

SCENE 12B

THE CHURCH

(REVEREND HOPKINS at the podium, checking the list to make sure he delivered all the baskets)

GRACE

Reverend Hopkins! I'm so glad I caught you!

REVEREND HOPKINS

Grace! What's the matter?

GRACE

The Herdmans had nothing to do with the fire last night.

REVEREND HOPKINS

Are you sure?

GRACE

It was Betty's applesauce cakes that burnt!

REVEREND HOPKINS

And we blamed those kids?

GRACE

Which is why we have to do the pageant.

REVEREND HOPKINS

But I already alerted the phone tree.

GRACE

Then un-alert them.

REVEREND HOPKINS

And we've got sets to build —

GRACE

Yes!

REVEREND HOPKINS

And costumes to finish —

GRACE

Yes! And only 24 hours to do it in.

REVEREND HOPKINS

Then why are we standing here? We've got a show to do.

GRACE

(hugs the REVEREND really hard and exits)

Thank you!!

For perusal purposes only.

REVEREND HOPKINS

Good lord! What have I done?

[SFX: Five rings of the broken church bell]