christmas is all about, Mrs. Carol.

(Mrs. Carol listens, her frustration melting away. She looks at the kids, who are waiting expectantly.)

Mrs. Carol: (softly) I understand now. I've been so focused on making everything perfect that I forgot the true meaning of Christmas.

Lucy: Mrs. Carol, can we finish by singing my favorite Christmas song. It would be the perfect ending.

Mrs. Carol: (smiling) That sounds wonderful, Lucy.

Song 4: "Joy to the World" (Joyful, Joyful)

(The entire cast gathers around, holding candles or small lights, and sings "'Joy to the World" (Joyful, Joyful) creating a joyful and triumphant conclusion to the play.)

End of Play