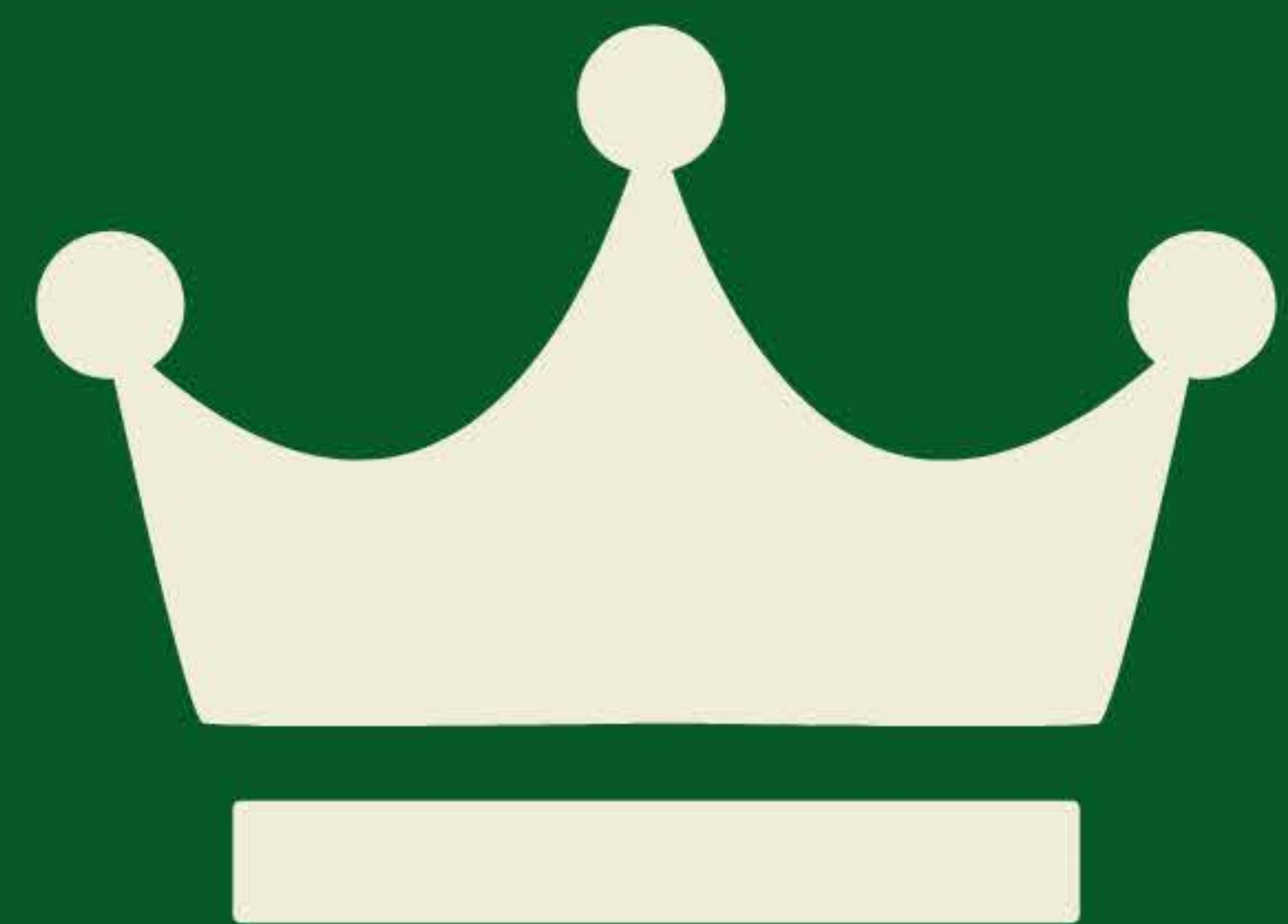
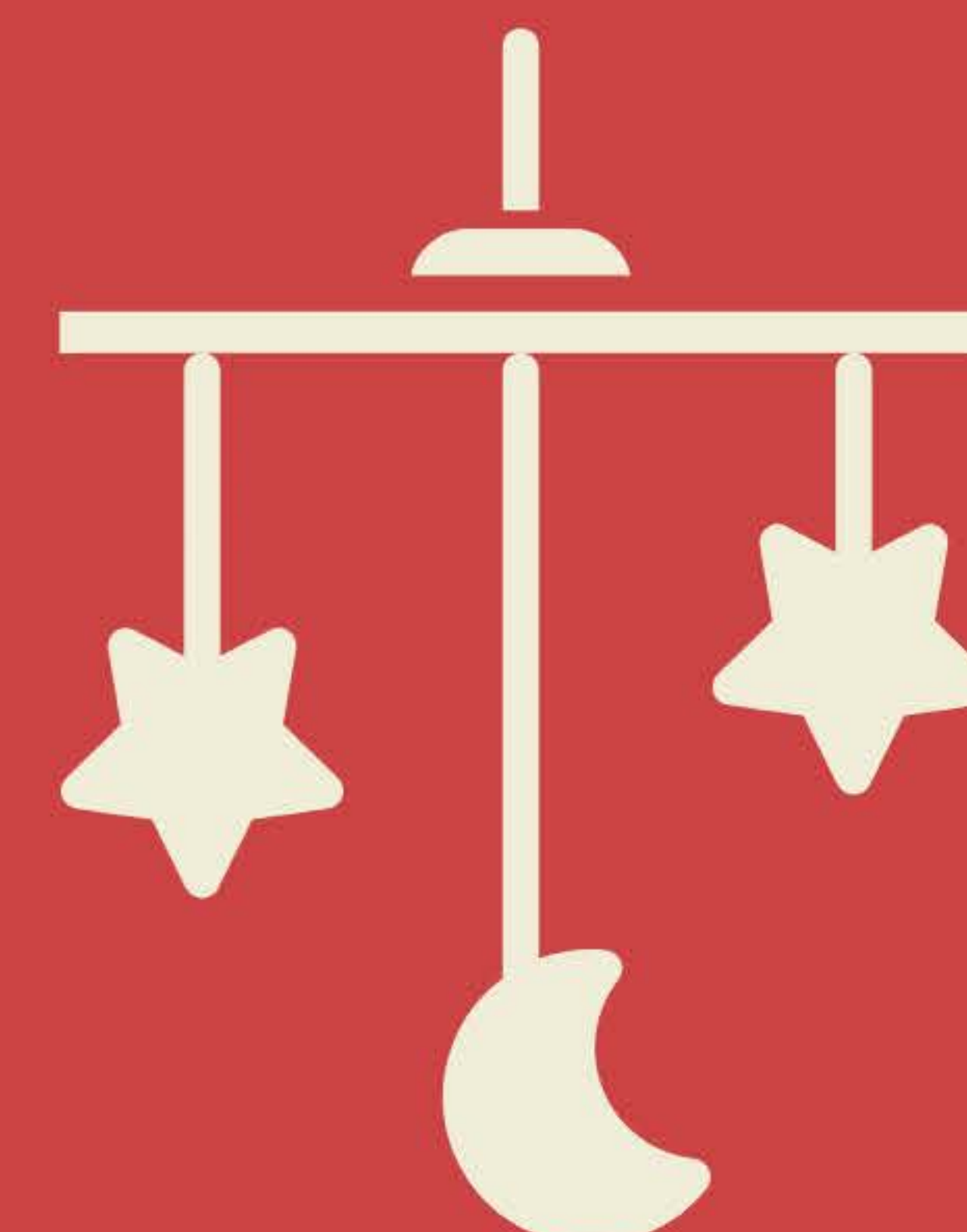




Advent Calendar

Ensino Bilin





Como funciona o calendário de advento

Queridos Pais,

Este calendário de advento foi desenvolvido especialmente para criar momentos de proximidade e afeto entre as famílias, enquanto nos preparamos para o Natal. Cada dia traz um versículo bíblico relacionado ao Natal, que serve como um ponto de partida para a reflexão e para uma atividade divertida e significativa.

Os versículos são apresentados de forma independente, mas todos eles apontam para a linda história do nascimento de Jesus. Para tornar cada atividade ainda mais rica e profunda, recomendamos que vocês, pais, conheçam ou pesquisem a história bíblica do Natal. Isso ajudará a enriquecer o entendimento das crianças sobre o real motivo desta data tão especial.

Assim como em um devocional — uma prática que envolve ler um trecho da Bíblia, refletir sobre seu significado e aplicá-lo ao nosso dia a dia — sugerimos que façam o mesmo com os versículos diários. O devocional é um momento íntimo, no qual a família pode se reunir para aprender mais sobre Deus e crescer espiritualmente juntos.

Vocês irão ler o versículo com a criança e, juntos, refletirão sobre ele: qual é a história por trás deste versículo? O que estava acontecendo naquele momento? Quem estava envolvido? Depois, vocês podem falar sobre as palavras-chave e como elas se conectam à mensagem de Deus para nós. A ideia é meditar no versículo, pensar na história do Natal, e então aplicar as atividades propostas. As atividades são formas criativas de reforçar o ensinamento do dia, de maneira lúdica e envolvente.

O calendário de advento funciona como uma contagem regressiva até o Natal, sendo uma tradição que ajuda a criar expectativa e entusiasmo. Cada atividade deve ser feita no dia correspondente, proporcionando à criança a alegria de descobrir, a cada manhã, o que fará naquele dia. Essa expectativa torna cada momento especial e ajuda a criança a se envolver com a mensagem de forma mais profunda e divertida.

Pedimos que os pais leiam todo o calendário de advento antes de começar, para se prepararem com os materiais necessários para cada atividade. Embora tenhamos tentado utilizar materiais simples e fáceis de encontrar, algumas atividades podem exigir algo que vocês não tenham em casa, então é importante estarem preparados com antecedência. Isso permitirá que as atividades sejam realizadas no dia certo, sem interrupções, garantindo que a jornada de advento da sua família seja plena e bem aproveitada.

Esperamos que esse calendário seja uma ferramenta não só de diversão, mas também de aprendizado e crescimento espiritual, ajudando cada criança a compreender, cada vez mais, o verdadeiro motivo do Natal — o amor de Deus manifestado no nascimento de Jesus.

Que seja uma jornada de advento abençoada e cheia de momentos especiais para sua família!

Com carinho,
Ensino Bilin.



How the Advent Calendar works

Dear Parents,

This advent calendar was specially designed to create moments of closeness and affection among families as we prepare for Christmas. Each day brings a Bible verse related to Christmas, serving as a starting point for reflection and a fun and meaningful activity.

The verses are presented individually, but they all point to the beautiful story of Jesus' birth. To make each activity even richer and more meaningful, we recommend that you, parents, familiarize yourselves with or research the biblical story of Christmas. This will help enrich your child's understanding of the real reason behind this special time.

Just like a devotional—a practice that involves reading a passage from the Bible, reflecting on its meaning, and applying it to our daily lives—we suggest doing the same with the daily verses. A devotional is an intimate moment where the family gathers to learn more about God and grow spiritually together.

You will read the verse with your child and, together, reflect on it: What is the story behind this verse? What was happening at that time? Who was involved? Then, you can talk about the key words and how they connect to God's message for us. The idea is to meditate on the verse, think about the Christmas story, and then apply the proposed activities. The activities are creative ways to reinforce the lesson of the day in a fun and engaging manner.

The advent calendar works as a countdown to Christmas, being a tradition that helps create anticipation and excitement. Each activity should be done on the corresponding day, giving the child the joy of discovering, each morning, what they will be doing that day. This anticipation makes every moment special and helps the child engage more deeply and joyfully with the message.

We ask that parents read through the entire advent calendar before starting, to prepare for the materials needed for each activity. Although we have tried to use simple and easy-to-find materials, some activities may require items that you might not have at home, so it's important to be prepared ahead of time. This will allow you to carry out the activities on the correct day without interruptions, ensuring that your family's advent journey is complete and well-enjoyed.

We hope that this calendar will be not only a tool for fun but also for learning and spiritual growth, helping each child to understand more and more the true reason for Christmas—the love of God manifested in the birth of Jesus.

May your family have a blessed advent journey filled with special moments!

With love,
Ensino Bilin.



A história do Natal

A história do natal, ou melhor, do nascimento de Jesus começa com uma mensagem especial enviada por Deus. O anjo Gabriel apareceu a Maria, uma jovem virgem, e disse: "Não tenha medo, Maria; você foi agraciada por Deus! Você ficará grávida e dará à luz um filho, e lhe porá o nome de Jesus." (Lucas 1:30-31). Maria aceitou o chamado de Deus com humildade e obediência, dizendo: "Sou serva do Senhor; que aconteça comigo conforme a tua palavra." (Lucas 1:38).

José, o noivo de Maria, também recebeu uma mensagem em sonho. O anjo do Senhor lhe disse: "José, filho de Davi, não tema receber Maria como sua esposa, pois o que nela foi gerado procede do Espírito Santo." (Mateus 1:20). José, sendo justo, decidiu seguir o plano de Deus e cuidar de Maria e do bebê que estava por vir.

Naquela época, César Augusto decretou que todos deviam se alistar para um censo. Então, Maria e José foram de Nazaré até Belém, cidade de Davi, pois José pertencia à linhagem de Davi (Lucas 2:4-5). Quando chegaram a Belém, não havia lugar para eles na hospedaria, e assim, Jesus nasceu em uma manjedoura, envolto em panos simples (Lucas 2:7).

Naquela mesma noite, um anjo apareceu aos pastores que estavam nos campos, cuidando de seus rebanhos. O anjo disse: "Não tenham medo. Estou trazendo boas-novas de grande alegria para vocês, que são para todo o povo: Hoje, na cidade de Davi, nasceu o Salvador, que é Cristo, o Senhor." (Lucas 2:10-11). De repente, uma grande multidão de anjos apareceu, louvando a Deus e dizendo: "Glória a Deus nas alturas, e paz na terra aos homens de boa vontade!" (Lucas 2:14).

Os pastores apressaram-se para ver o bebê e encontraram Maria, José e o bebê deitado na manjedoura. Eles ficaram maravilhados e compartilharam a todos o que lhes fora dito sobre aquele menino (Lucas 2:16-17).

Algum tempo depois, homens sábios (os magos) vieram do Oriente, guiados por uma estrela. Eles perguntavam: "Onde está o recém-nascido rei dos judeus? Vimos a sua estrela no Oriente e viemos adorá-lo." (Mateus 2:2). Ao encontrarem Jesus com Maria, "prostraram-se e o adoraram. Então abriram seus tesouros e lhe deram presentes: ouro, incenso e mirra." (Mateus 2:11).

Assim, o nascimento de Jesus trouxe esperança e alegria ao mundo. Ele foi a realização das promessas de Deus, como Isaías profetizou: "Porque um menino nos nasceu, um filho nos foi dado, e o governo está sobre os seus ombros. E ele será chamado Maravilhoso Conselheiro, Deus Poderoso, Pai Eterno, Príncipe da Paz." (Isaías 9:6).



The story of Christmas

The story of Jesus' birth begins with a special message from God. The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, a young virgin, and said, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus." (Luke 1:30-31). Mary humbly accepted God's calling, saying, "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled." (Luke 1:38).

Joseph, Mary's fiancé, also received a message in a dream. The angel of the Lord said to him, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 1:20). Joseph, being a righteous man, decided to follow God's plan and take care of Mary and the baby that was to come.

At that time, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. So, Mary and Joseph traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the town of David, because Joseph belonged to the house and line of David (Luke 2:4-5). When they arrived in Bethlehem, there was no room for them at the inn, so Jesus was born in a manger, wrapped in simple cloths (Luke 2:7).

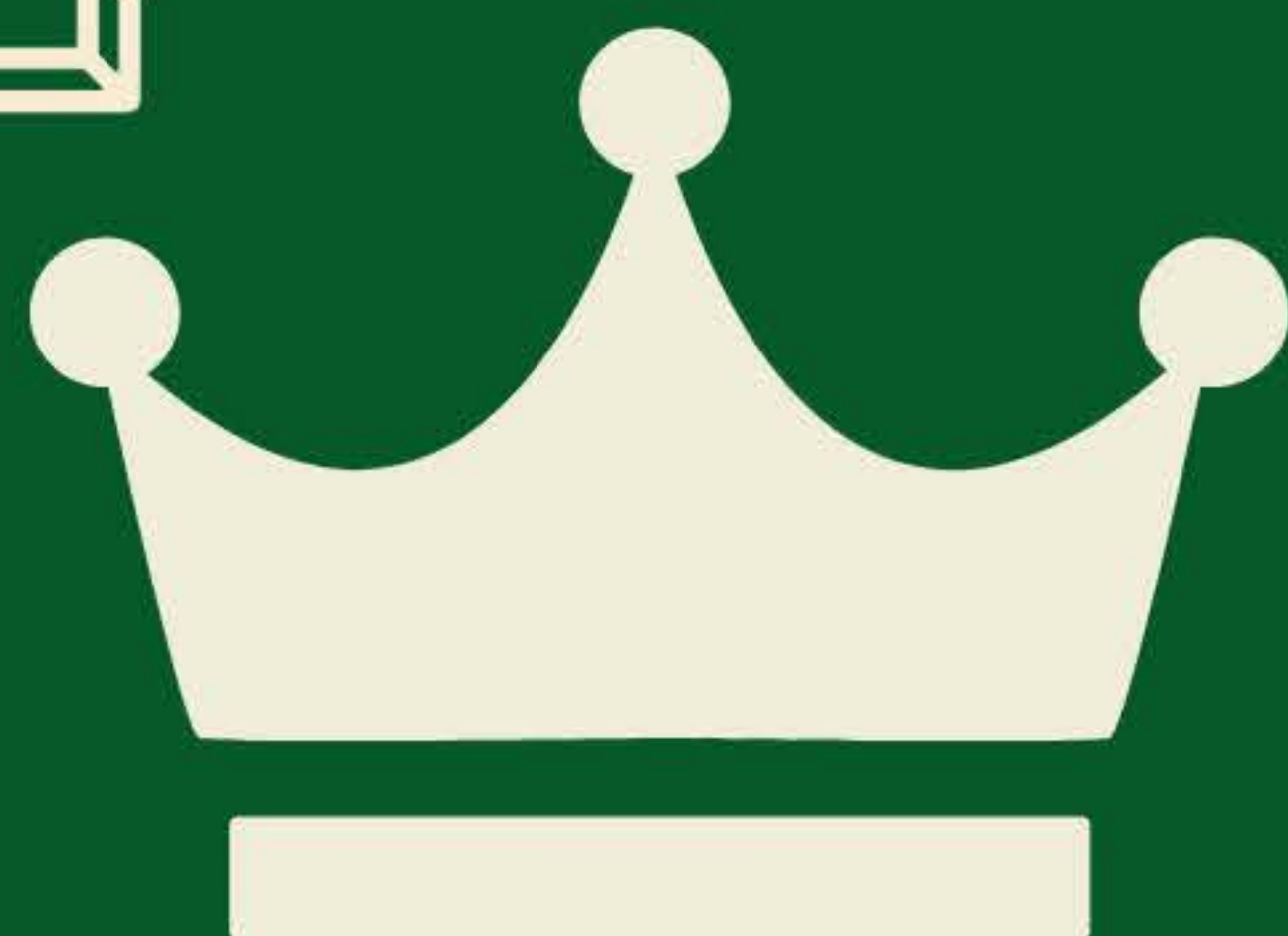
That same night, an angel appeared to shepherds who were in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people: Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11). Suddenly, a great company of angels appeared, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:14).

The shepherds hurried off to see the baby, and they found Mary, Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. They were amazed and shared with everyone what had been told to them about this child (Luke 2:16-17).

Some time later, wise men (the Magi) came from the East, guided by a star. They asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2). When they found Jesus with Mary, "they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11).

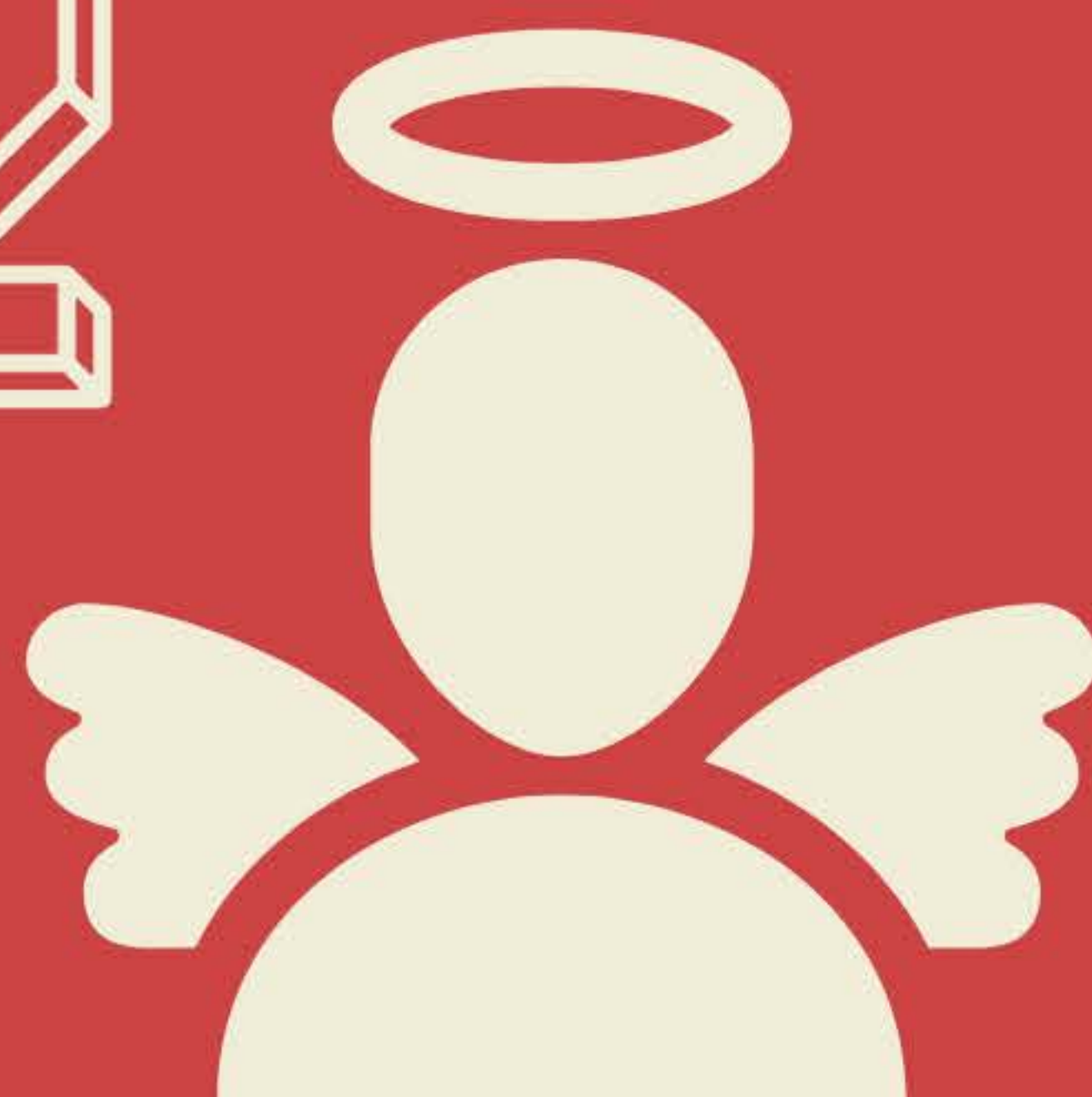
Thus, the birth of Jesus brought hope and joy to the world. He was the fulfillment of God's promises, as Isaiah had prophesied: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6).

1



Isaiah 9:6

2



Luke 2:10-11

3



John 1:14

4



Matthew 1:21

5



Luke 1:30-31

6



Micah 5:2

7



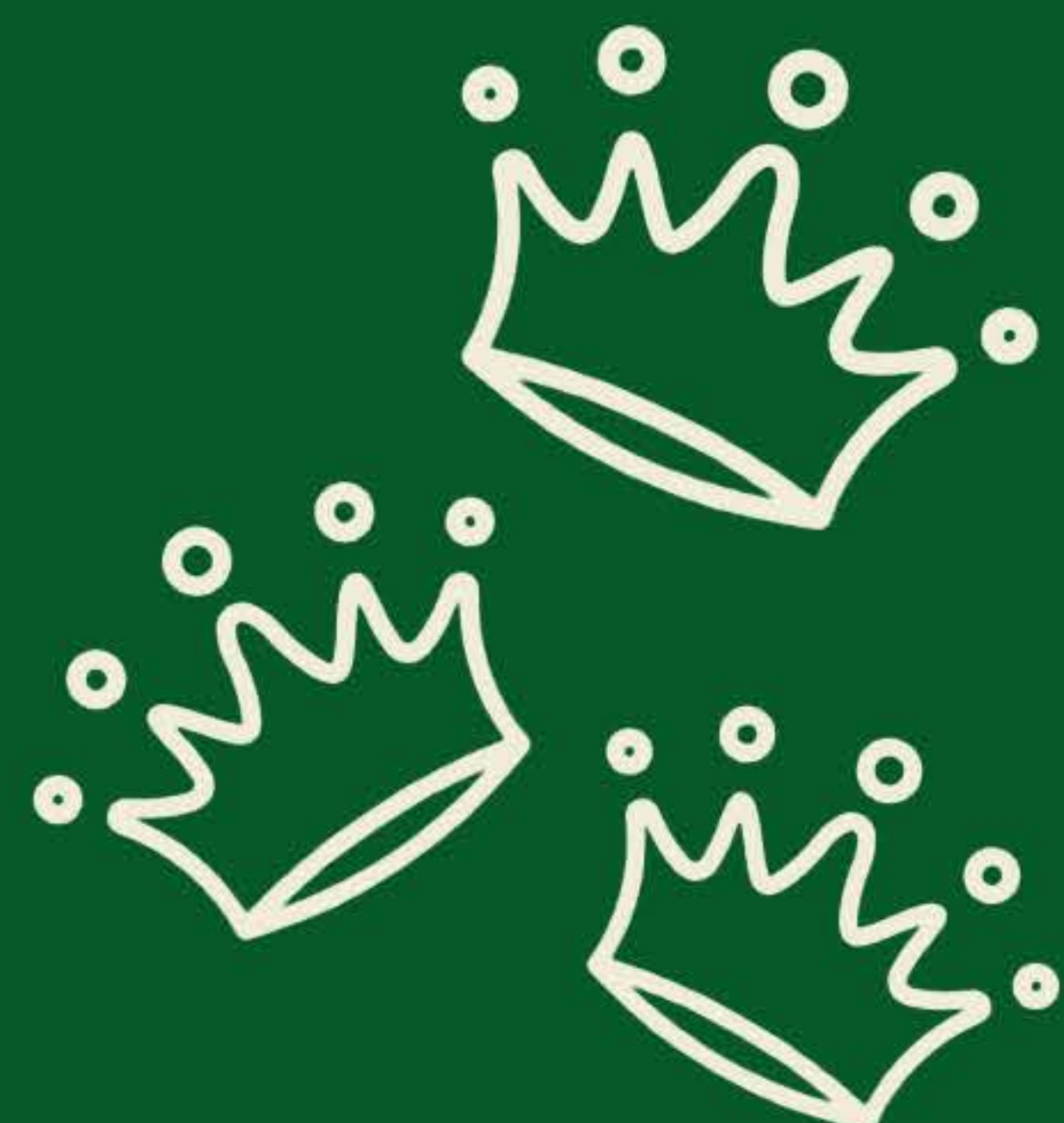
Isaiah 7:14

8



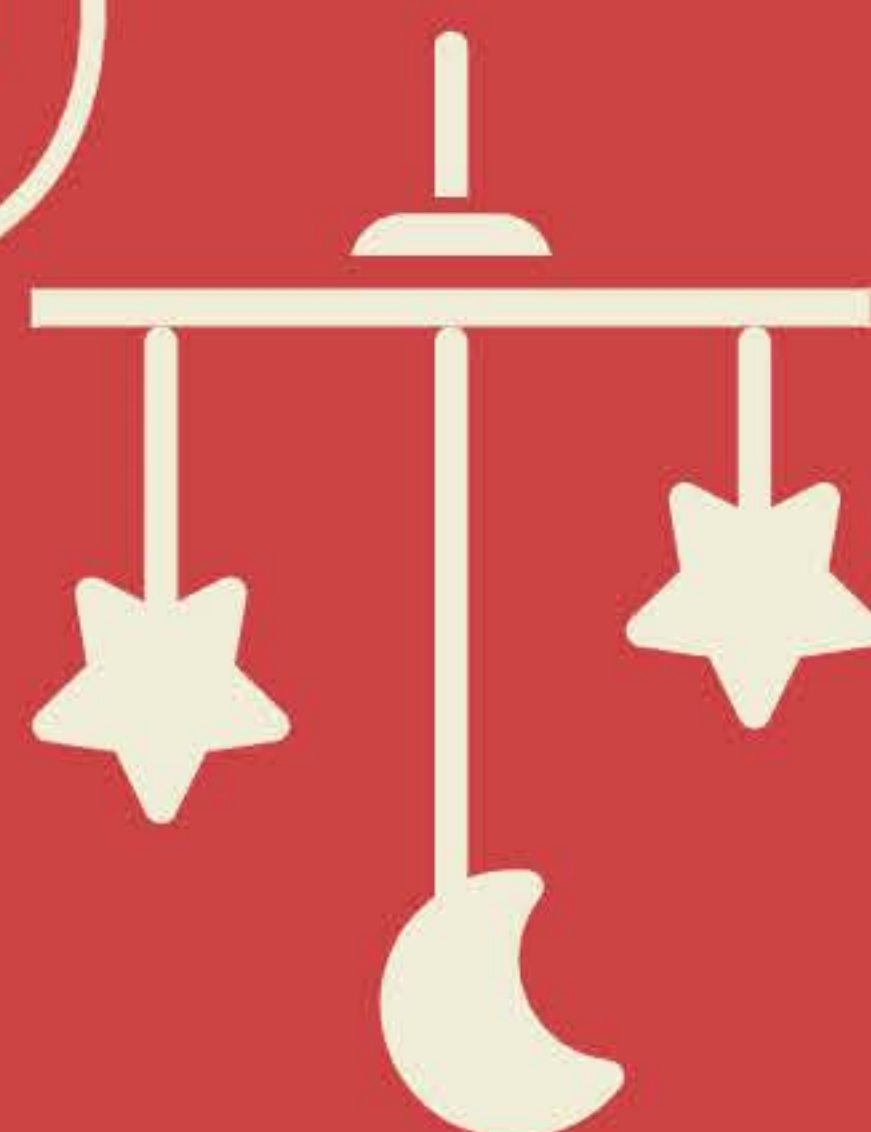
Luke 1:38

9



Matthew 2:2

10



Luke 2:7

11



Matthew 2:10

12



Luke 2:14

13



John 3:16

14



Luke 2:16

15



Matthew 2:11

16



Isaiah 40:3

17



Psalms 150:6

18



Luke 1:46-47

19



Matthew 1:20

20



Luke 2:12

21



John 8:12

22



Luke 2:20

23



Romans 15:13

24



Matthew 28:19-20



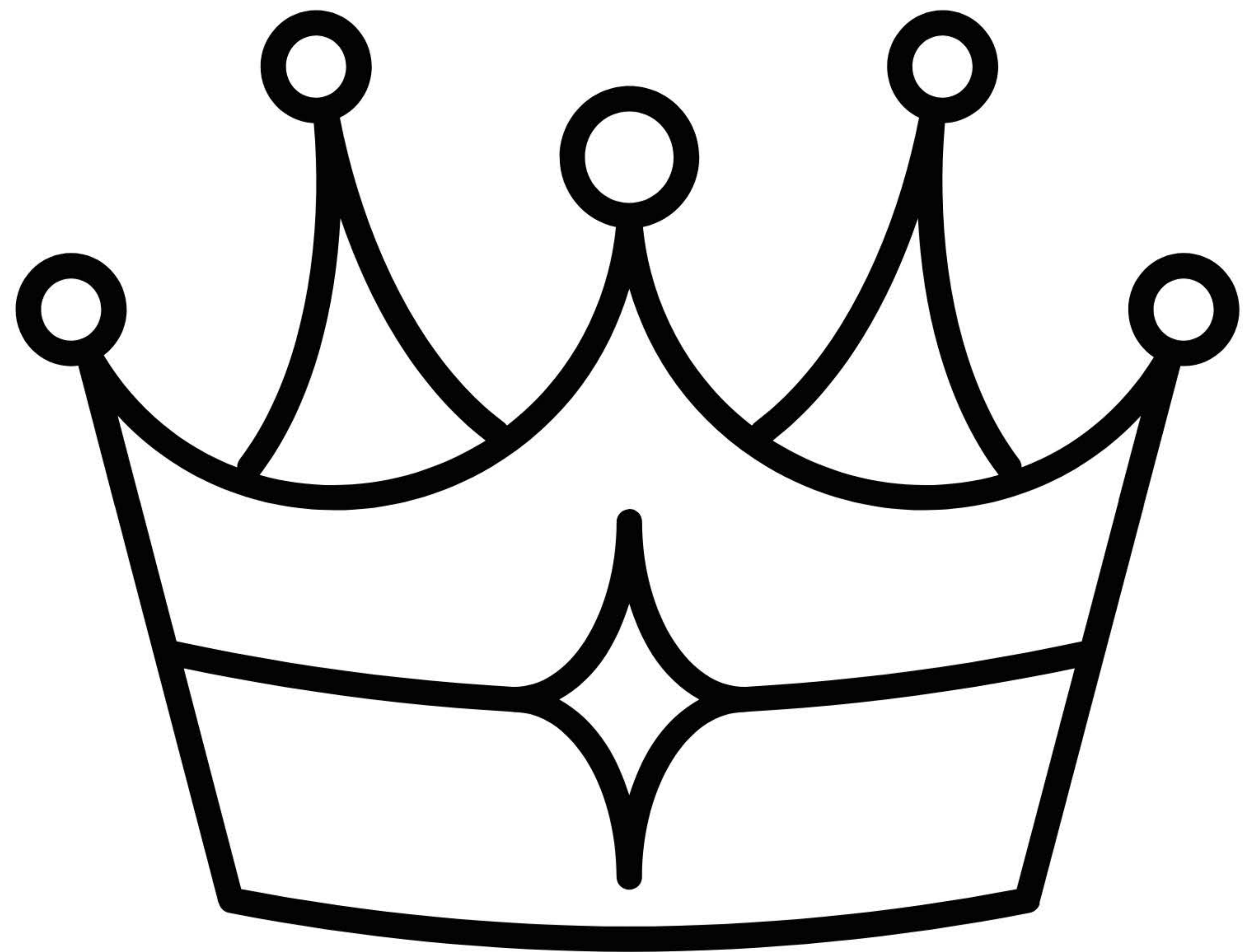
“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Activity: Create a Crown

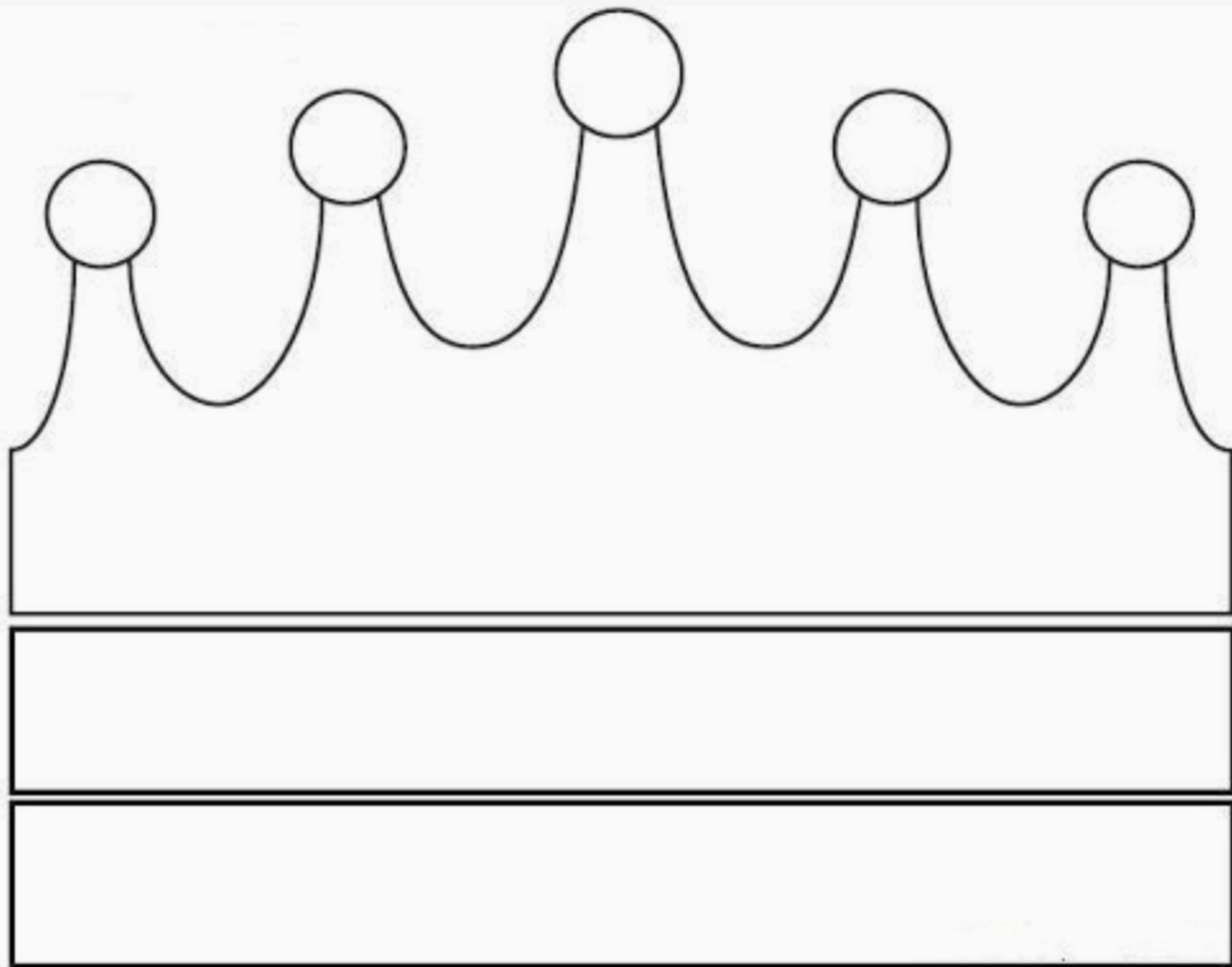
Materials Needed: Paper, crayons, markers, glue, glitter, and decorations (stickers or jewels).

Instructions: Have the children create a crown and decorate it. They can also write "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" on the crown.

This activity represents Jesus as the Prince of Peace. Afterward, they can wear their crowns or place them on top of a Christmas tree.



Key Word: Prince of Peace.





“But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

Activity: Angel Announcement Craft

Materials Needed: Paper plates, markers, glue, cotton balls, pipe cleaners (for halos), and scissors.

Instructions: Have the children create an angel using a paper plate for the body. They can decorate the angel with cotton balls for wings and use a pipe cleaner for the halo. They can also write "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news" on the angel's robe.

Afterward, discuss how the angel brought the message of Jesus' birth, emphasizing the theme of joy and the importance of sharing good news.



Key Words: Angel, good news and great joy!



Here are some examples for you to get inspired





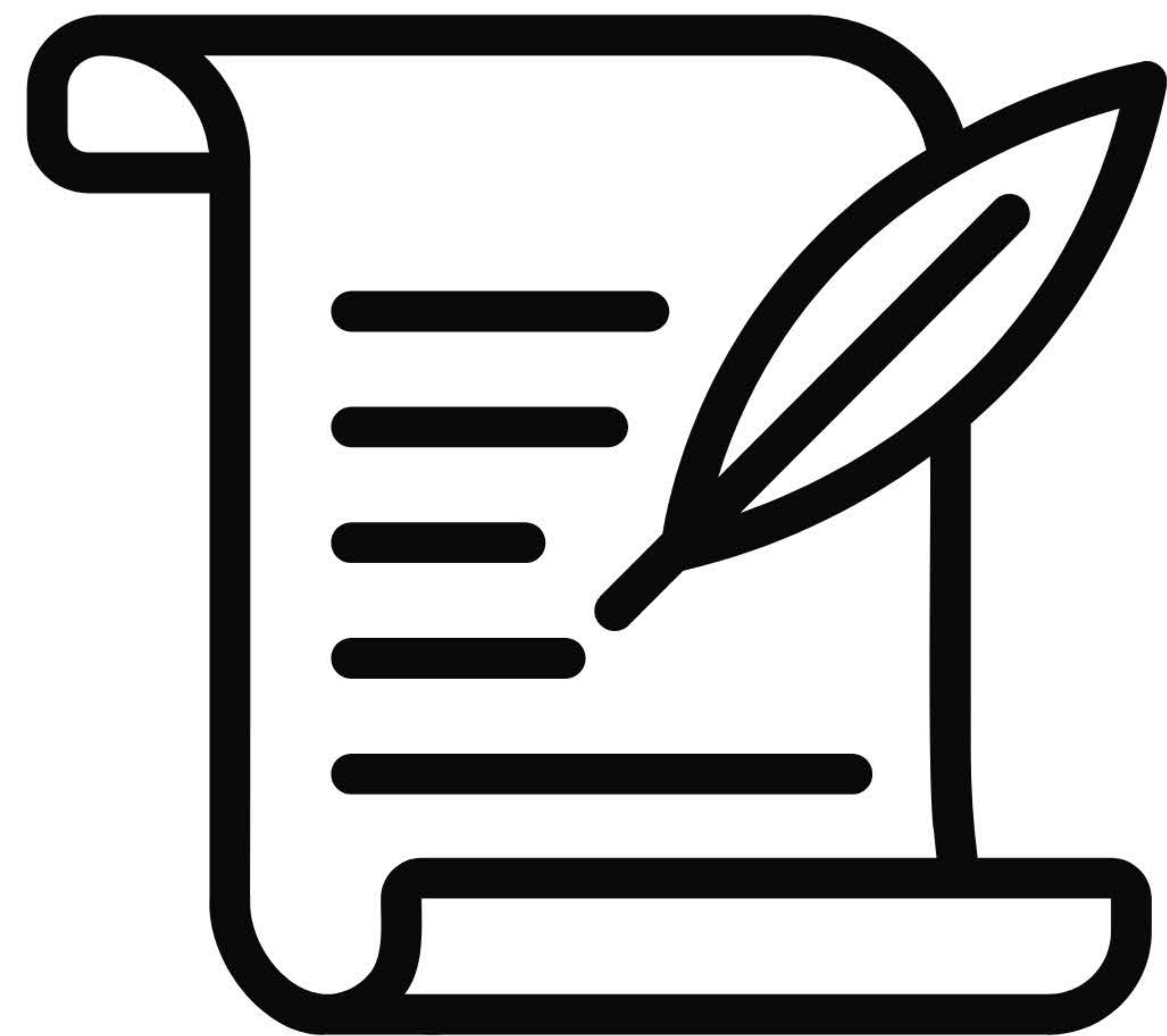
“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Activity: "Grace and Truth" Mobile Craft

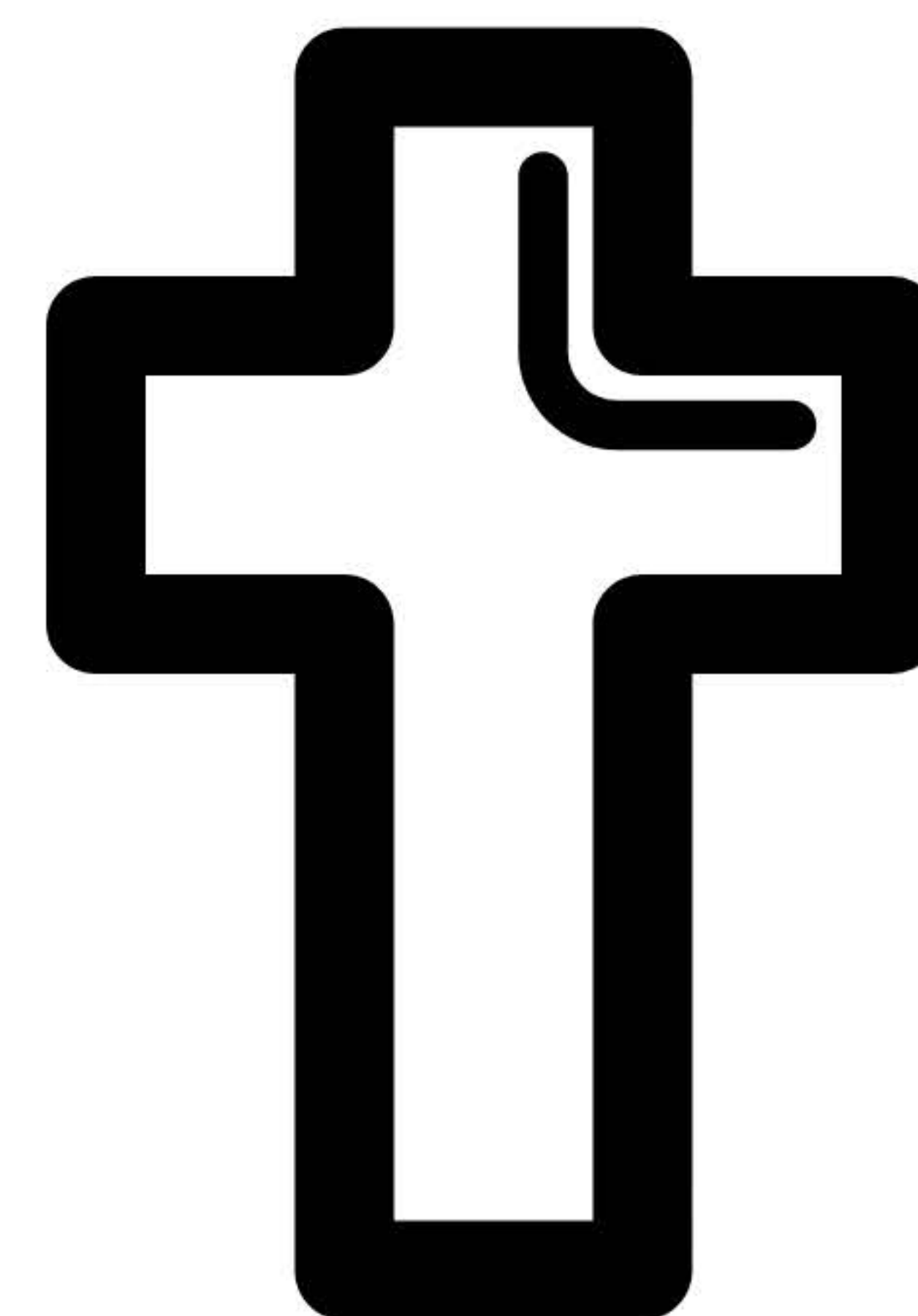
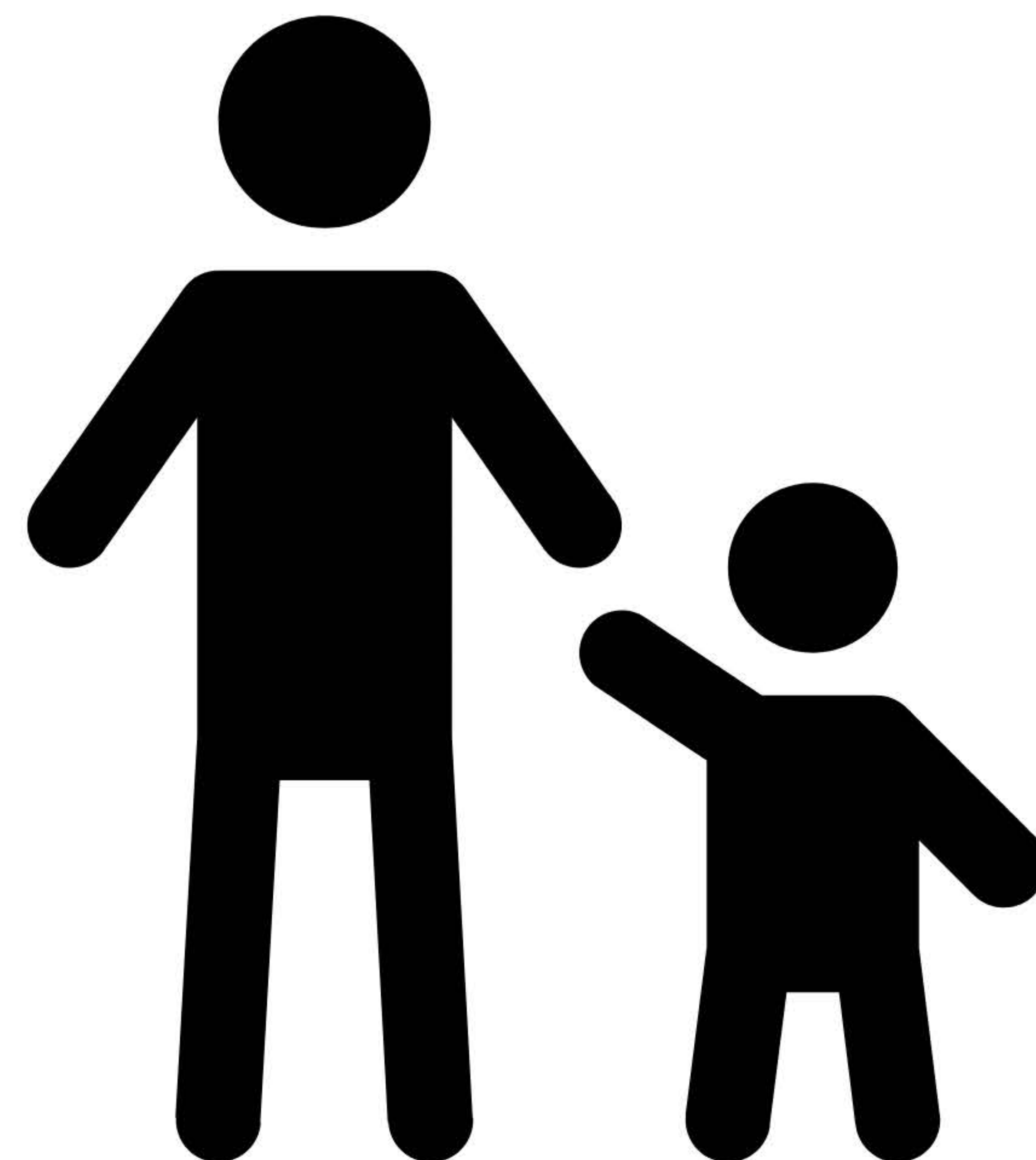
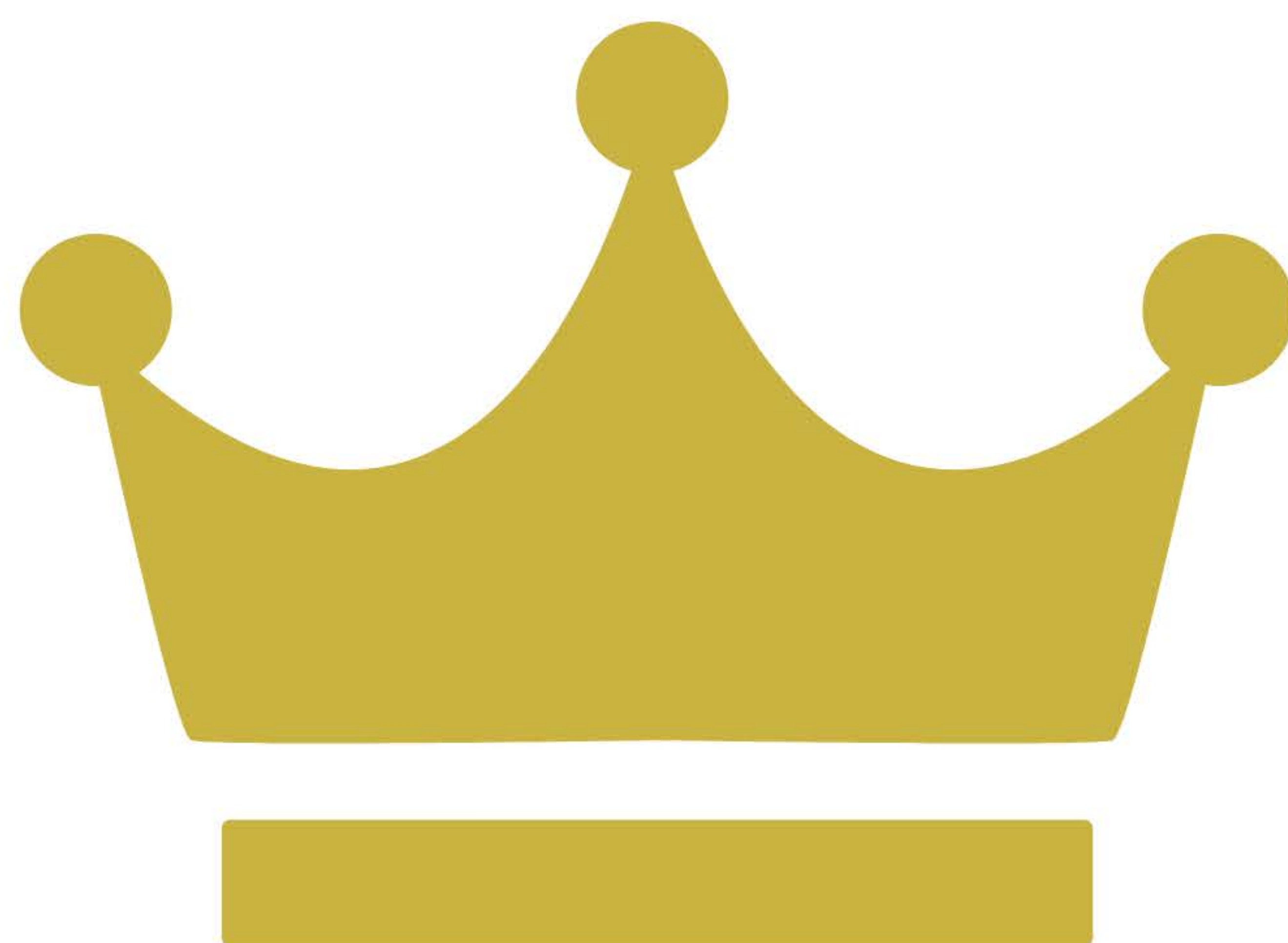
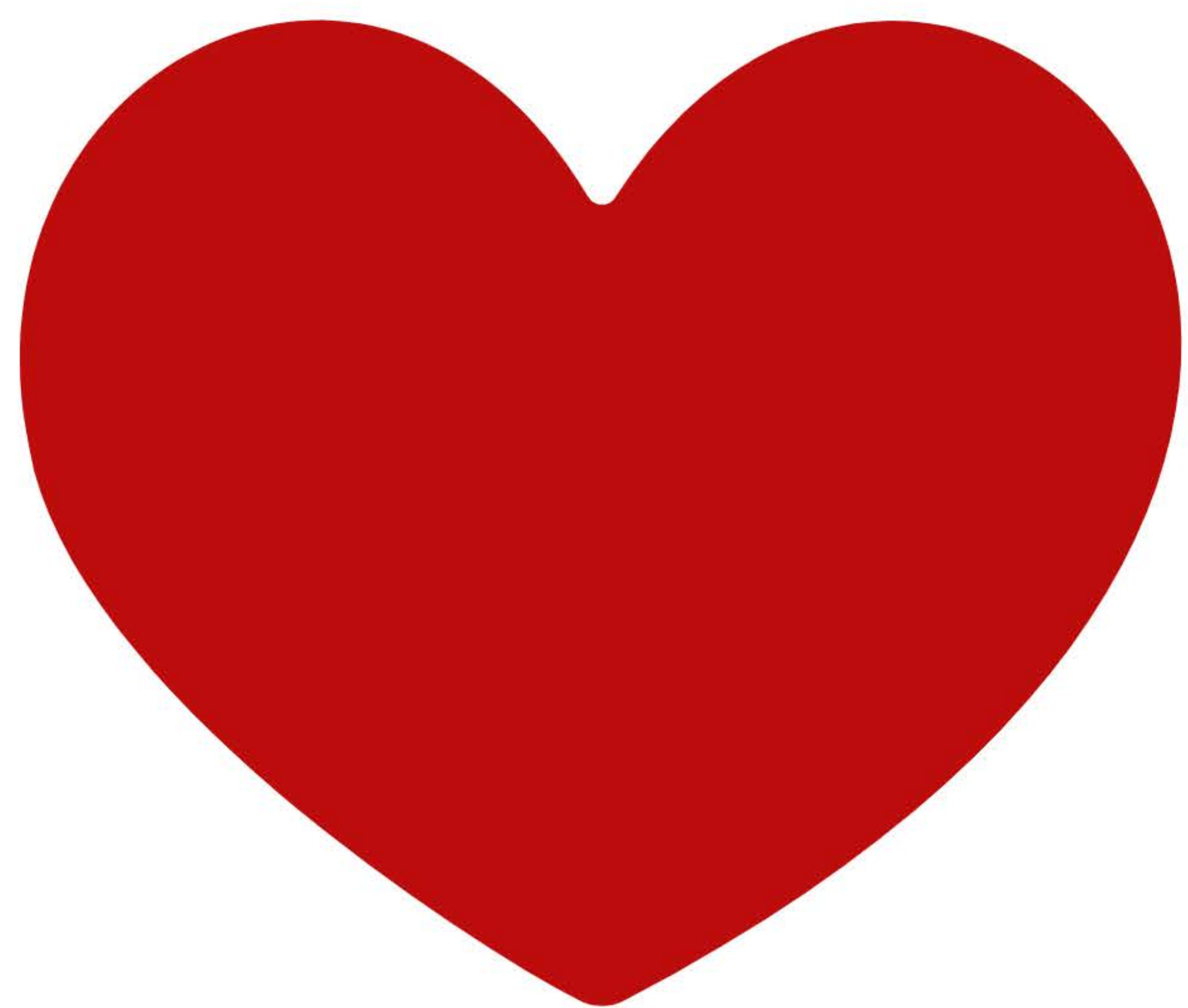
Materials Needed: Construction paper, string, scissors, markers, and a hanger or stick.

Instructions: Have the children create a mobile using construction paper to make different shapes representing key parts of the verse (a heart for love, a house for "dwelling among us," etc.). On some of the shapes, they can write words like "Grace" and "Truth."

Hang the shapes from the hanger or stick using strings, creating a mobile. This mobile represents how Jesus came to live among us, bringing grace and truth to everyone.



Key Words: Grace and truth.





“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

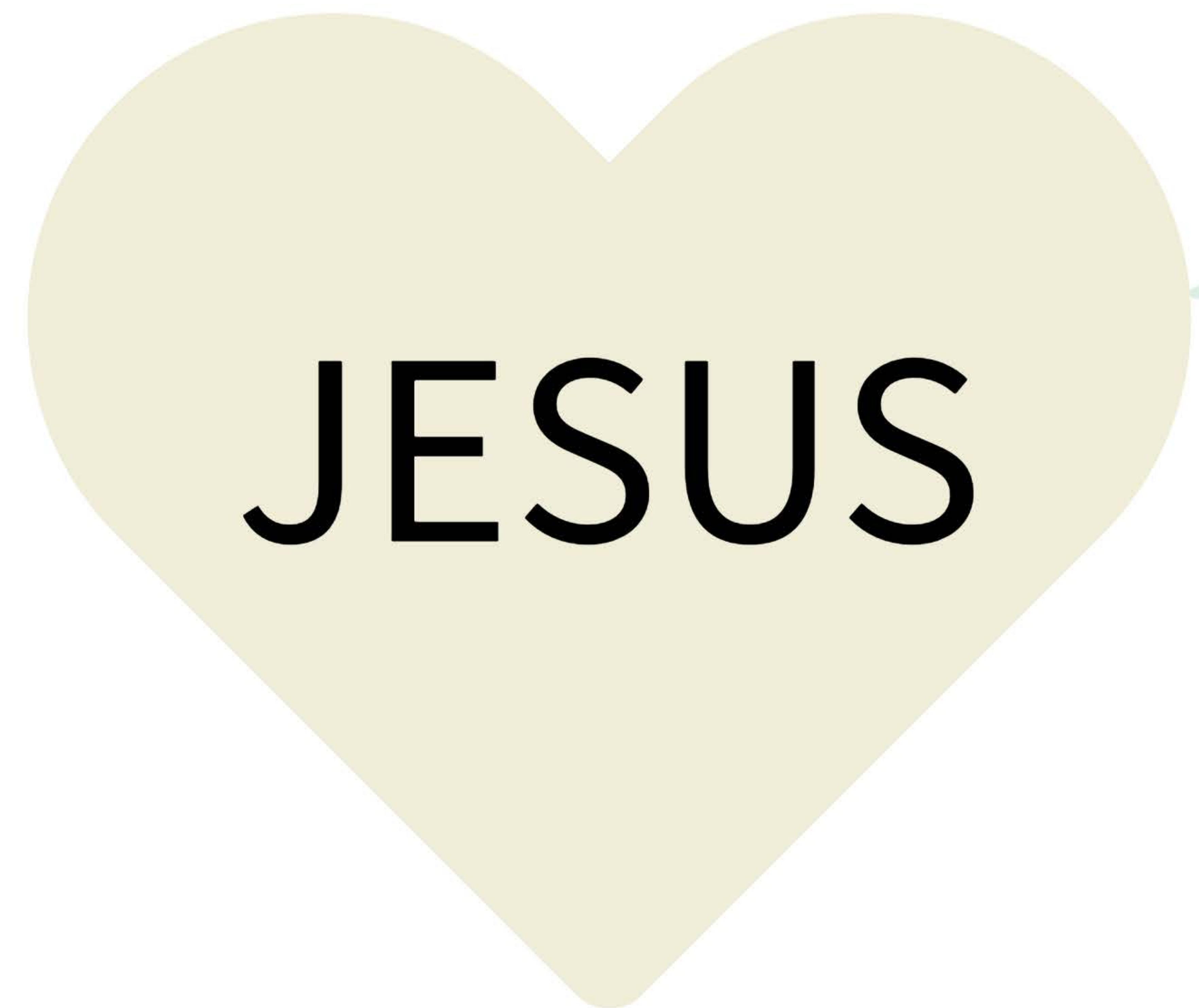
Activity:

"Name of Jesus" Letter Art

Materials Needed: Colored paper, glue, glitter, scissors, and markers.

Instructions: Have the children write the name "Jesus" in large letters on a piece of colored paper. They can decorate the letters with glitter, stickers, and other embellishments, making them shiny and festive.

Afterward, discuss the meaning of the name Jesus, which means "God saves," and how Jesus came into the world to save people from their sins. The children can hang this artwork at home as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.



Key Word: Name of Jesus

Jesus



But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.”

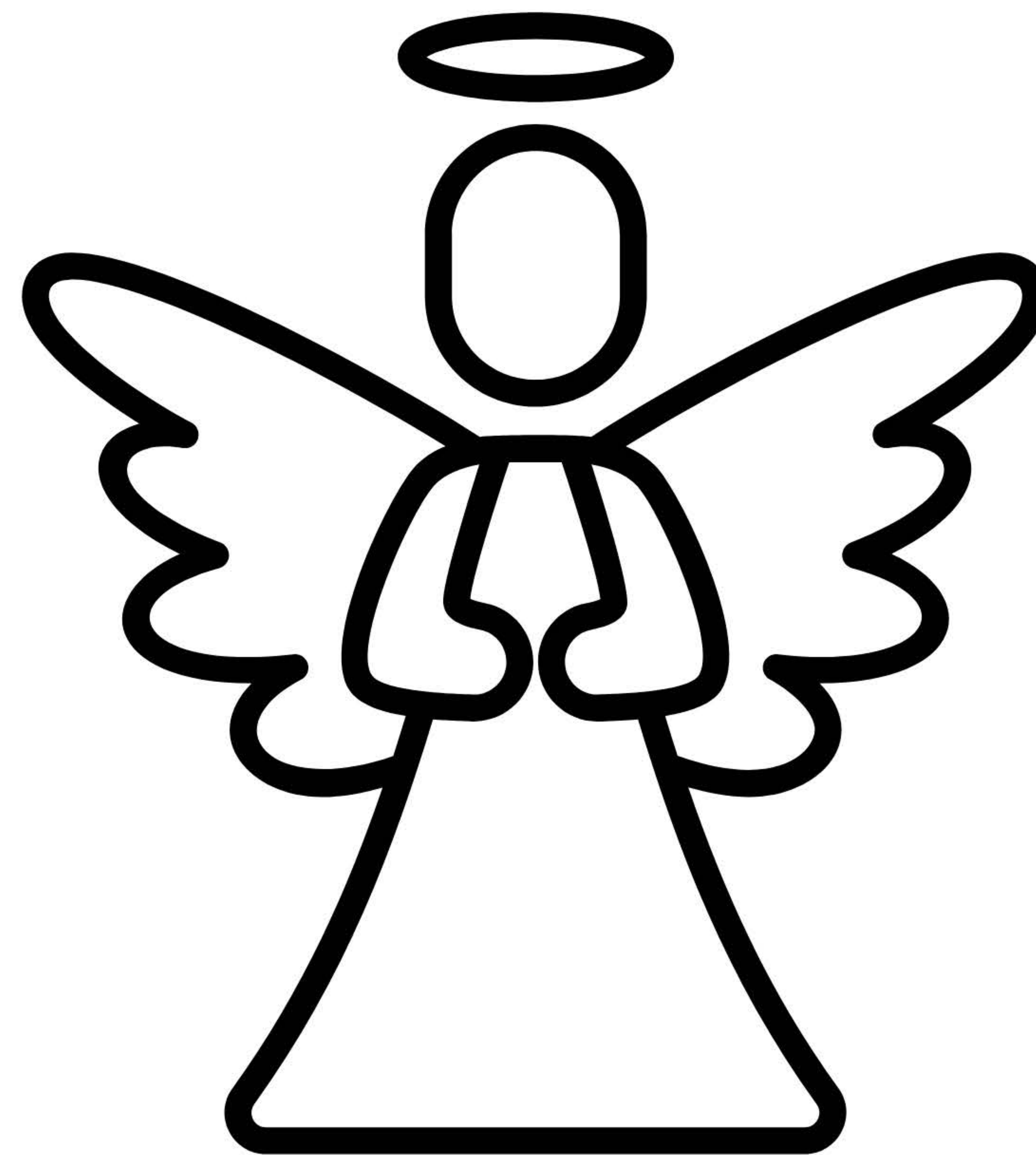
Activity: Angel's Message Puzzle"

Color and Decorate: Let the children color and decorate the scene with markers and crayons. After that, glue it onto a piece of cardboard.

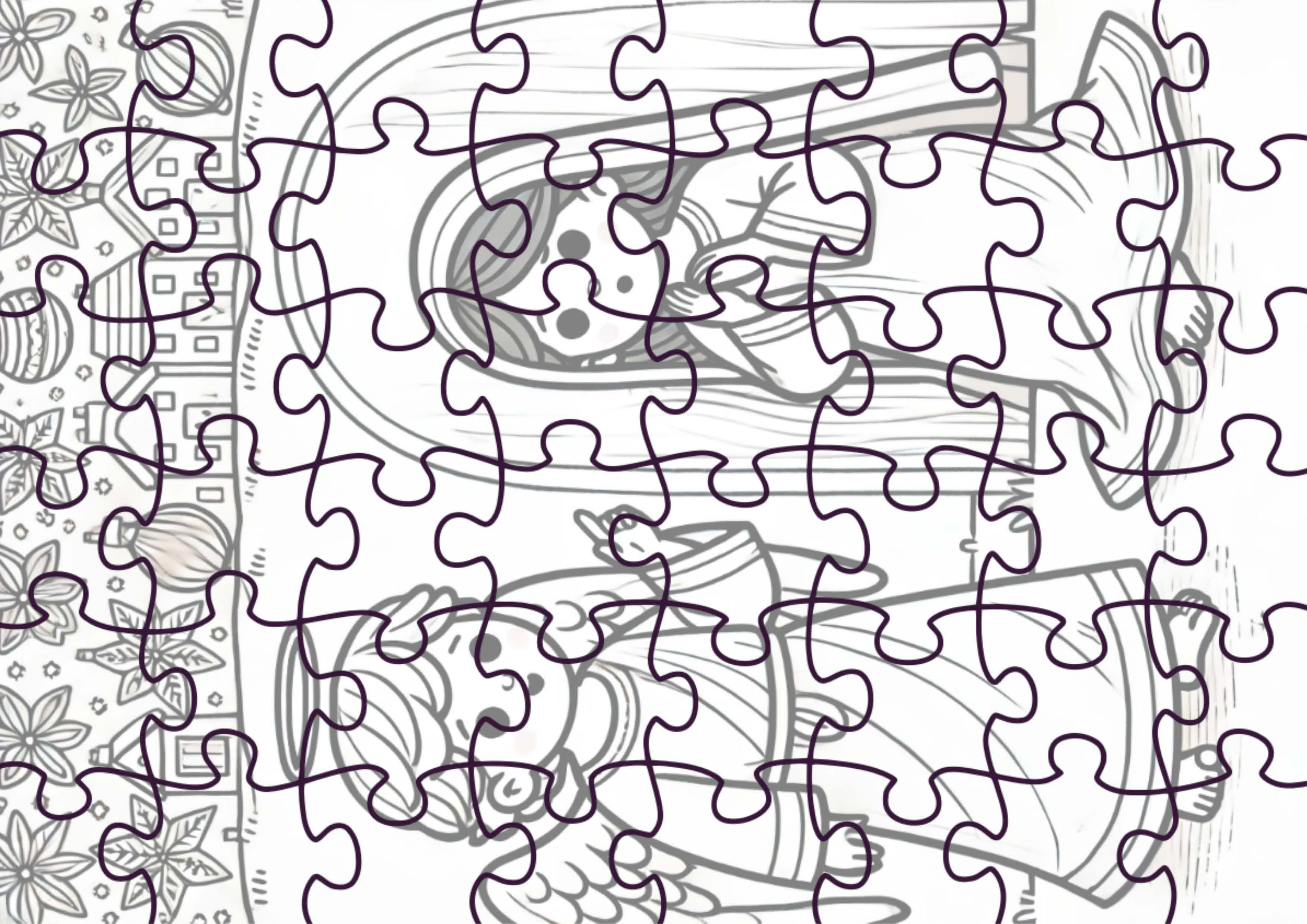
Once the glue is dry, cut the drawing into several pieces to create a puzzle.

Have the children put the puzzle back together, reinforcing the story of the angel's message to Mary as they work on it.

This activity helps children remember the key parts of the story by engaging them in a hands-on, interactive way. The process of putting the pieces together symbolizes the completeness of God's plan, and the joy of seeing the finished puzzle reflects the joy of the angel's message.



Key Words: Favor, Angel and Mary.





**“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”**

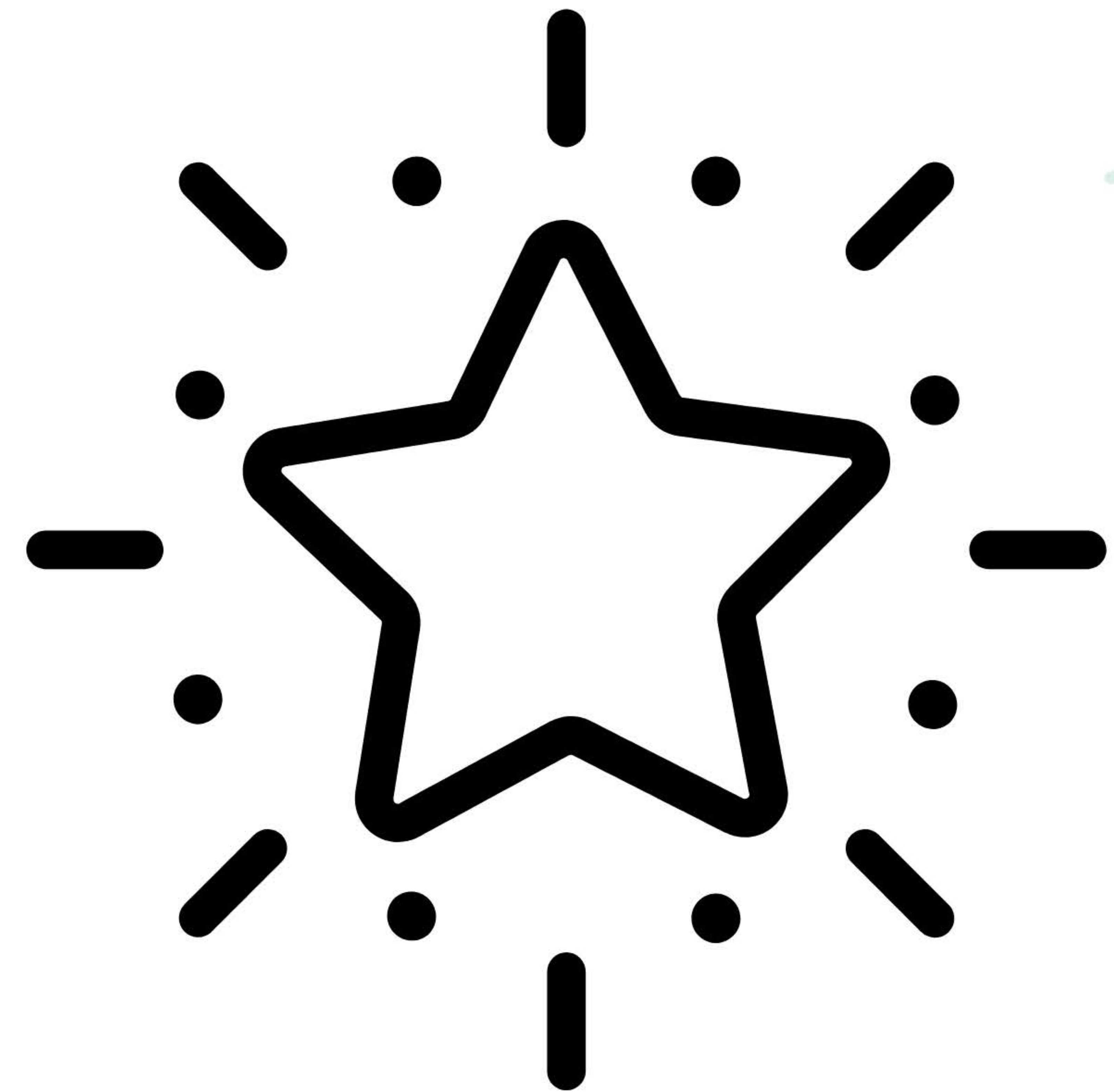
Activity: "Bethlehem Star Ornament Craft"

Materials Needed: Glue, glitter or shiny star stickers, markers or crayons, scissors and string or ribbon.

Instructions: Print the star and use the shape to draw it on a construction paper. This will represent the "Star of Bethlehem." Have the children cut out the star shape and decorate the star with glitter, shiny stickers, or other embellishments to make it bright and eye-catching.

Thread a piece of string or ribbon through the hole and tie a loop so it can be hung as an ornament. The children can hang their star ornament on a Christmas tree or in a special place at home as a reminder of the prophecy of Jesus' birth.

Talk with the children about how, even though Bethlehem was small, something very important happened there—the birth of Jesus. The star symbolizes the special place and the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy.



Key Word: Bethlehem





“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Activity: Christmas Sudoku

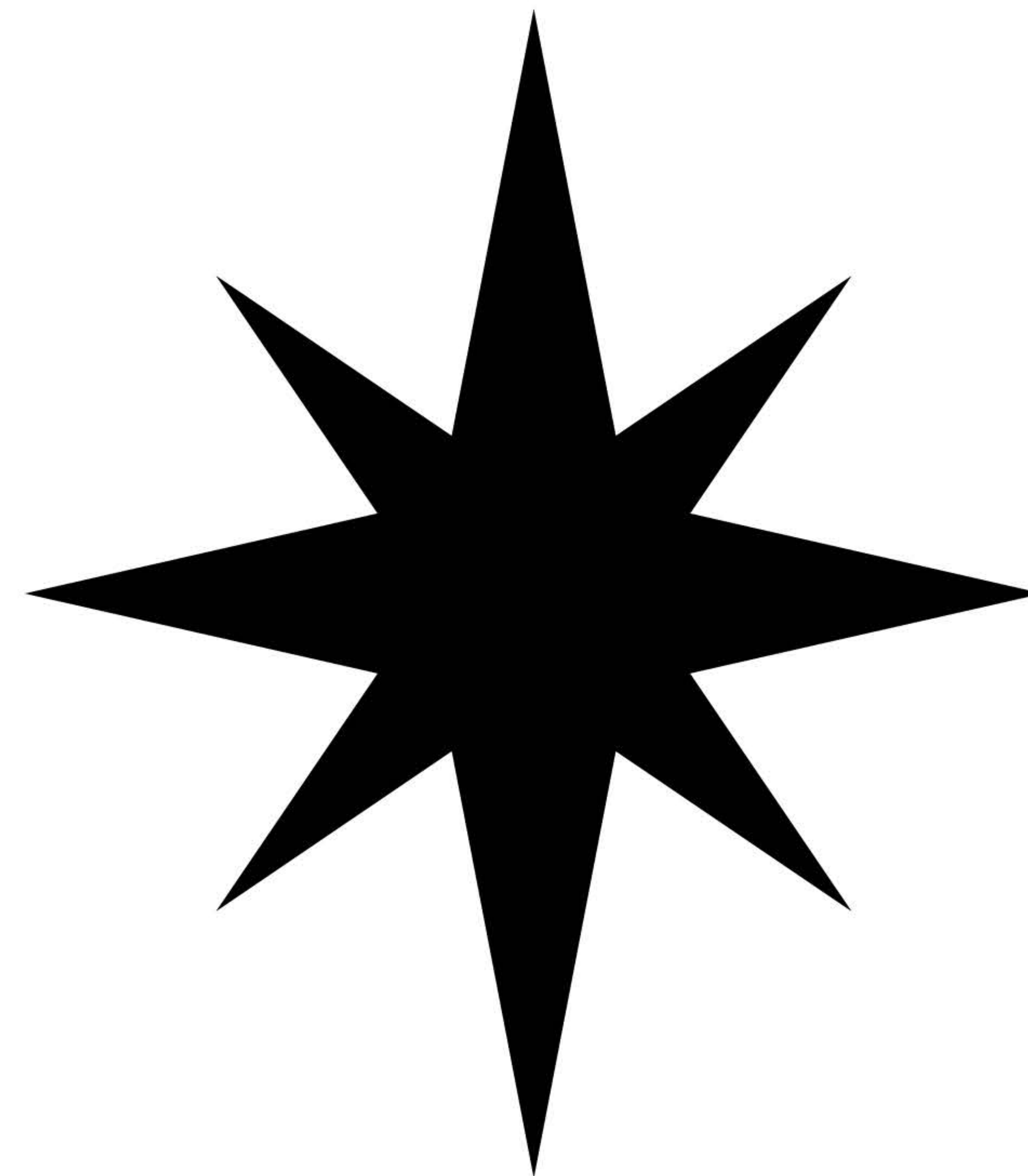
Each row and column must contain all four symbols (angel, Mary, baby Jesus, and star) without repeating.

Cut out the symbols provided separately. Glue the symbols into the correct squares on the grid to complete it.

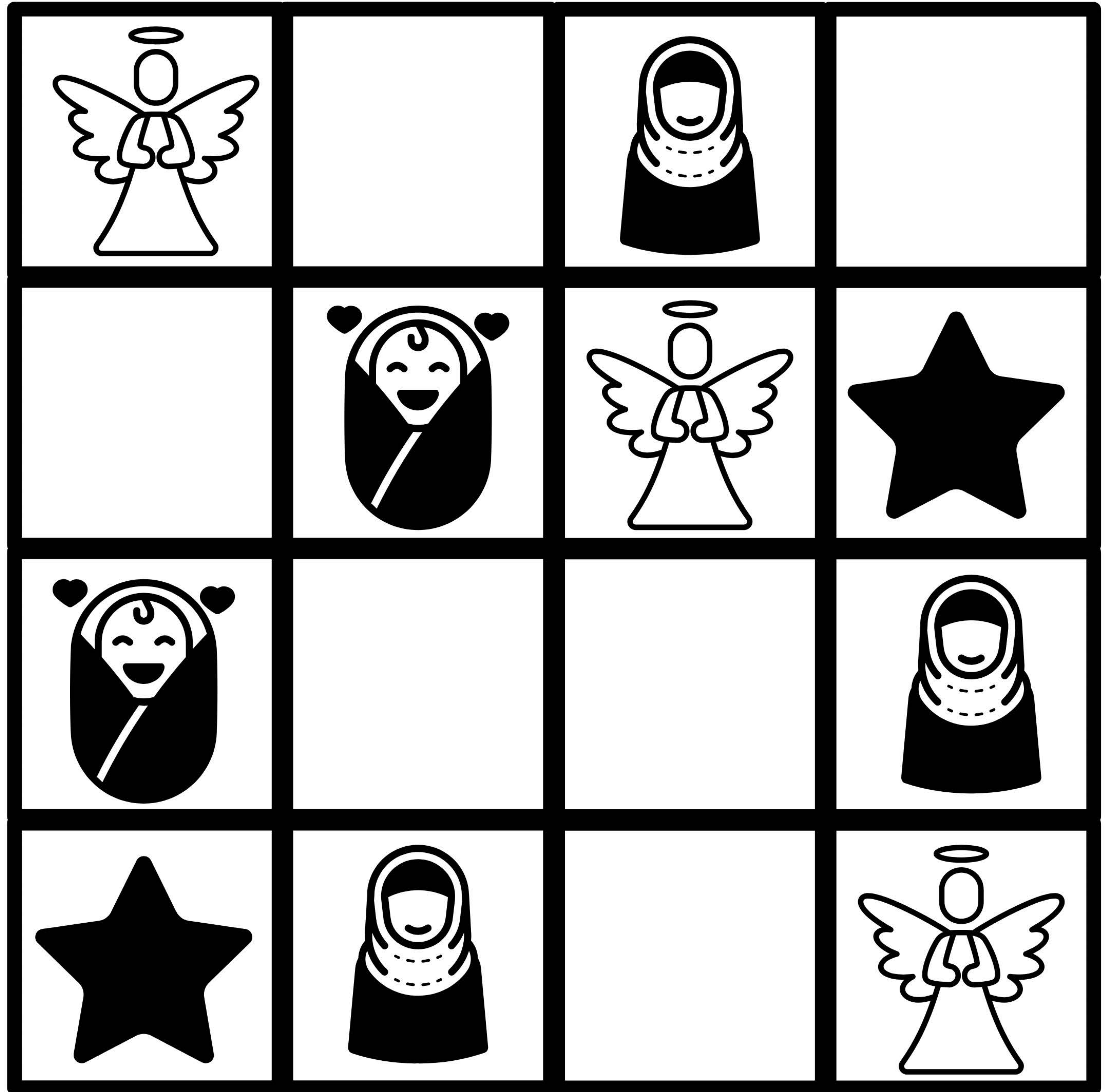
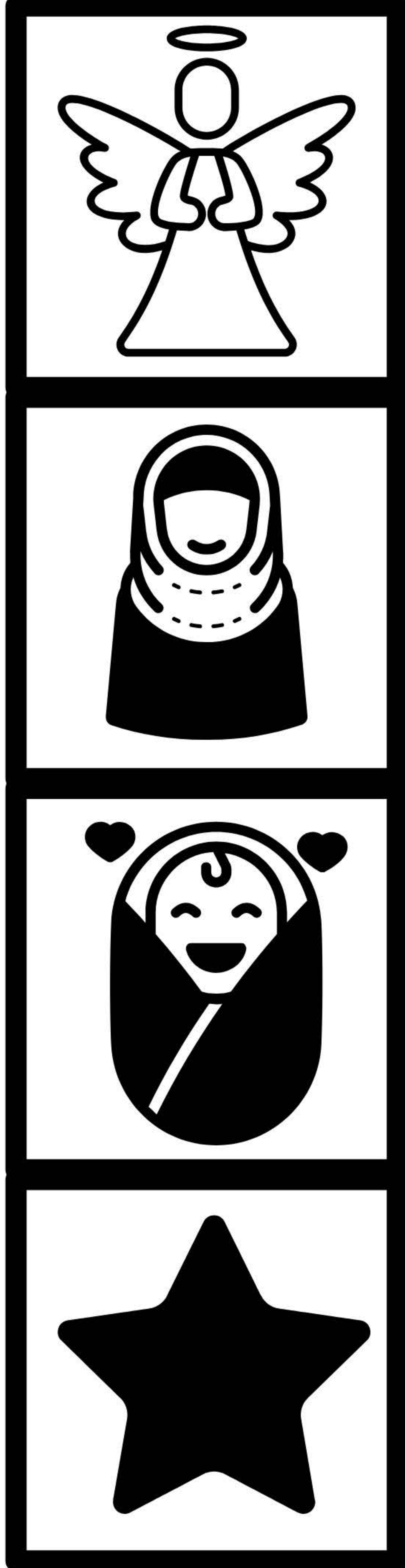
Each symbol should appear only once in each row and each column.

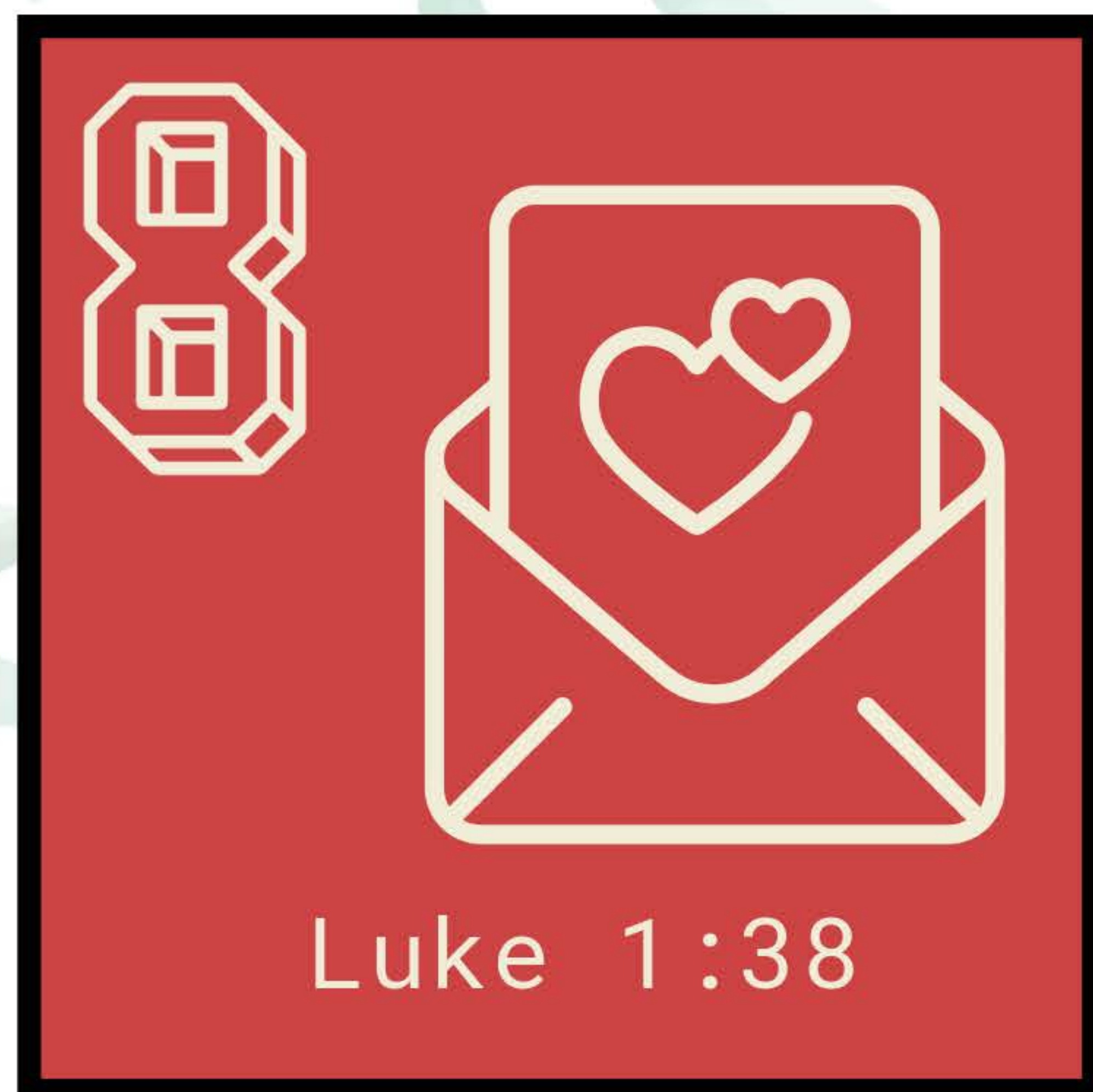
Start with the rows and columns that have the most symbols already filled in, as it will be easier to figure out what is missing.

Have fun while learning about Christmas!



Key Word: Immanuel





“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

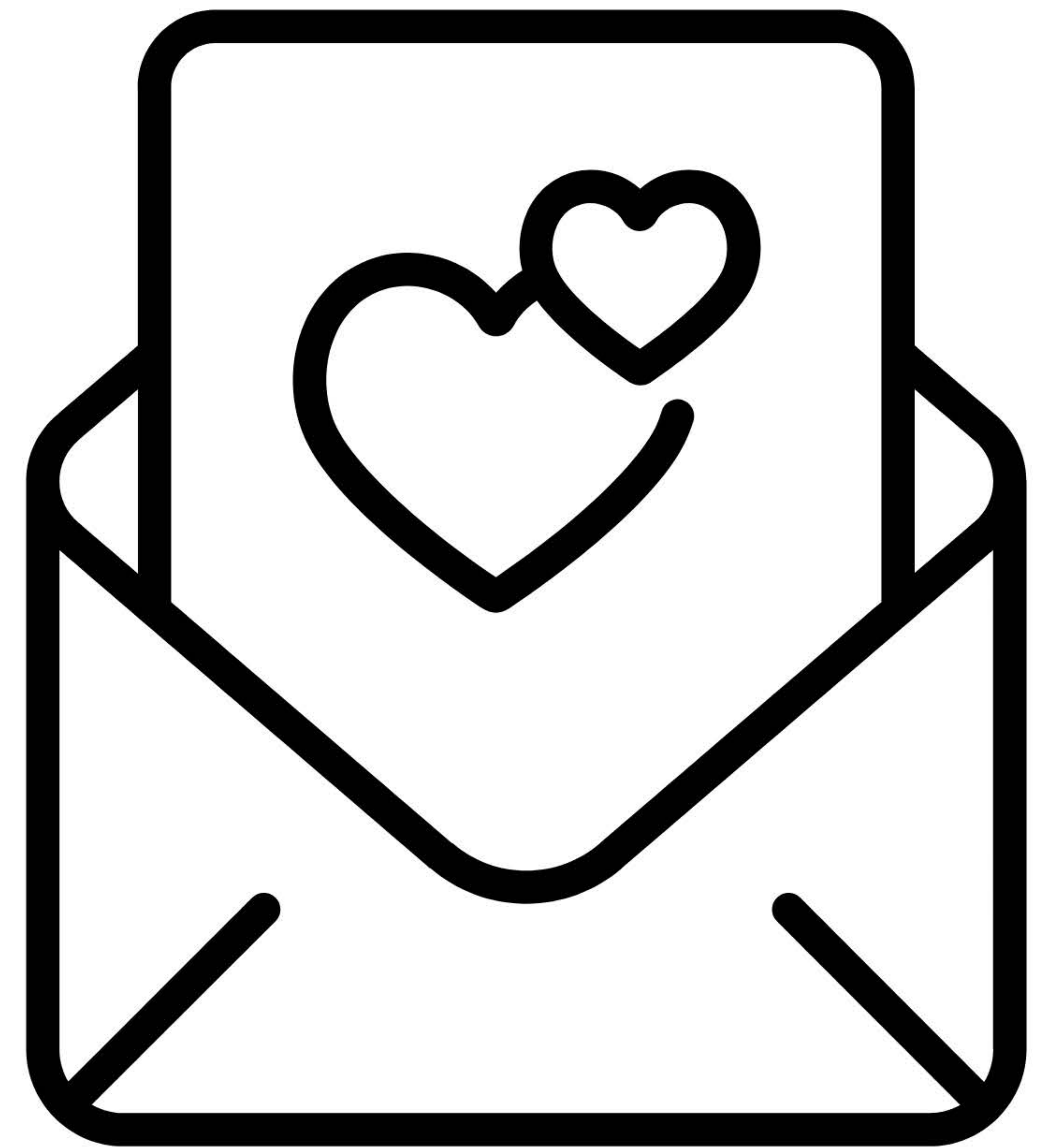
Activity: Angel and Mary Puppets Craft

Materials Needed: Printed image of Mary and the angel, craft sticks (popsicle sticks), scissors, glue or tape, markers or crayons.

Print the image of Mary and the angel on a piece of paper, color the characters, cut around the edges of Mary and the angel to create each character puppet. Glue or tape each cut-out character to a craft stick. The craft stick will be the handle for each puppet, making it easy for the children to hold and play with.

Encourage the children to use their angel and Mary puppets to act out the story of the angel visiting Mary.

After the storytelling, discuss with the children what happened in the story. How did Mary feel when the angel visited her? How can we also trust God's plan, just like Mary did?



Key Words: Mary, trust and word of God.





“and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Activity 1: Follow the Wise Men Maze

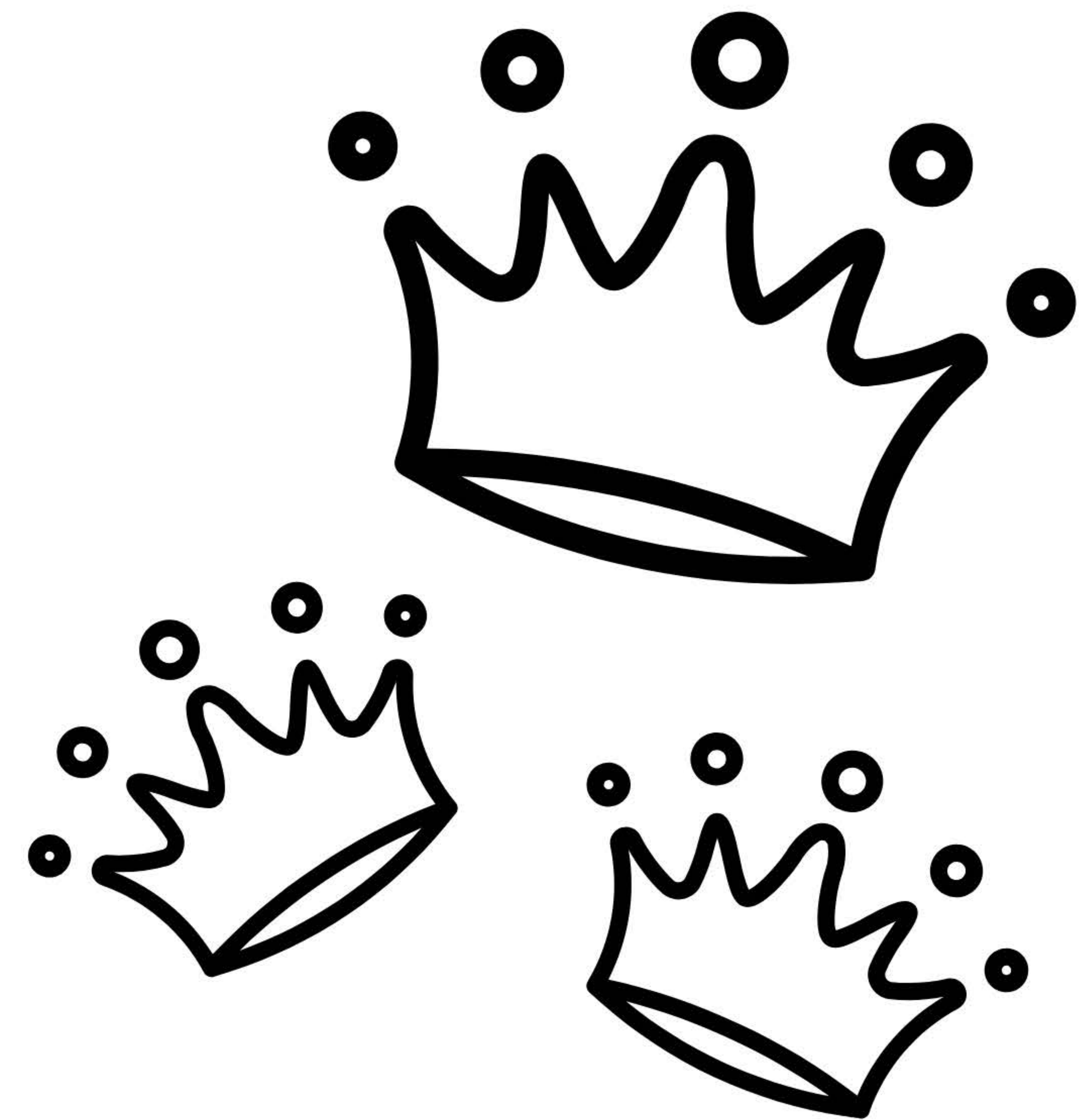
Help the Wise Men find their way to Jesus by navigating through the maze.

Activity 2: Baby Jesus Tracing

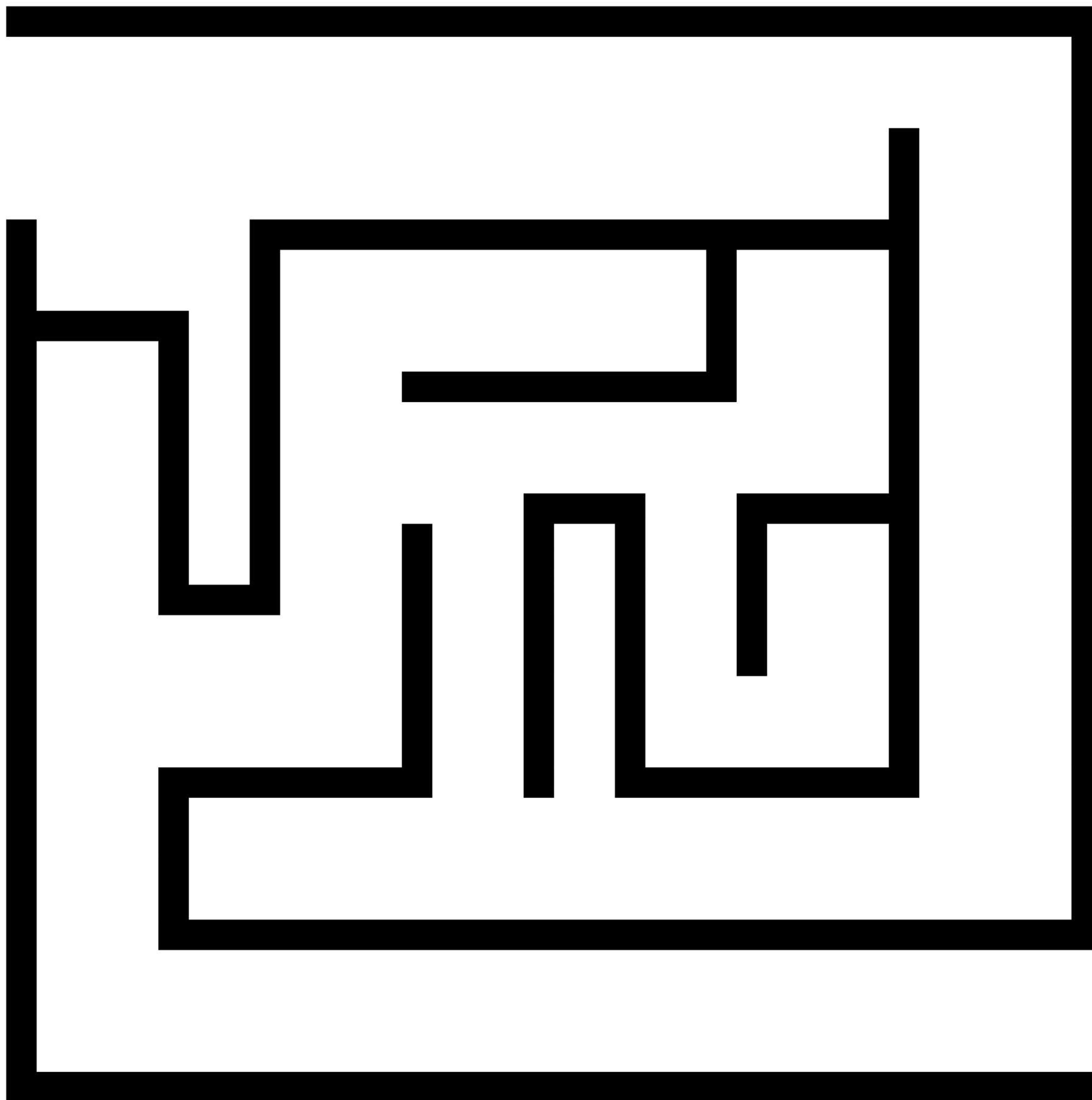
Use a pencil to carefully trace along the dotted lines of Baby Jesus. Try to follow the lines as closely as possible to improve fine motor skills. After tracing, use crayons or markers to color Baby Jesus. Make it as colorful as you like!

Talk about how the Wise Men followed the star to find Jesus.

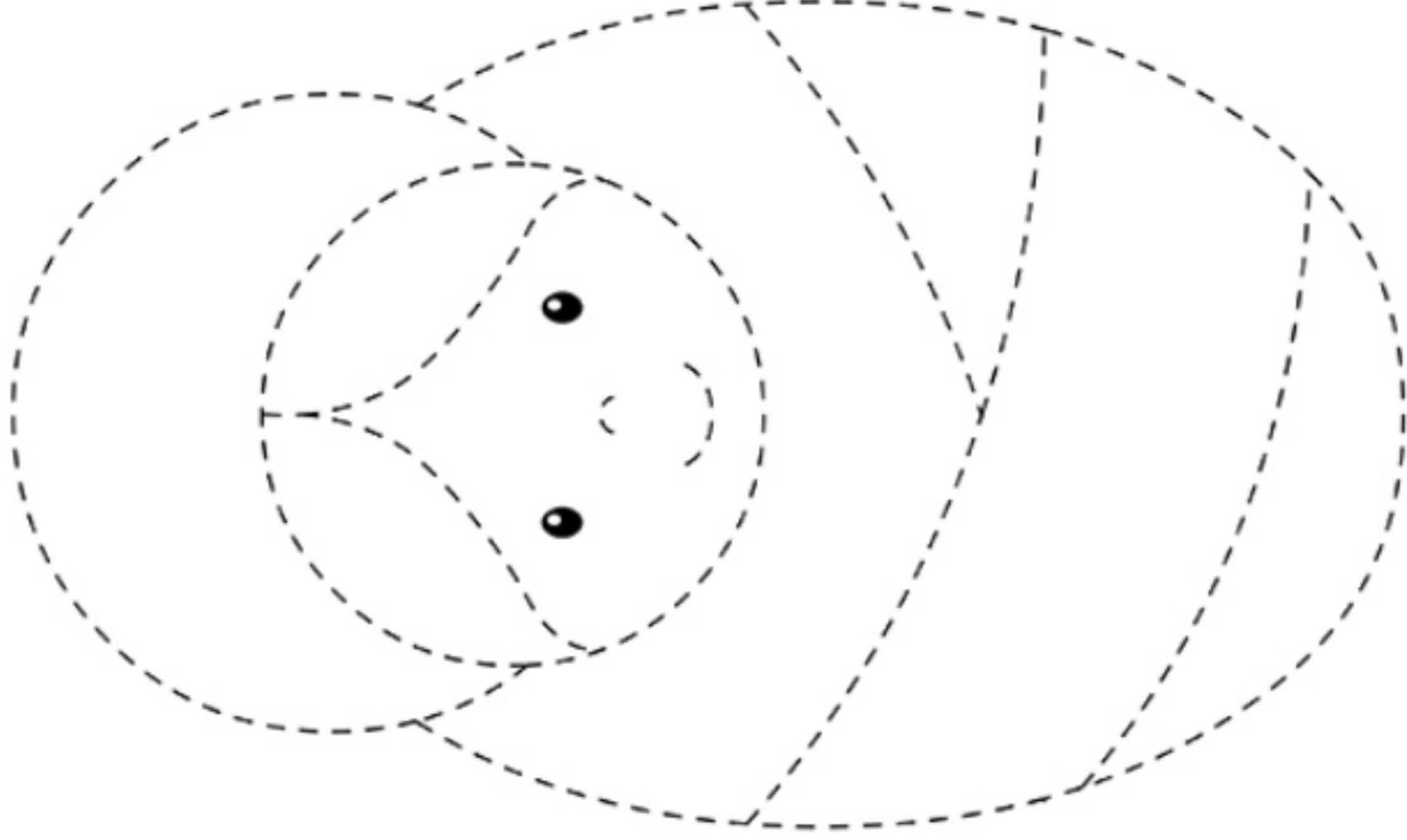
Ask the children how they think the Wise Men felt when they finally reached Jesus and what gifts they brought.



Key Words: Wise Men, Jesus and Star



CHRISTMAS TRACING



Boo-y Jesus



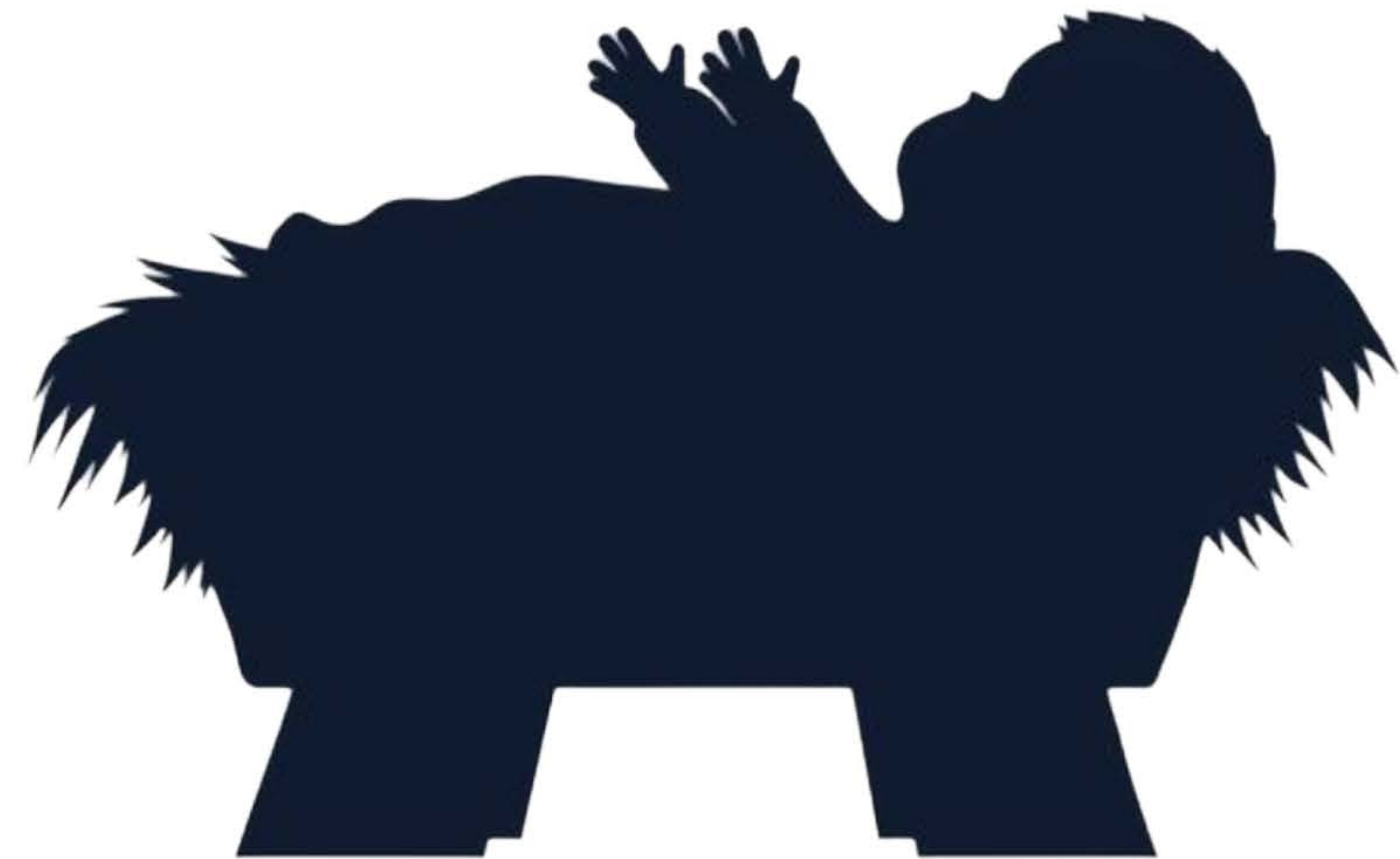
“and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.”

Activity: Nativity Scene Craft

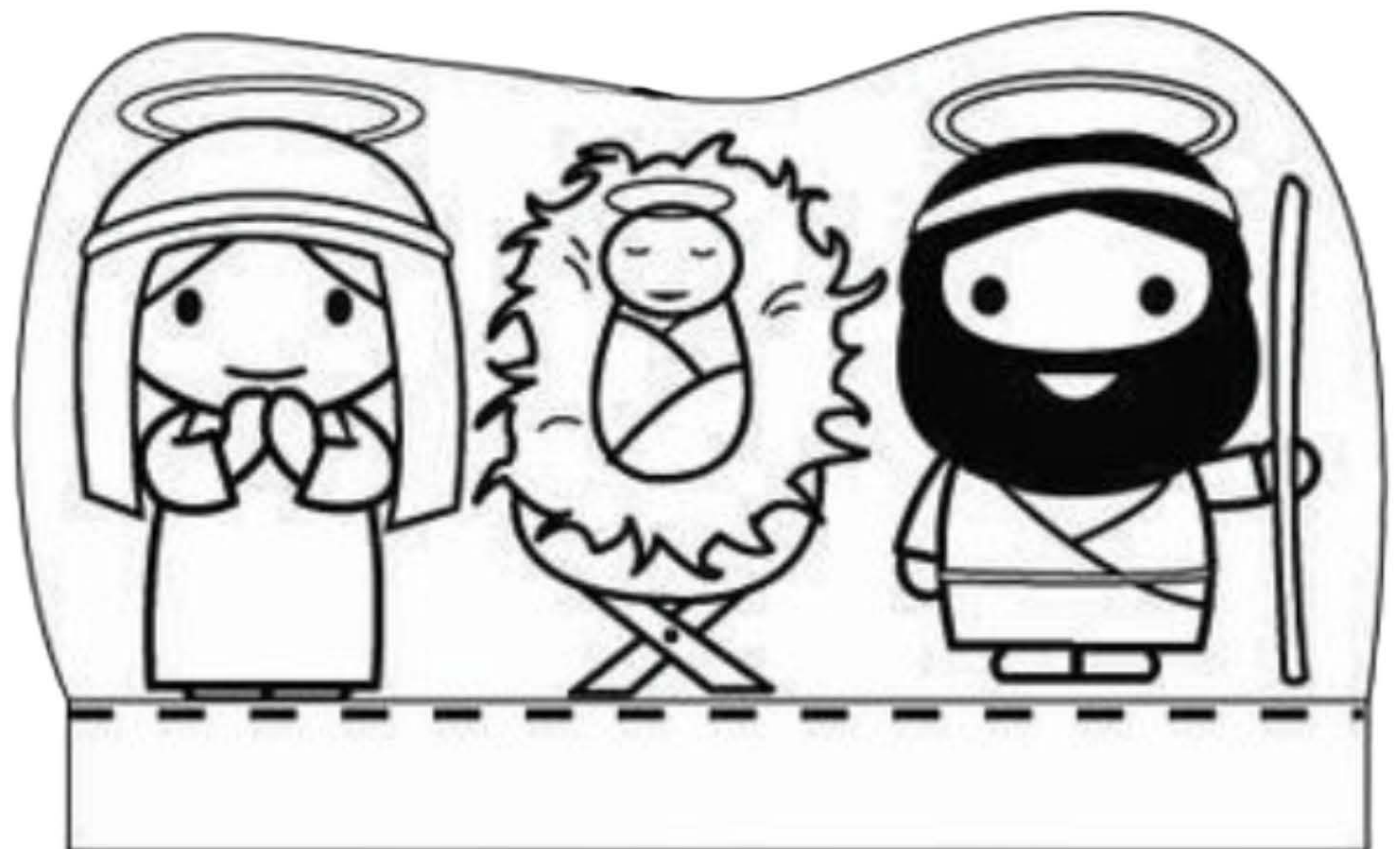
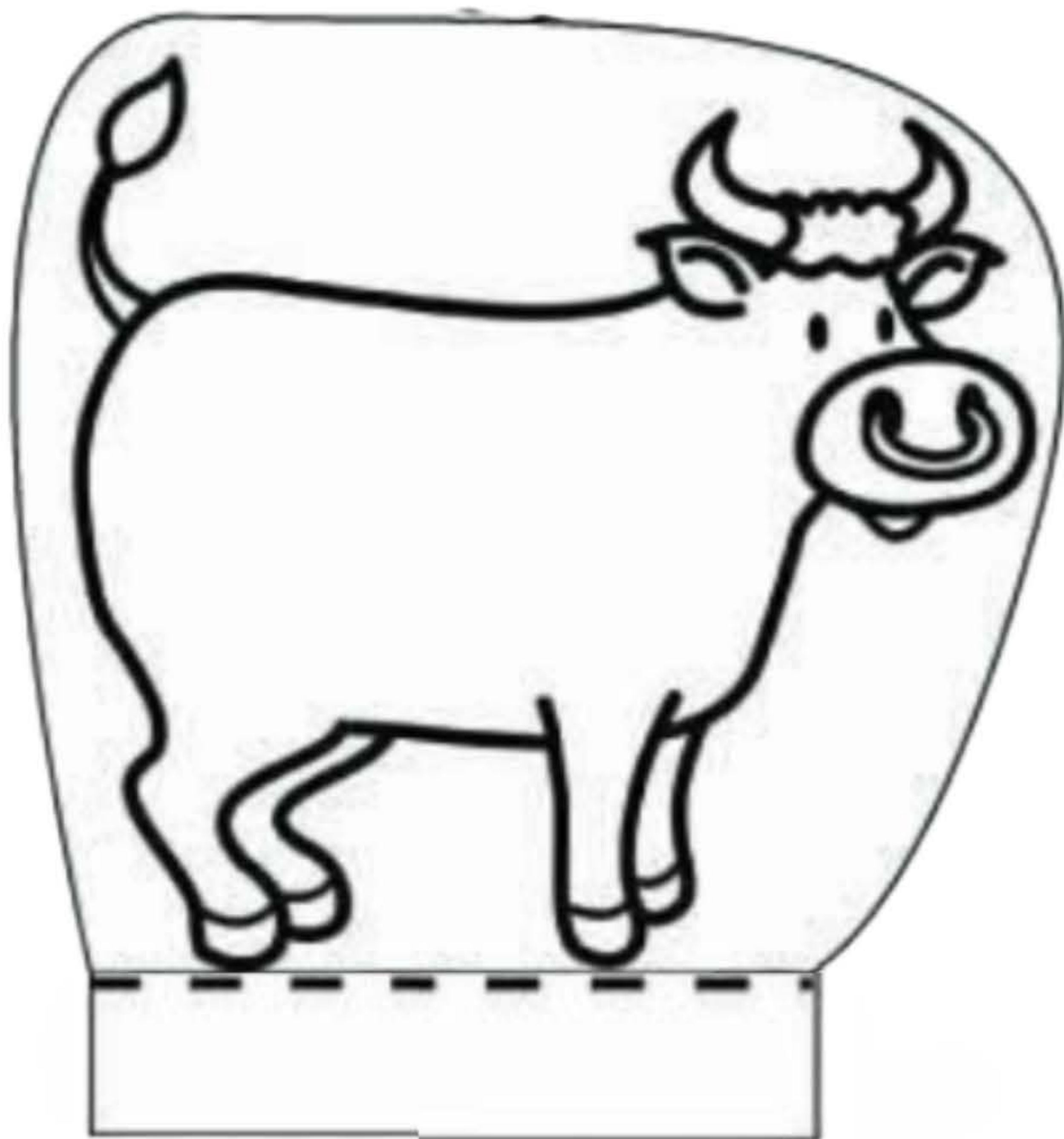
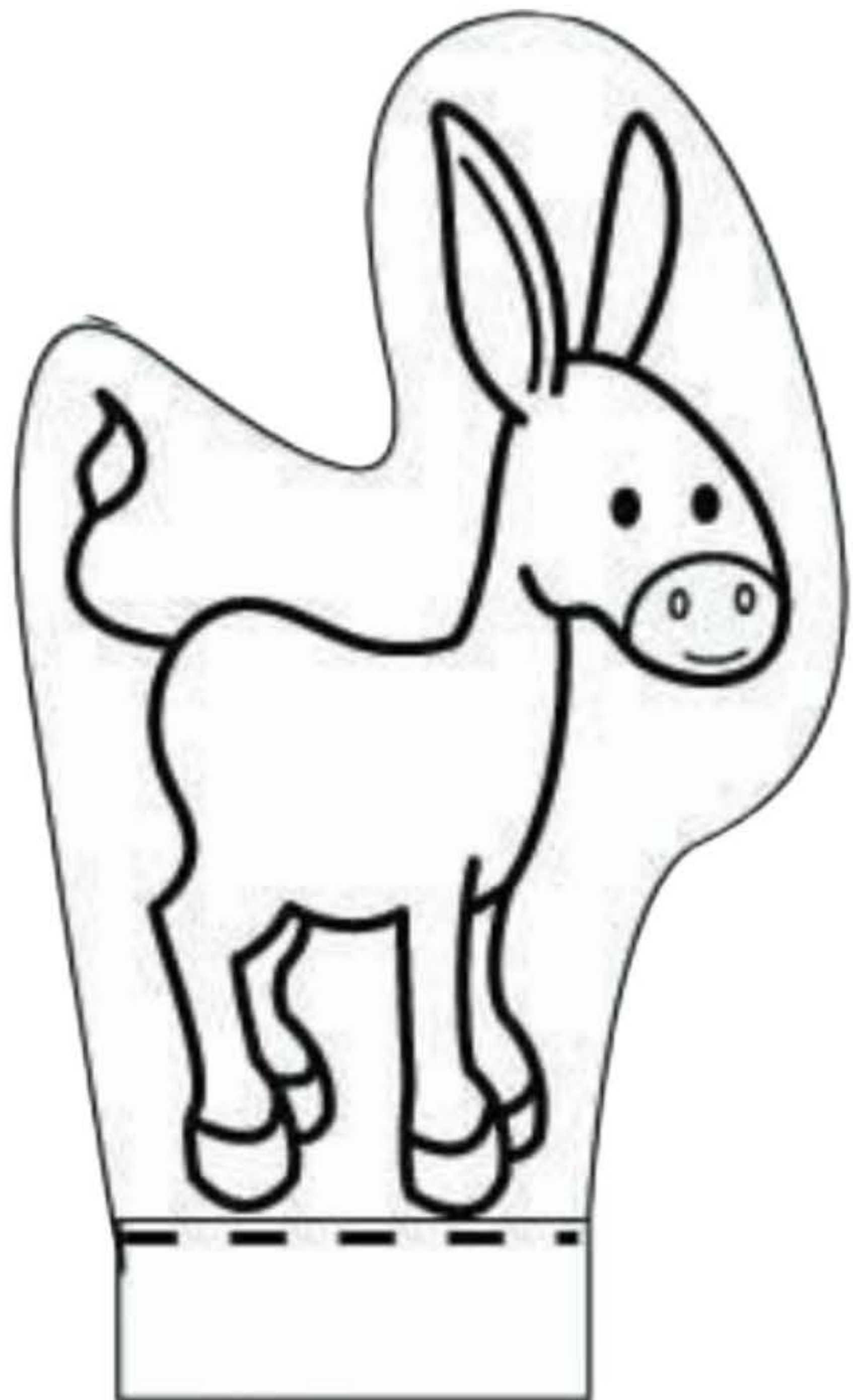
Materials Needed: Crayons, markers, or colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape.

Create a 3D nativity scene by painting, cutting, and assembling the figures.

This craft is a fun and interactive way for children to learn about the birth of Jesus while developing artistic and motor skills. It also provides a great opportunity to discuss the meaning of Christmas in a hands-on way.



Key Words: Son and manger.





“When they saw the star, they were overjoyed”.

Key Words: Star and overjoyed.

Activity 1: Finish the Star

Materials Needed: Pencil, markers, crayons, colored pencils.

Optional: Stickers, glitter, or other decorations

Instructions: Trace and complete the star. Use crayons or markers to color it. Feel free to use bright colors to make the star shine, just like the star that guided the Wise Men.



Activity 2: Color the Overjoyed Star

Materials Needed: Pencil, markers, crayons, colored pencils, glitter, or other decorations.

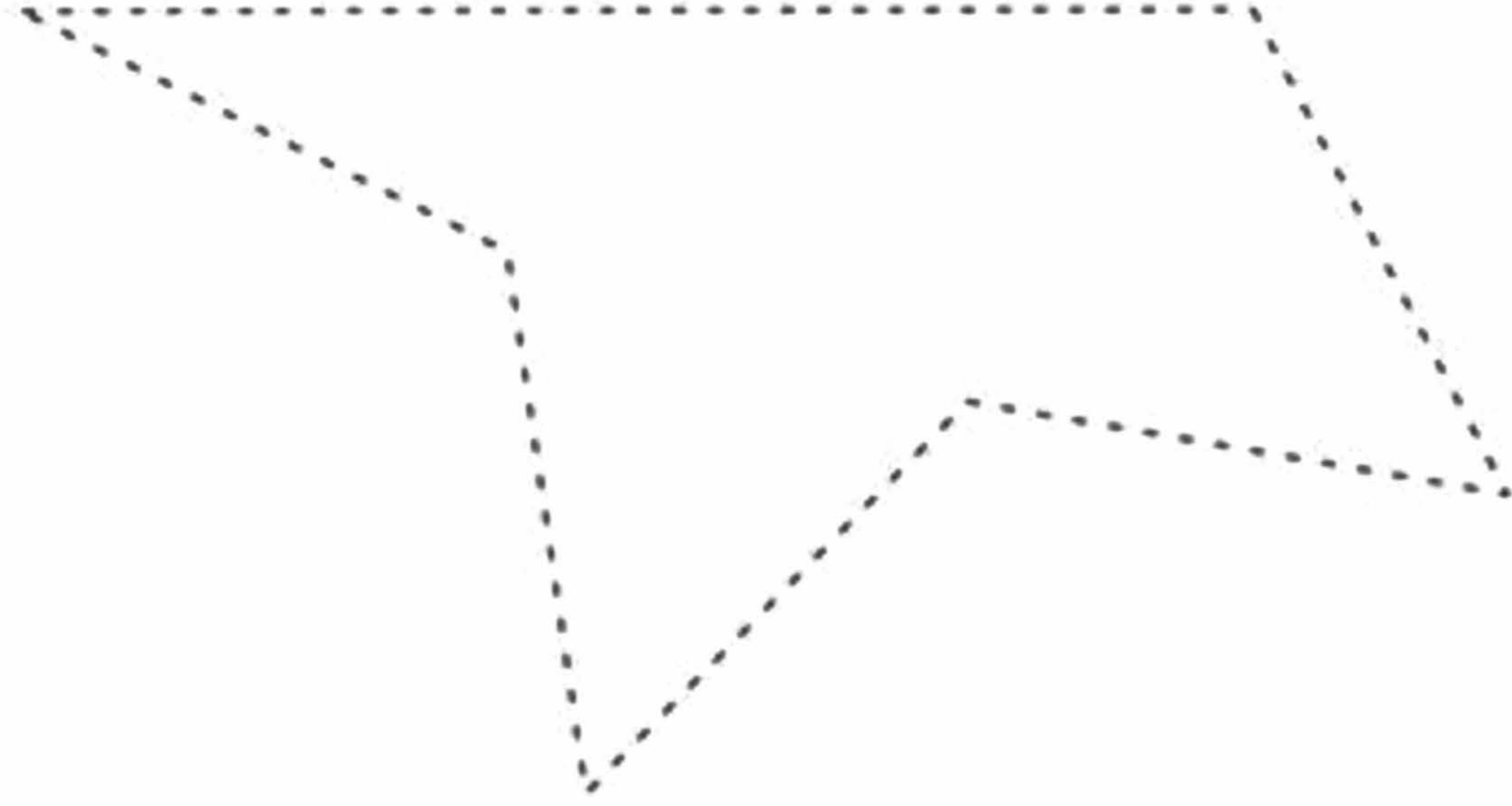
Color the face of the star, making it look cheerful.

Feel free to add extra designs or patterns on the star, like dots, lines, or even small hearts, to represent the excitement and joy the Wise Men felt.

Talk about why the Wise Men were overjoyed when they saw the star.

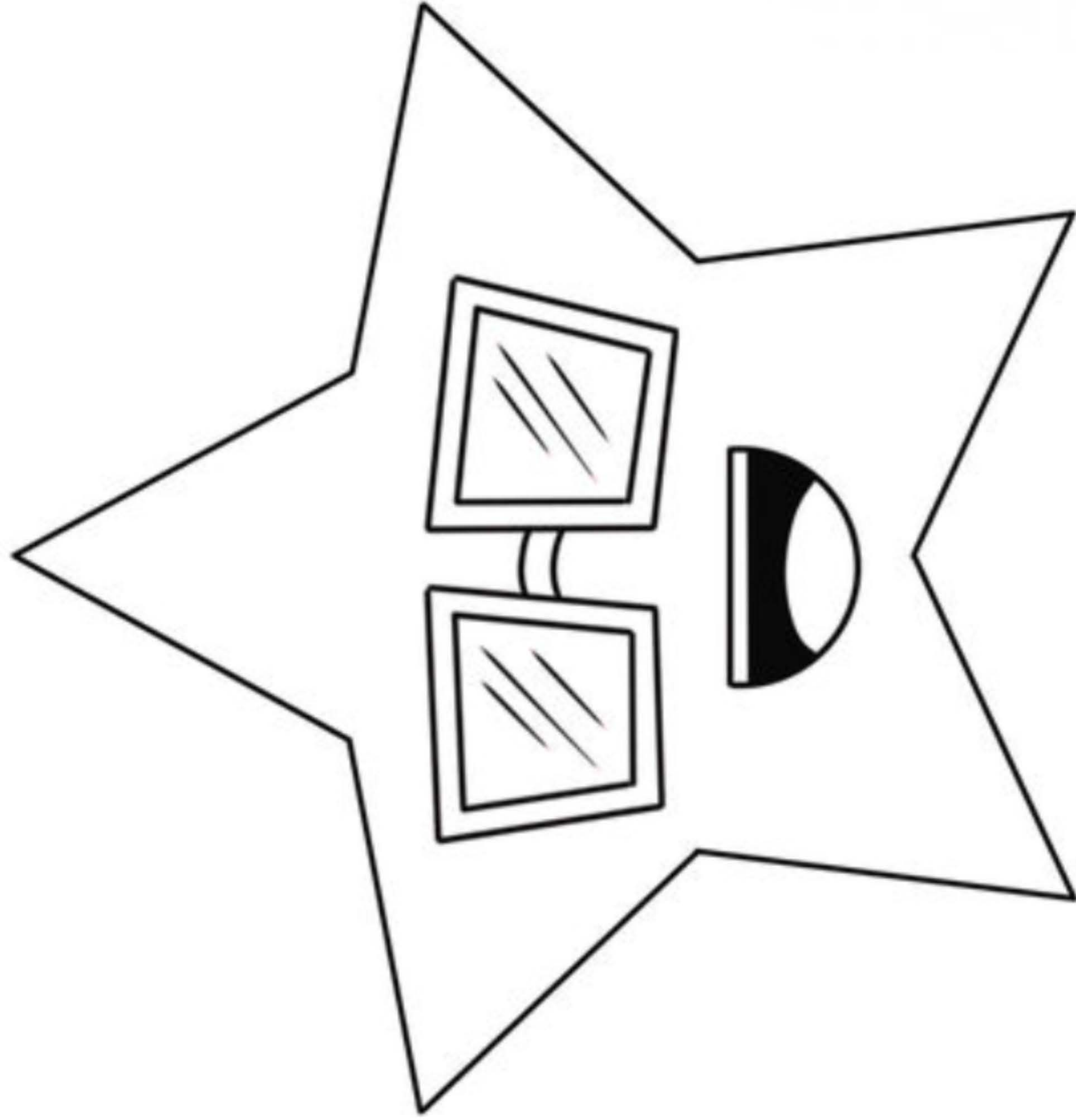
Discuss how the star guided the Wise Men to find Jesus, and why that was such an important part of the Christmas story.

Finish the Star



star

OVERJOYED





**“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

Activity: Praise Bell Craft

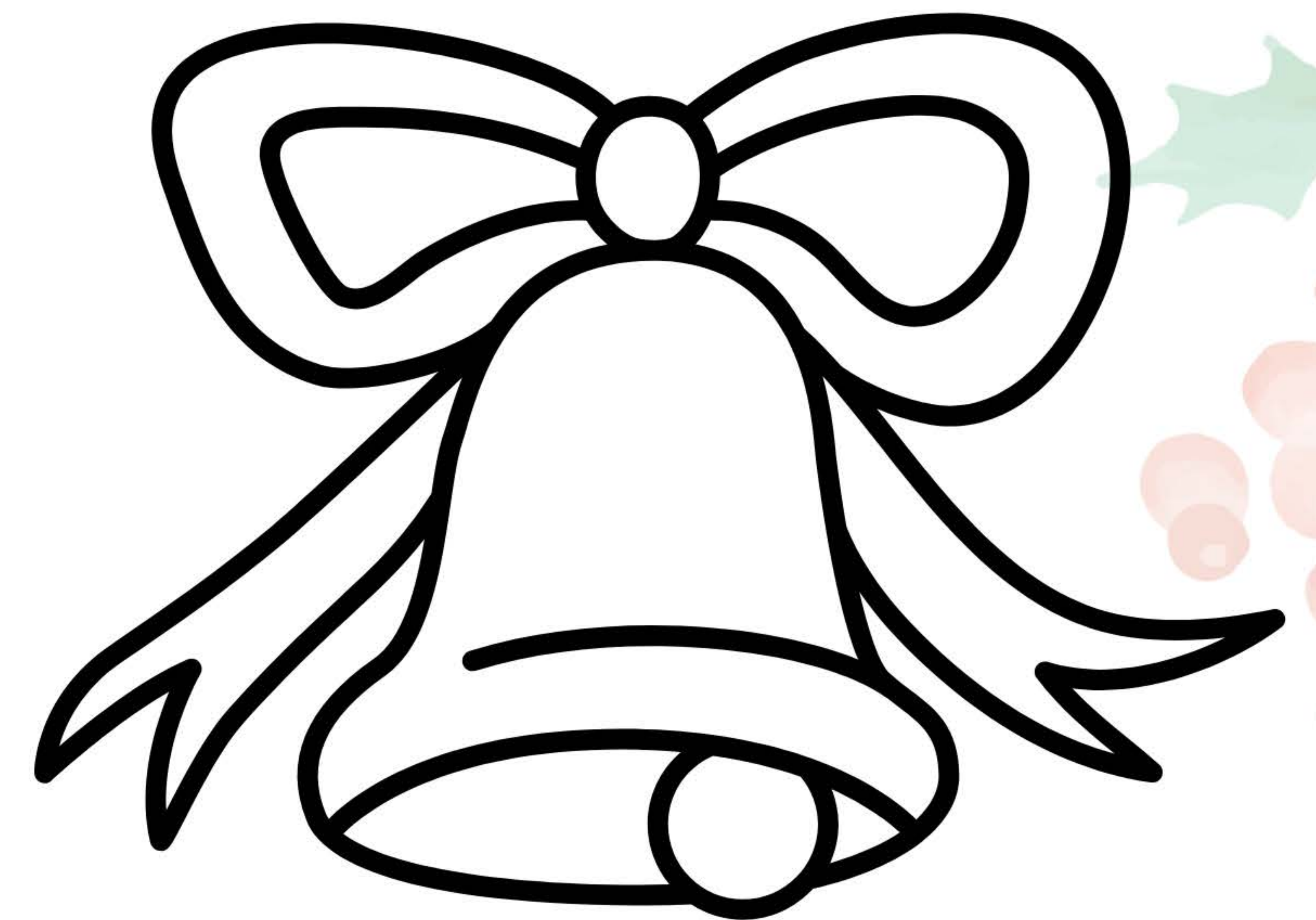
Materials Needed: A small paper cup (like a red Dixie cup), jingle bell, pipe cleaner, stickers or decorations, scissors, glue or tape.

Start by decorating the outside of the paper cup. Take the jingle bell and thread it through the end of the pipe cleaner. Secure the bell in place by twisting the pipe cleaner tightly around the loop on the bell, ensuring it won't slip off.

Carefully poke a small hole at the top of the cup (which will be the bottom when held upside down). Thread the free end of the pipe cleaner through this hole, so the bell hangs inside the cup. Twist the pipe cleaner to secure it, leaving enough length to create a handle.

Once the bell is secured inside, bend the pipe cleaner into a loop to make a handle for the bell.

Encourage them to use their bells during worship or whenever they want to celebrate and give thanks to God.



Key Words: Glory to God

Here are some examples for you to get inspired





“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Key Words: Loved the world and eternal life.

Activity: God So Loved the World Craft

Materials Needed: Construction paper for hands, pencil, crayons or colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape.

Instructions:

Start by coloring the template of the world and the heart shape, cut out the world and the heart with the verse.

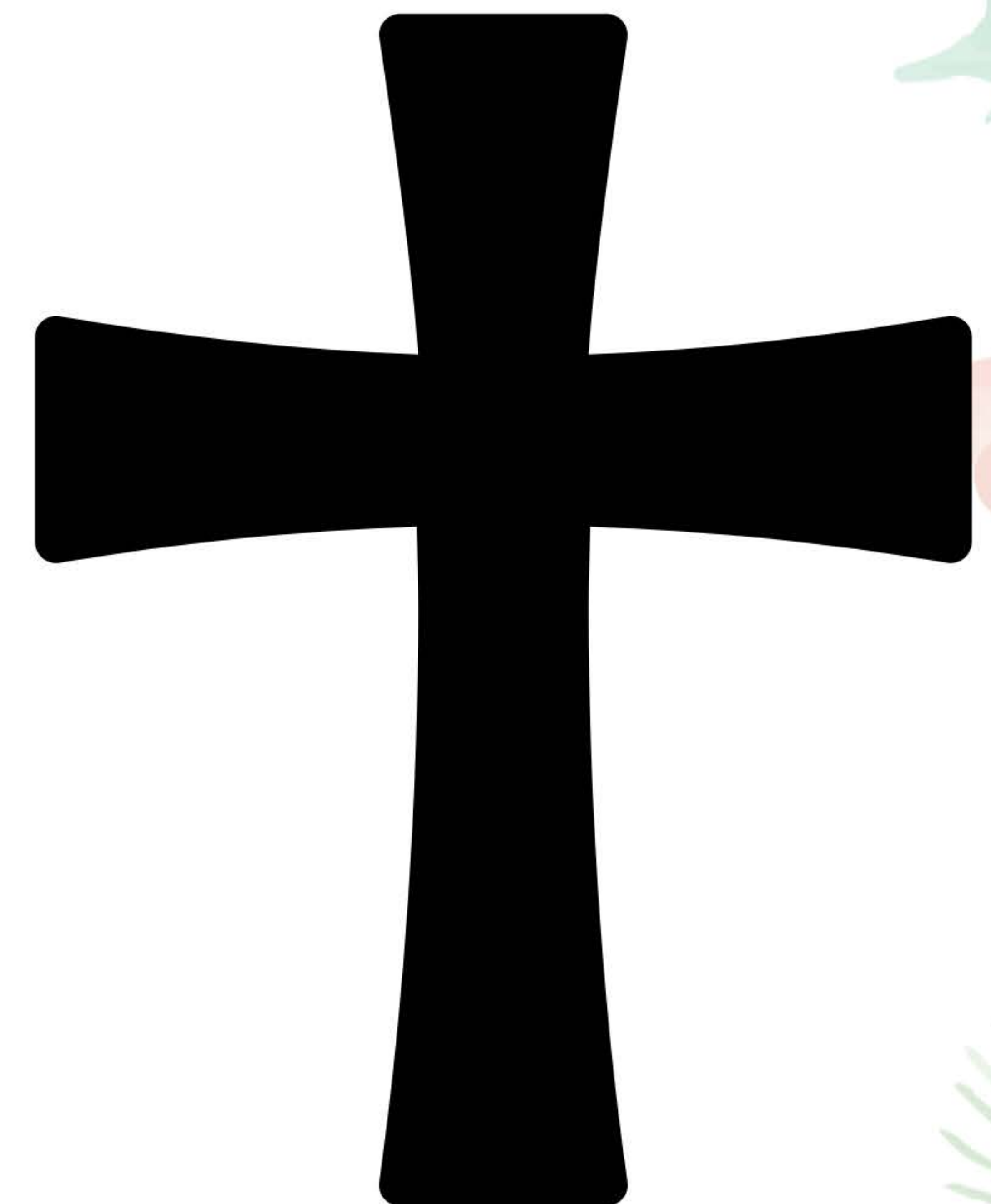
Place each child's hand on a piece of construction paper and have them trace around it with a pencil. Cut out the handprints

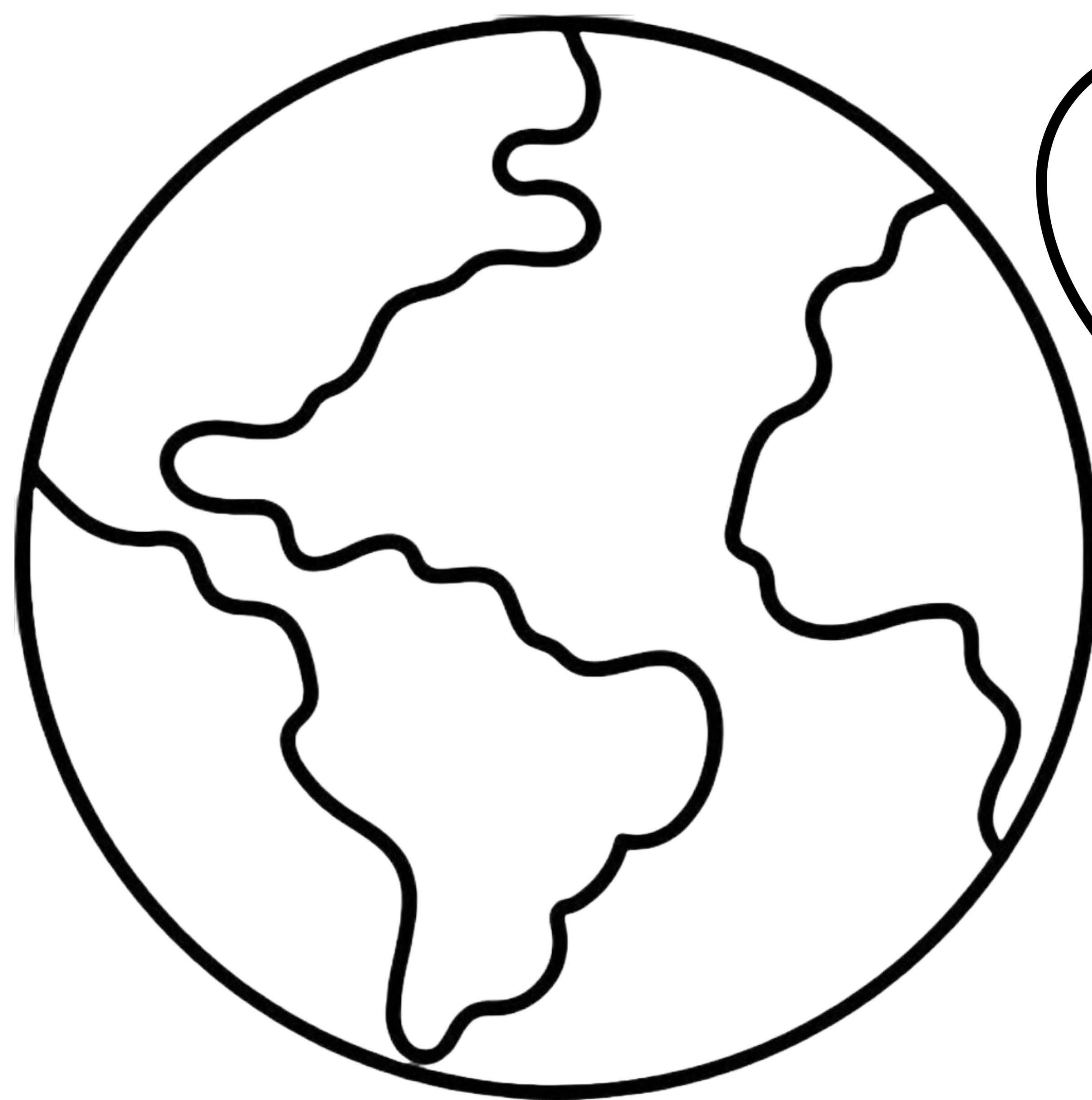
Glue the heart with the verse in the center of the world.

Attach the handprints on either side of the world, as if they are holding it.

The hands should overlap the edges slightly, giving the impression that the world is being embraced.

Discuss what it means: how much God loves every person in the world, that He gave His Son for us, and the promise of eternal life through belief in Jesus.





**“For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only
Son, that whoever believes
in him shall not perish but
have eternal life.”**



FOR GOD SO LOVED
THE WORLD...





“So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.”

Key Words: Hurried, baby and manger.

Materials Needed: Pencil, markers, crayons, colored pencils, glitter, or other decorations.

Activity 1 : Color by number

Show the child how the numbers on the picture correspond to specific colors. Each section of the picture has a number, and the child needs to color it with the crayon matching that number.

Once the child has finished coloring, discuss the completed picture.

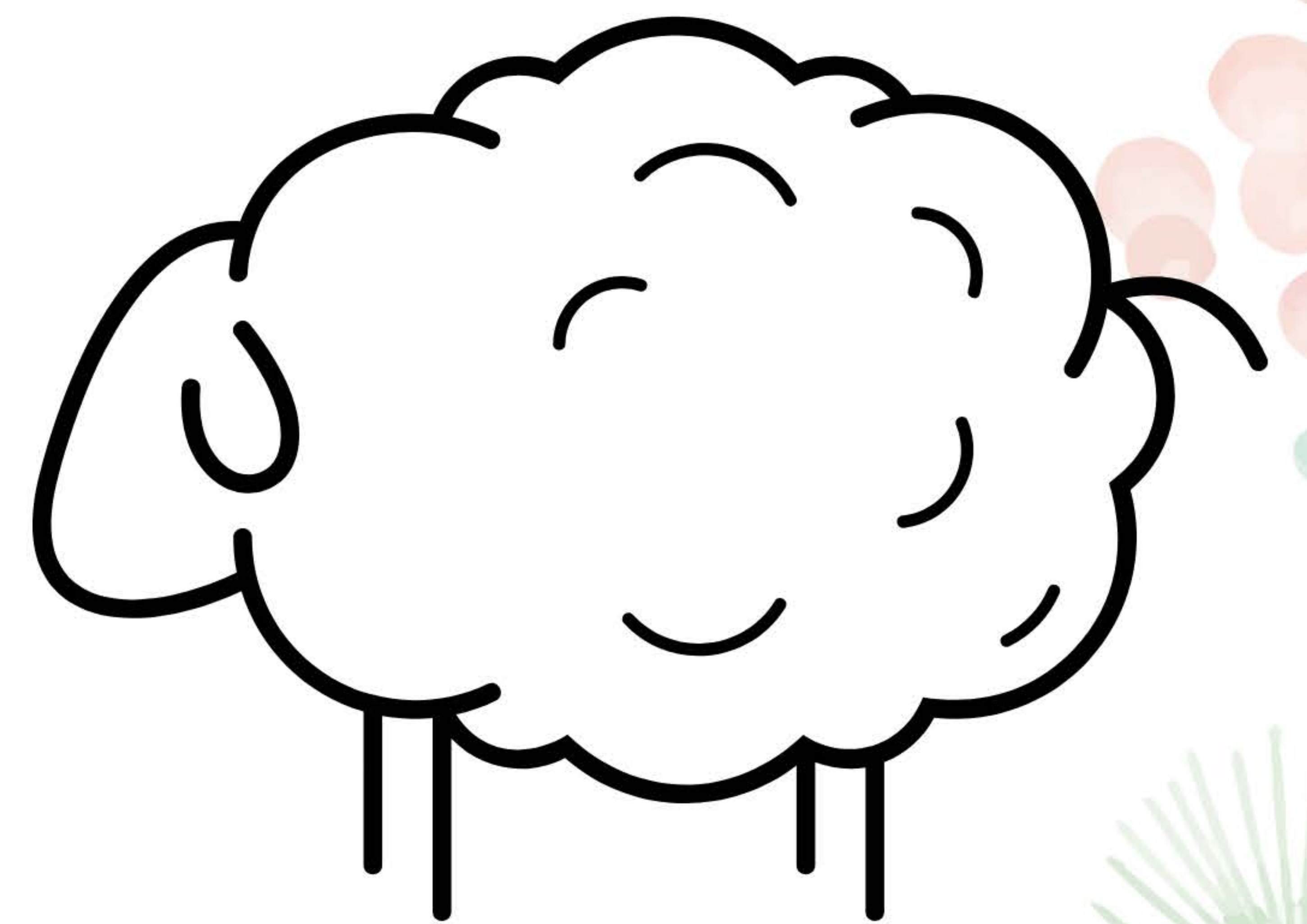
Ask the child to point out details, such as the manger, and the baby Jesus.

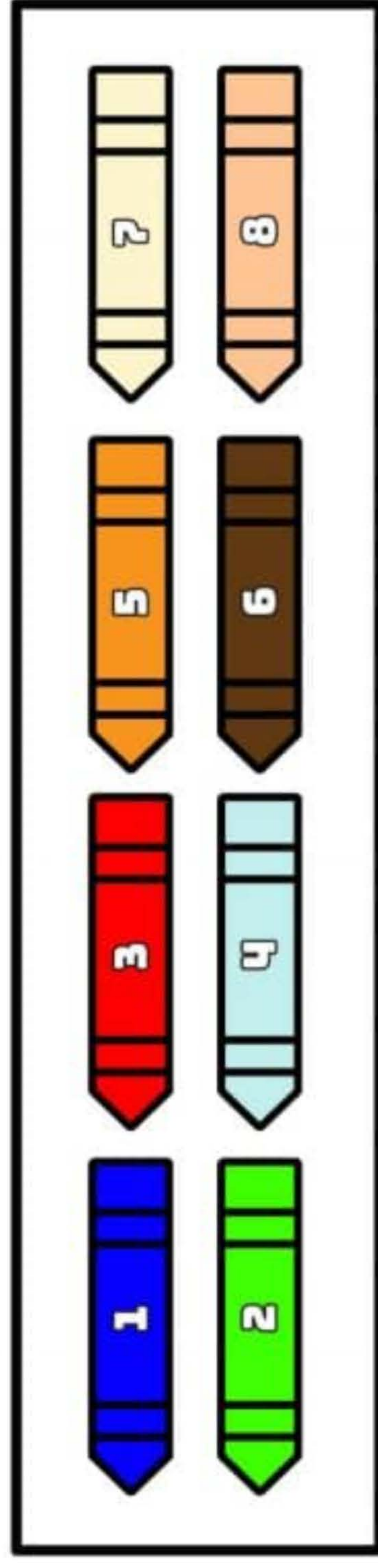
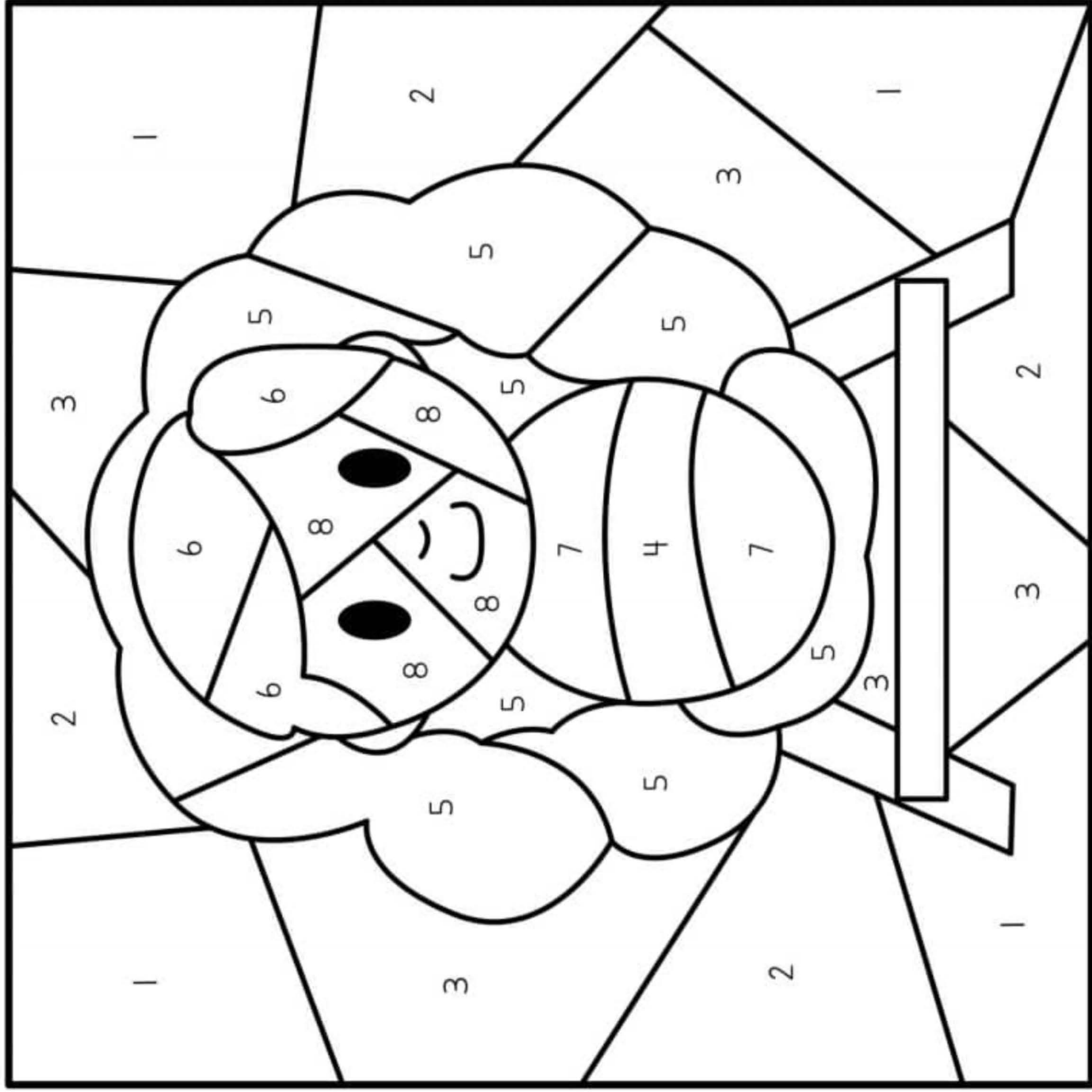
Remind them how important the shepherds were in the story of Jesus' birth, as they were among the first to meet baby Jesus.

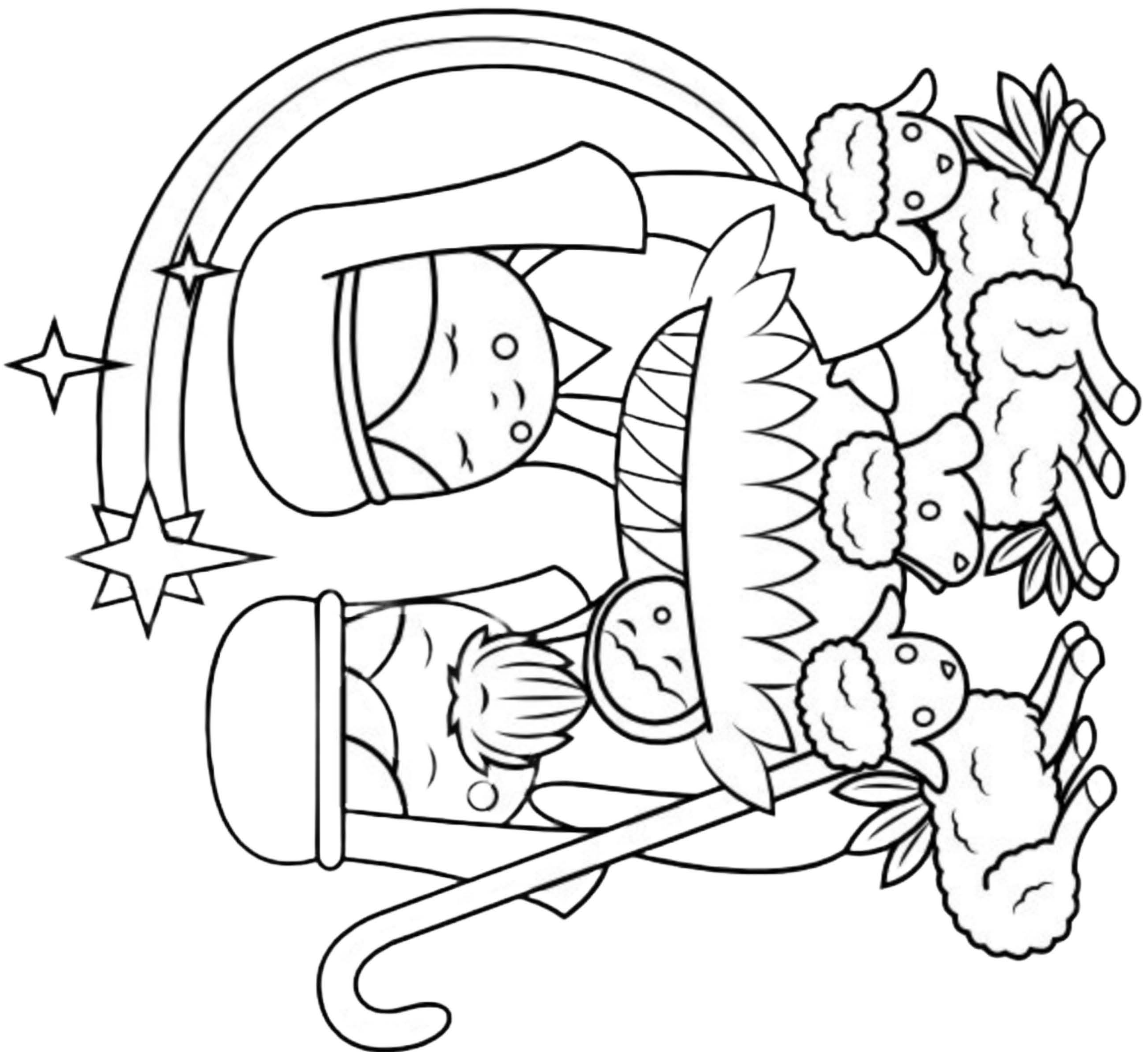
Activity 2: Color the family

Let the children decide which colors they would like to use, encourage them to be creative with their choices and let them have fun coloring.

This coloring activity helps children understand that Jesus came into the world in a very simple way, showing His love for everyone.



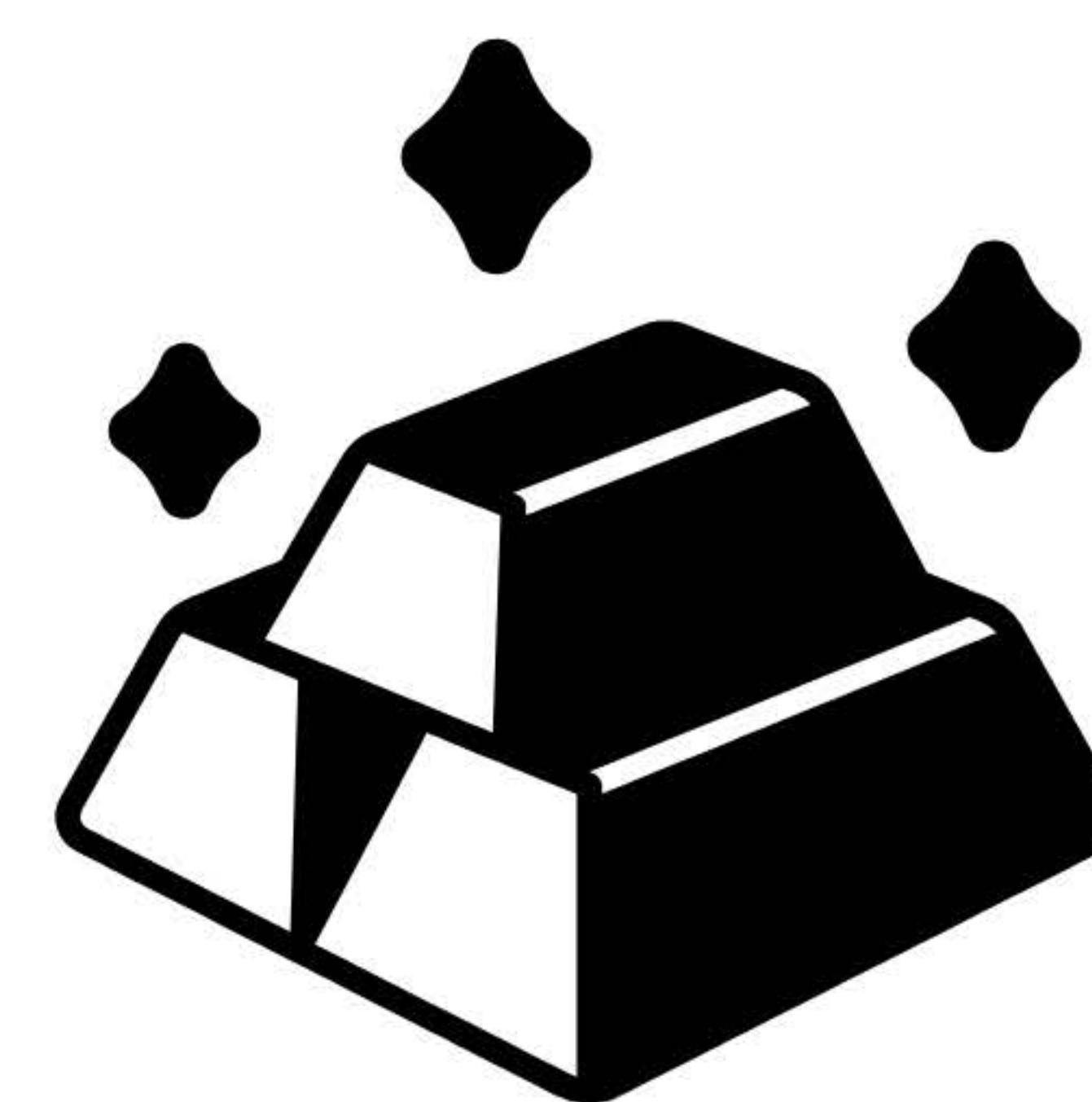






“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.”

Key words: Gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



Activity: Make Your Own Treasure Chest

Materials Needed: Printed treasure chest template, scissors, glue stick or tape, markers, crayons, or colored pencils (for decorating).

Instructions: Start by cutting along the solid black lines to remove the treasure chest template from the rest of the paper.

Fold along all the lines marked "Fold Here" and all parts along the dotted lines so that the chest begins to take shape. Apply glue or use tape to secure the flaps.

Use markers, crayons, or colored pencils to decorate your treasure chest.

Encourage the children to add fun designs.

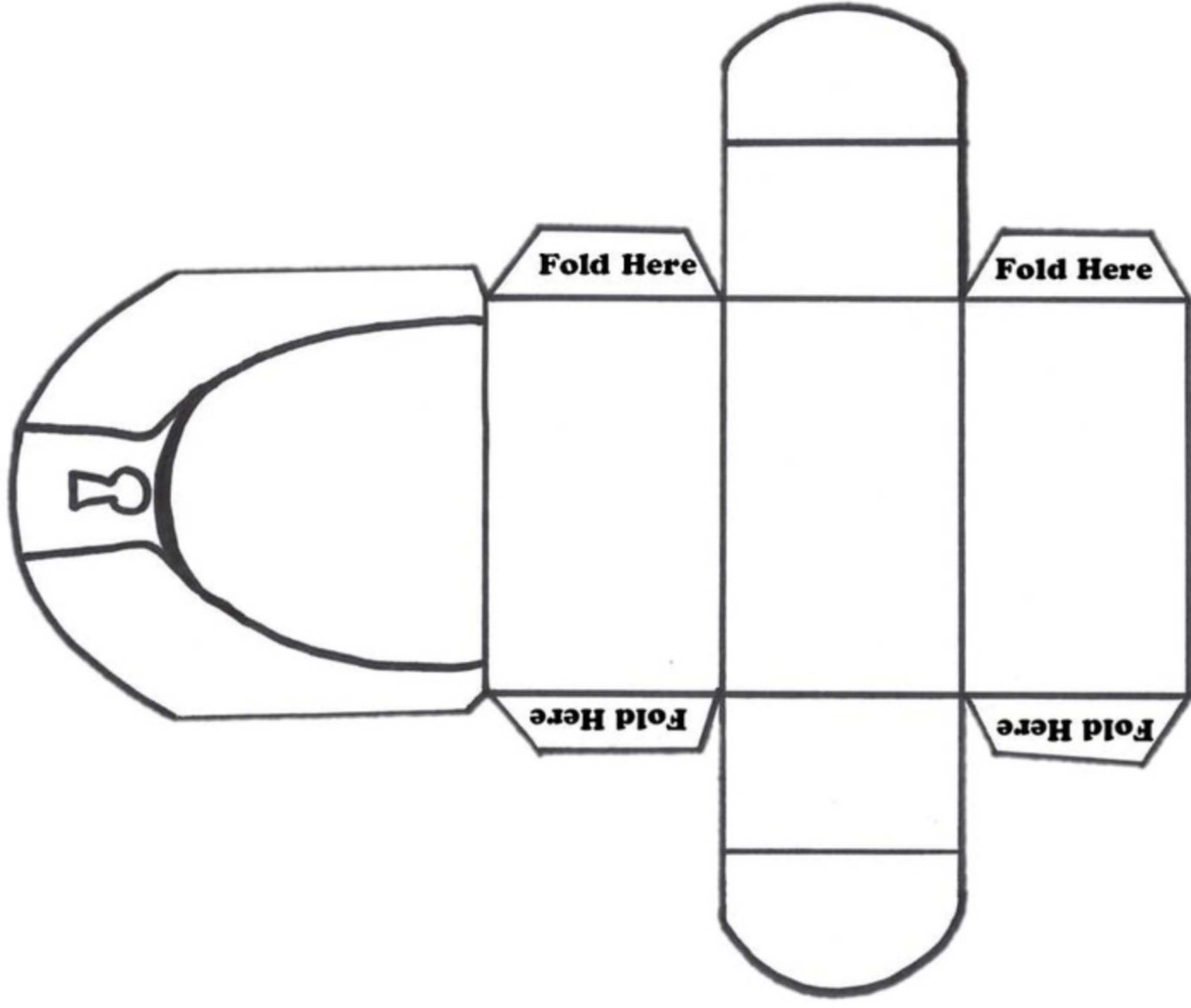
As the children decorate, discuss the gifts that the wise men brought to Jesus—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—and what they symbolize.

Ask them what kind of "gifts" they would like to give to Jesus, such as kindness, love, or helpfulness.

On small pieces of paper, ask children to draw or write gifts they would give to Jesus.

Place these papers inside the treasure chest, just as the wise men brought their gifts to Jesus.

Make Your Own Treasure Chest





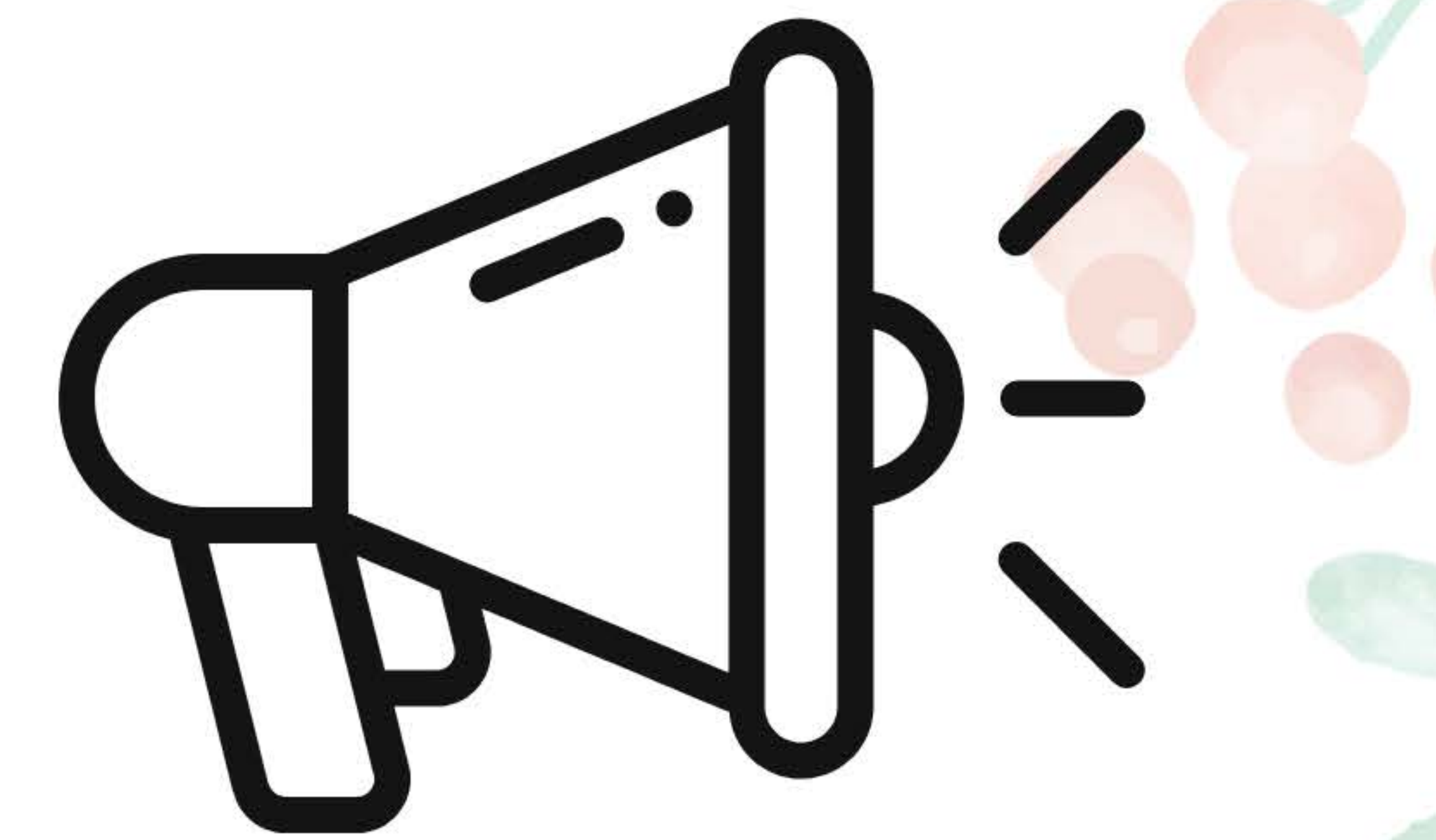
**“A voice of one calling:
“In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.”**

Activity: Make Your Own Megaphone

Materials Needed: Printed megaphone template, colored markers or paints, scissors, glue or tape, stickers or decorative items (optional)

Instructions: Start by cutting along the outer edge of the megaphone template, use colored markers, paints, or crayons to decorate the flat template. Once the template is decorated, roll the paper into a cone shape to create the megaphone form. Use glue or tape to secure the edges, making sure the handle is aligned properly. If the handle needs to be attached separately, use glue or tape to secure it at the base of the megaphone. This will make it easier for children to hold and use their megaphone.

Once the megaphone is complete, encourage children to use it to "announce" good news, just as John the Baptist did to prepare the way for Jesus. They can use phrases like "Jesus is born!" or "Glory to God!" to practice spreading positive messages.



Key Words:
way for the Lord.



**“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord.”**



Key Word: Praise

Activity: Paper Plate Tambourine

Materials Needed: 2 paper plates, stapler or glue, dry beans, rice, or small beads (for sound), markers or crayons, colorful ribbons (optional), hole puncher (optional for attaching ribbons)

Take one paper plate and write the verse from Psalm 150:6. Let the children decorate the paper plates with their favorite colors, music notes, or other fun shapes that represent praise and worship. Encourage them to be creative!

Put a small handful of dry beans, rice, or small beads on one of the plates. This will be the "shaker" part of the craft. Place the second paper plate upside down over the first one, like a lid. Make sure the edges are aligned. Use a stapler to seal the edges of the plates together. Make sure the staples are close enough to prevent the beans or rice from falling out.

Alternatively, you can use glue, but make sure to press firmly and let it dry completely before using the shaker. If you have colorful ribbons, use a hole puncher to make small holes around the edge of the plates.

Tie a few ribbons through the holes, letting them hang down for extra decoration. The ribbons will also create visual interest when the children shake the plates.

This activity helps children understand that praising God can be joyful and fun.

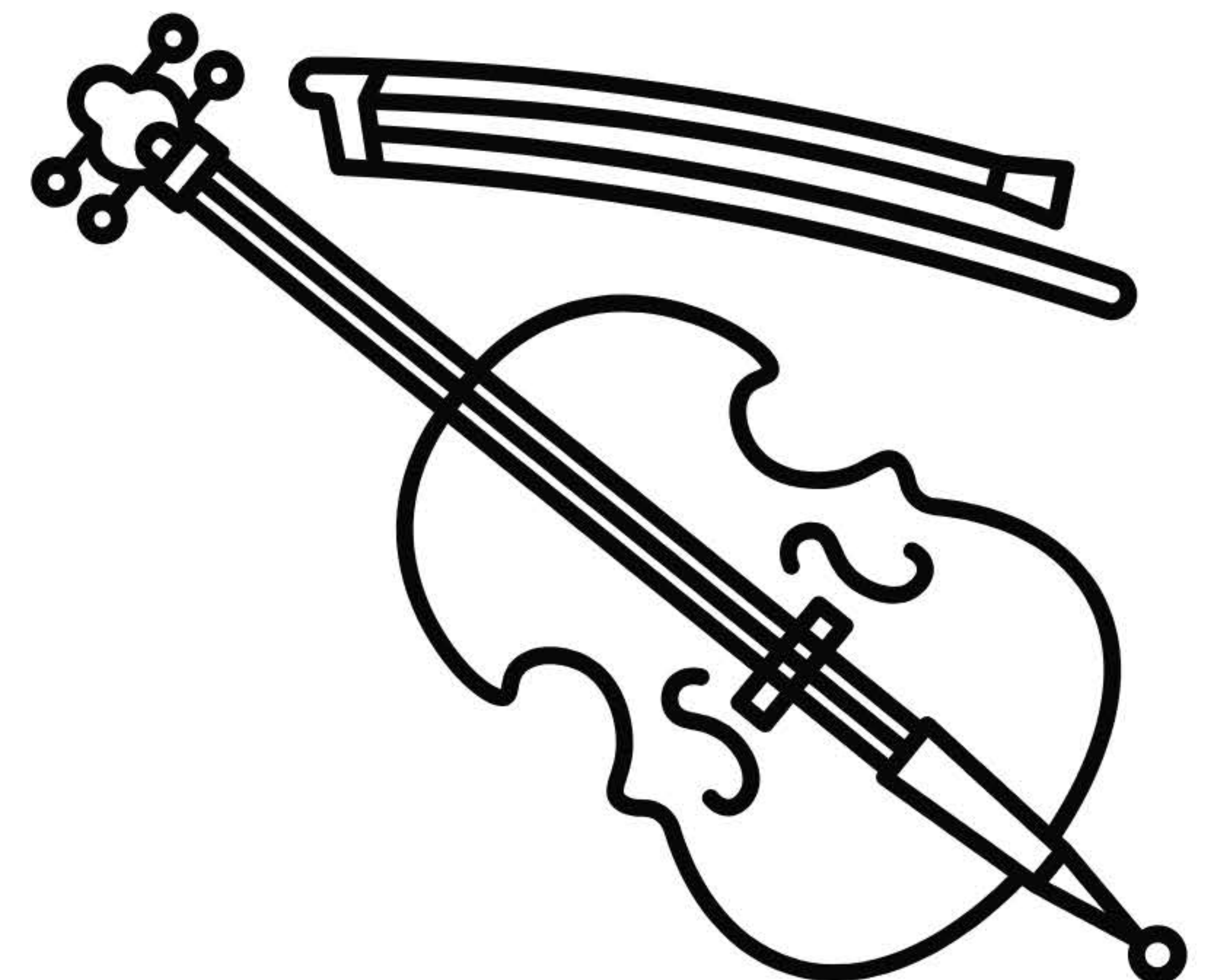
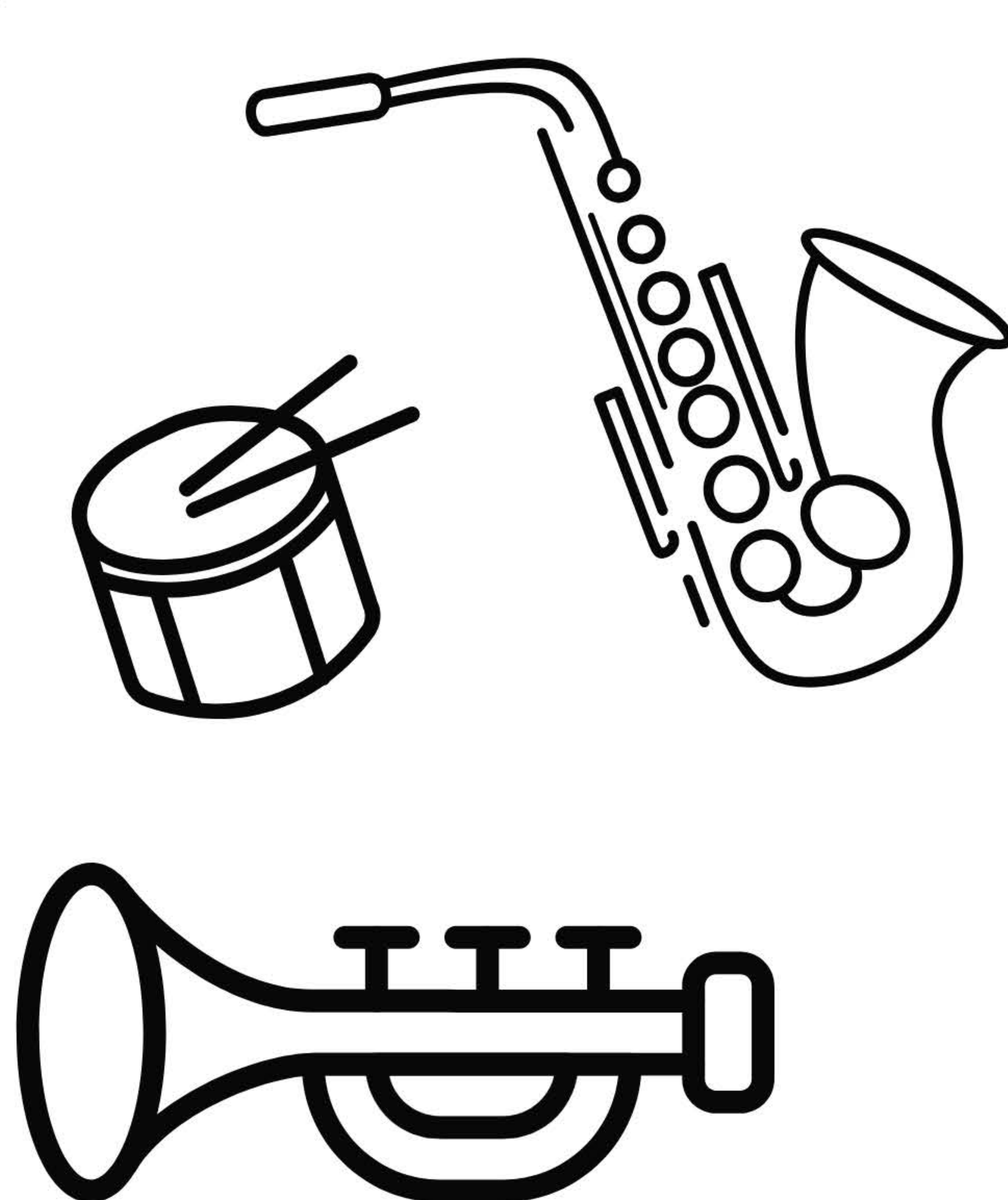
Paper Plate Tambourine

example:



Stickers

"Let everything that
has breath praise the
Lord.
Praise the Lord."





**“And Mary said:
“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,”**

Activity: Mary Paper Stand-Up Craft

Materials Needed: Printed copy of the Mary template (shown above), crayons, colored pencils, or markers, scissors, glue stick.

Start by coloring the figure of Mary. Carefully cut along the outline of the Mary figure and the base. Be sure to help younger children with this step or provide child-safe scissors.

Fold along the dotted lines to form the base that will allow Mary to stand up. Apply glue to the section labeled "Glue Here." Press the sides together gently and hold until the glue has set.

Use this craft as an opportunity to talk about Mary's acceptance of God's plan for her life and her joyful submission.



Key Words: Glorifies and rejoices.





“But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”

Key Words: Angel, Dream, Joseph, Holy Spirit

Activity 1: Joseph Paper Stand-Up Craft

Materials Needed: Printed copy of the Mary template (shown above), crayons, colored pencils, or markers, scissors, glue stick.

Start by coloring the figure of Joseph. Carefully cut along the outline of the Joseph figure and the base. Be sure to help younger children with this step or provide child-safe scissors.

Fold along the dotted lines to form the base that will allow Joseph to stand up. Apply glue to the section labeled "Glue Here." Press the sides together gently and hold until the glue has set.

Activity 2 : Angel Paper Craft

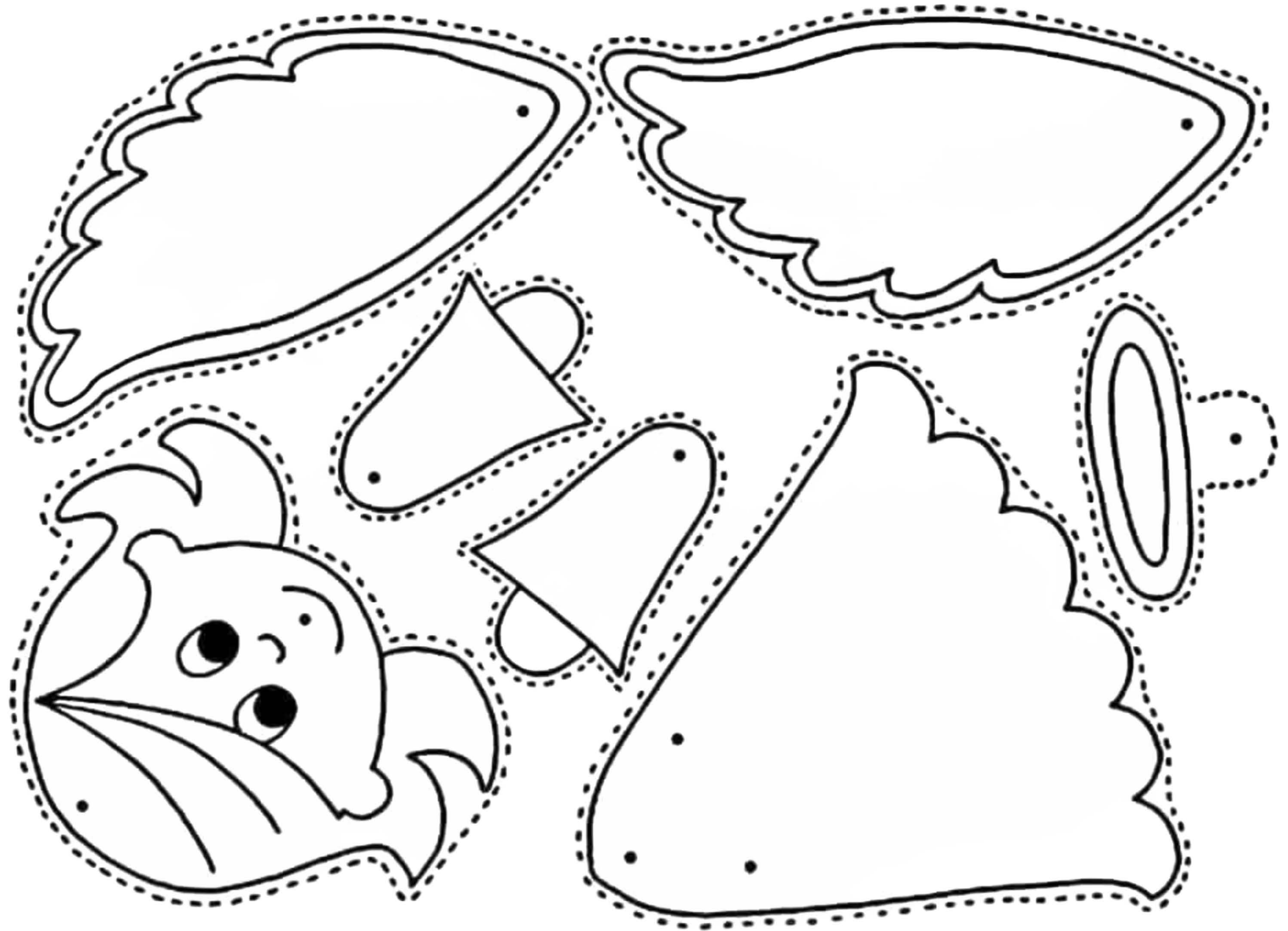
Materials Needed: Printed copy of the angel template, crayons, colored pencils, or markers, scissors, glue stick or double-sided tape, small brass fasteners (optional).

Begin by coloring all the pieces of the angel template with crayons, colored pencils, or markers. Carefully cut along the dotted lines to separate each part of the angel: the head, body, wings, arms, and base. Take the two larger pieces which form the body. Apply glue or double-sided tape along the edges where indicated.

Fold and attach the edges to form a cone-shaped body for the angel.

Glue the angel's head to the top of the body cone, attach the wings to the back of the body cone using glue or double-sided tape. If you want the wings to move, use small brass fasteners to create a pivot point. Attach the two small arm pieces to the side of the angel's body. Glue them in a way that the arms look like they are in a prayer position.

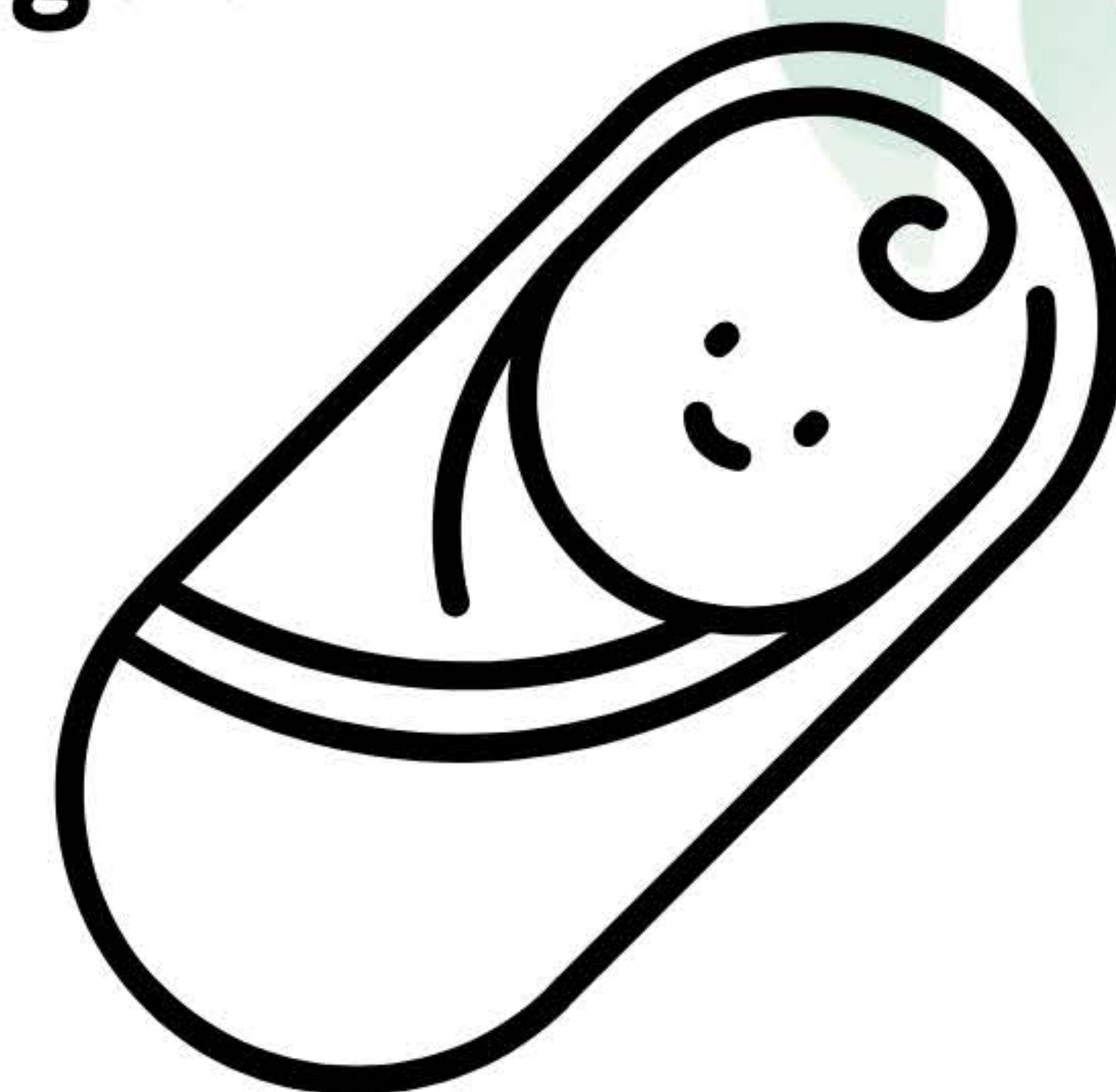






“This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Key Words: Baby, manger.



Activity 1: Find the differences

Materials Needed: Printed "Find the Differences" worksheet (both nativity scenes), crayons, colored pencils, or markers.

Examine Both Images, there are several small differences between the two images. Try to find each difference by comparing them side by side.

When you find a difference, circle it or mark it with an "X" so you can keep track of all the differences you've found.

Activity 2: Baby Jesus Ornament

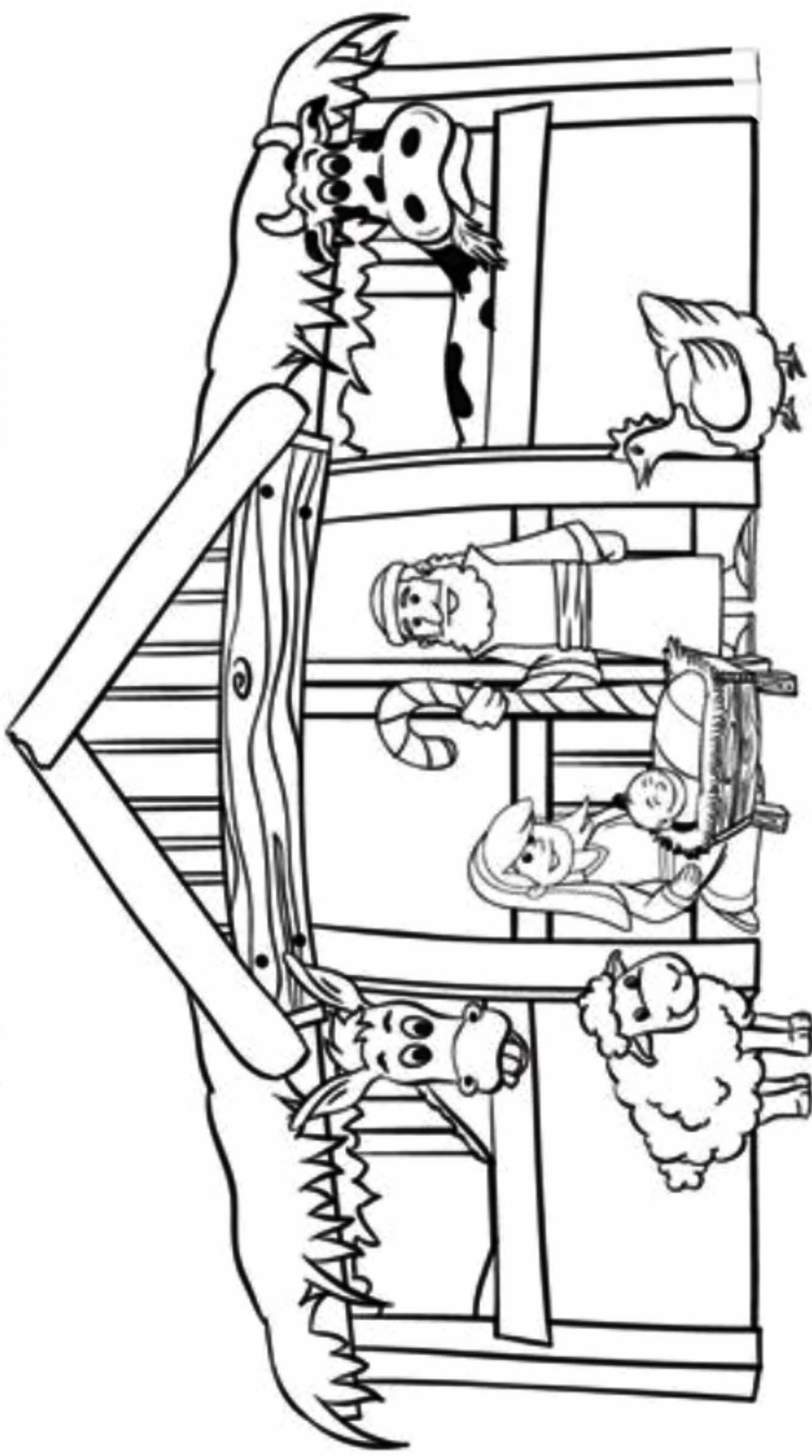
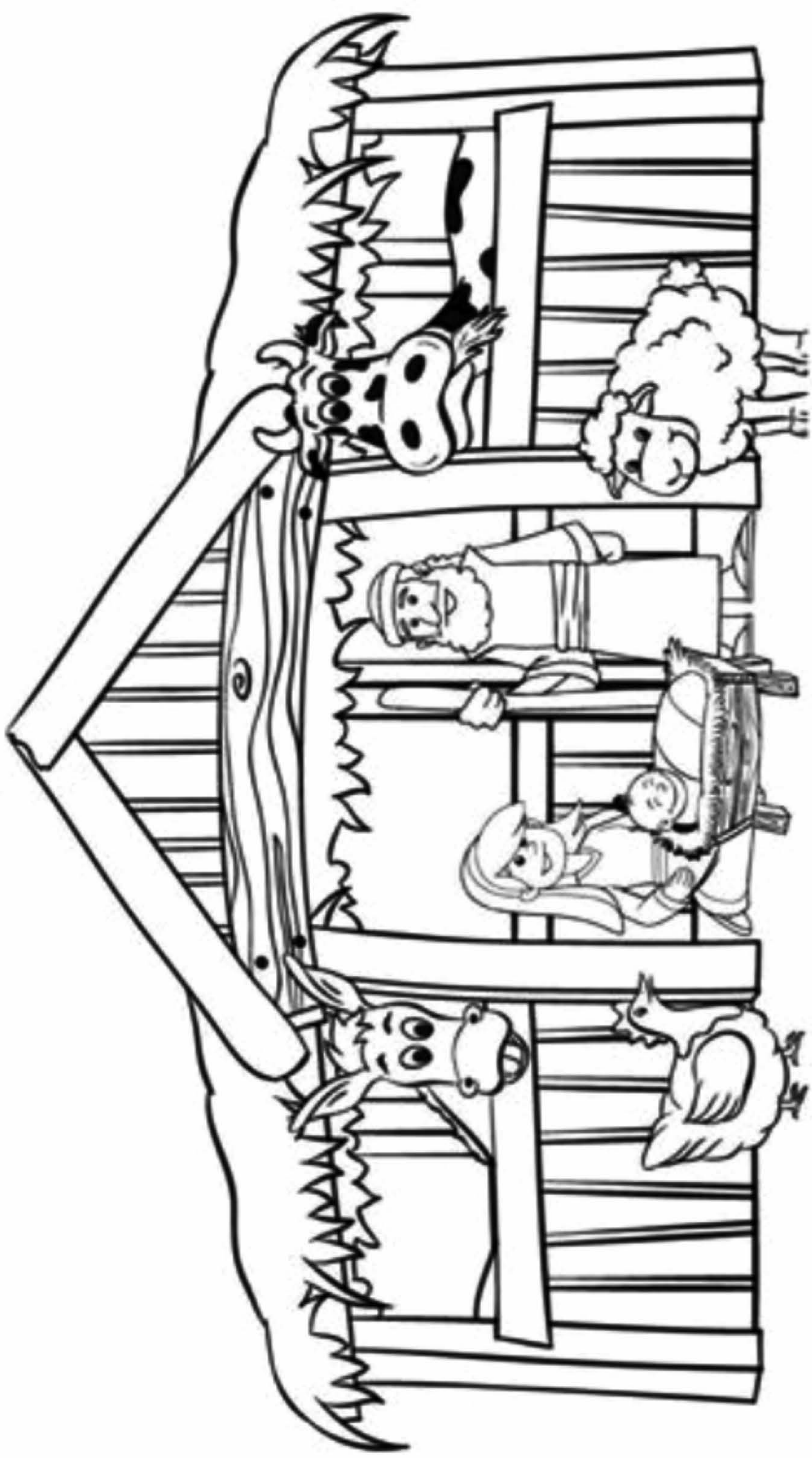
Materials Needed: Printed template of the wreath and the nativity scene, crayons, colored pencils, or markers, scissors, glue stick or craft glue, string or ribbon.

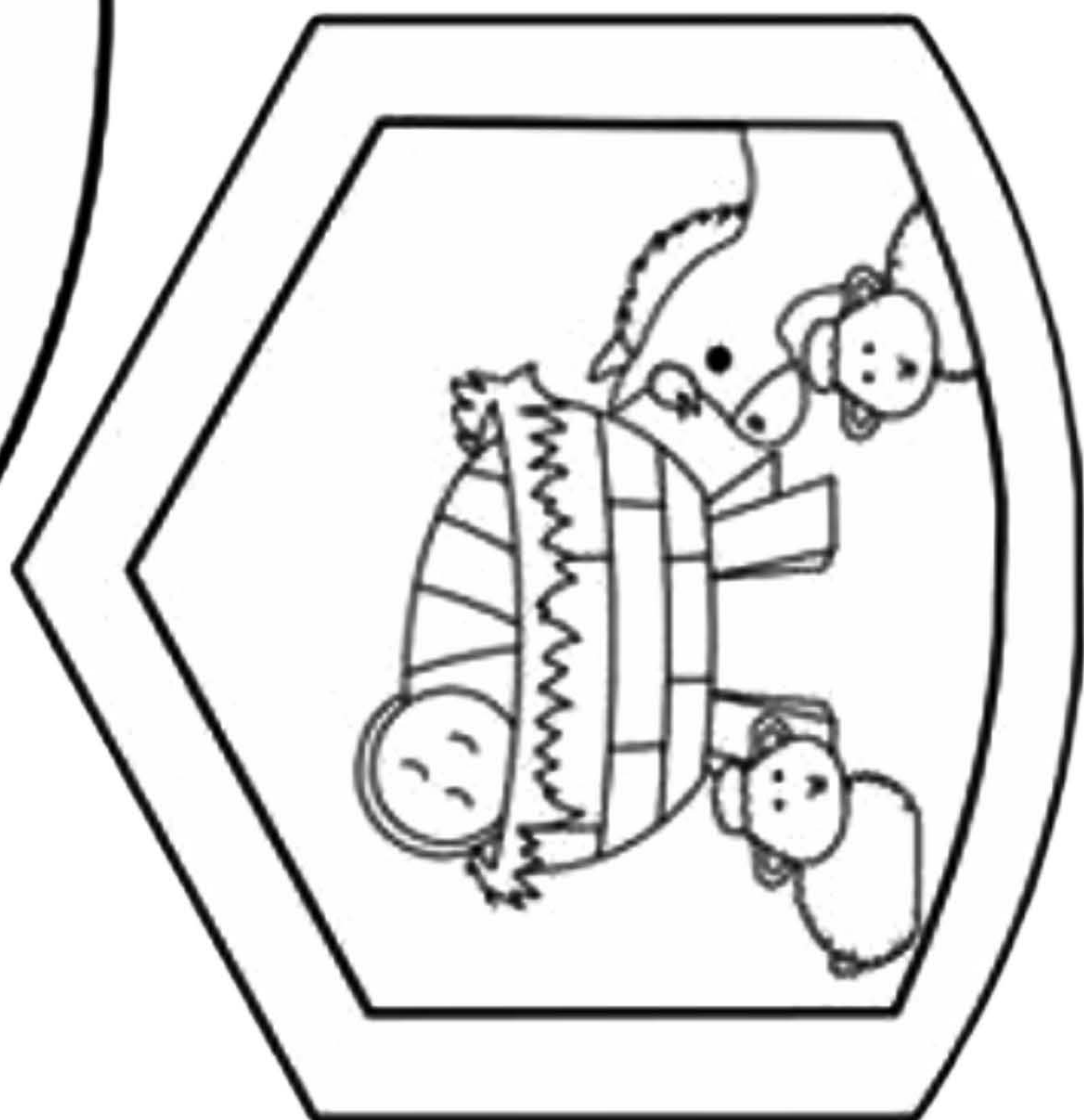
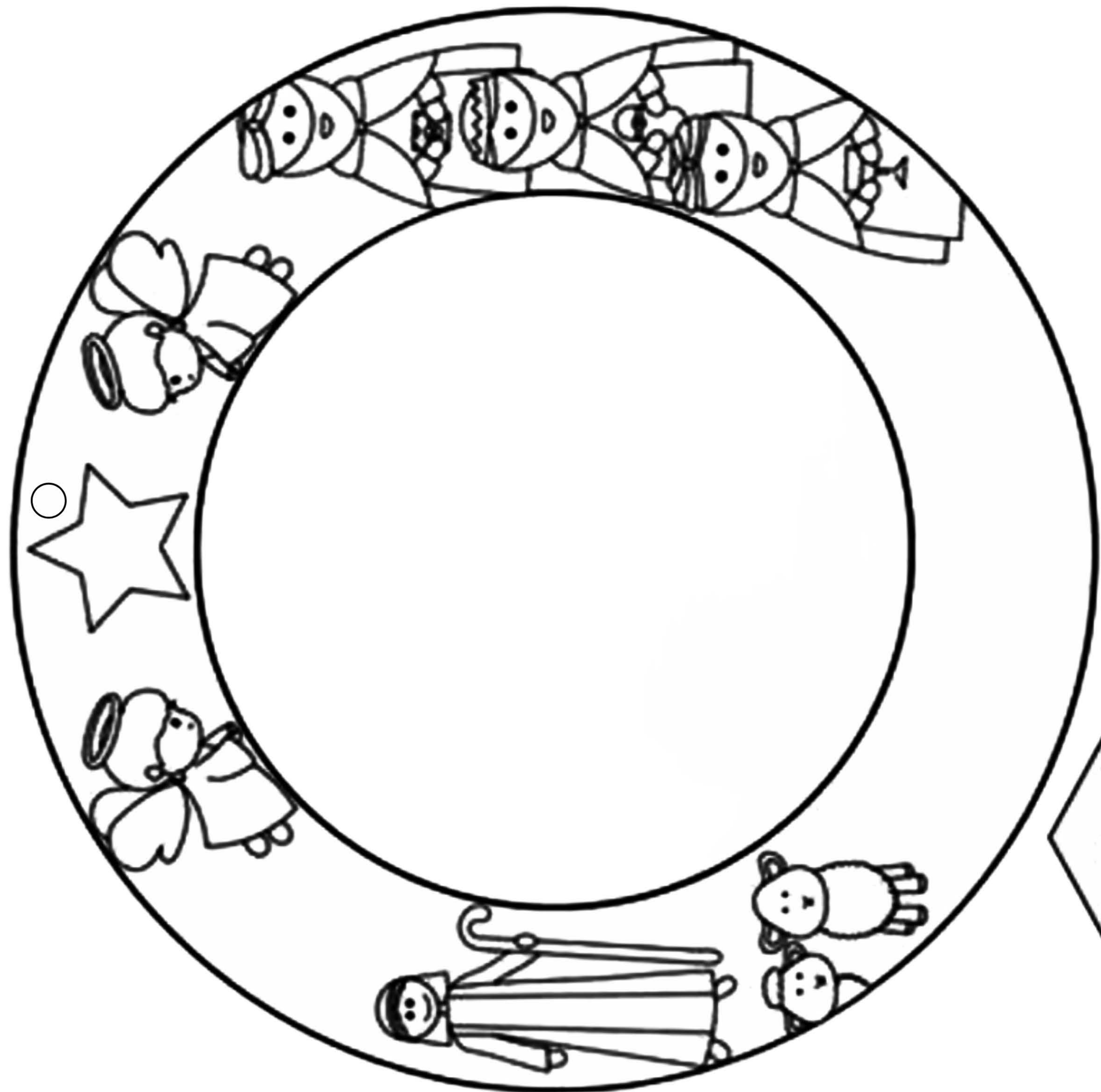
Begin by coloring the wreath template. Carefully cut along the outer edges of the wreath and the middle circle of the wreath to create an opening.

Once all the pieces are colored and cut, glue the nativity scene piece onto the back of the wreath so that it shows through the opening in the middle.

If you want to hang the wreath, punch a small hole at the top and loop a piece of string or ribbon through it to create a hanger.

Find the differences







“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

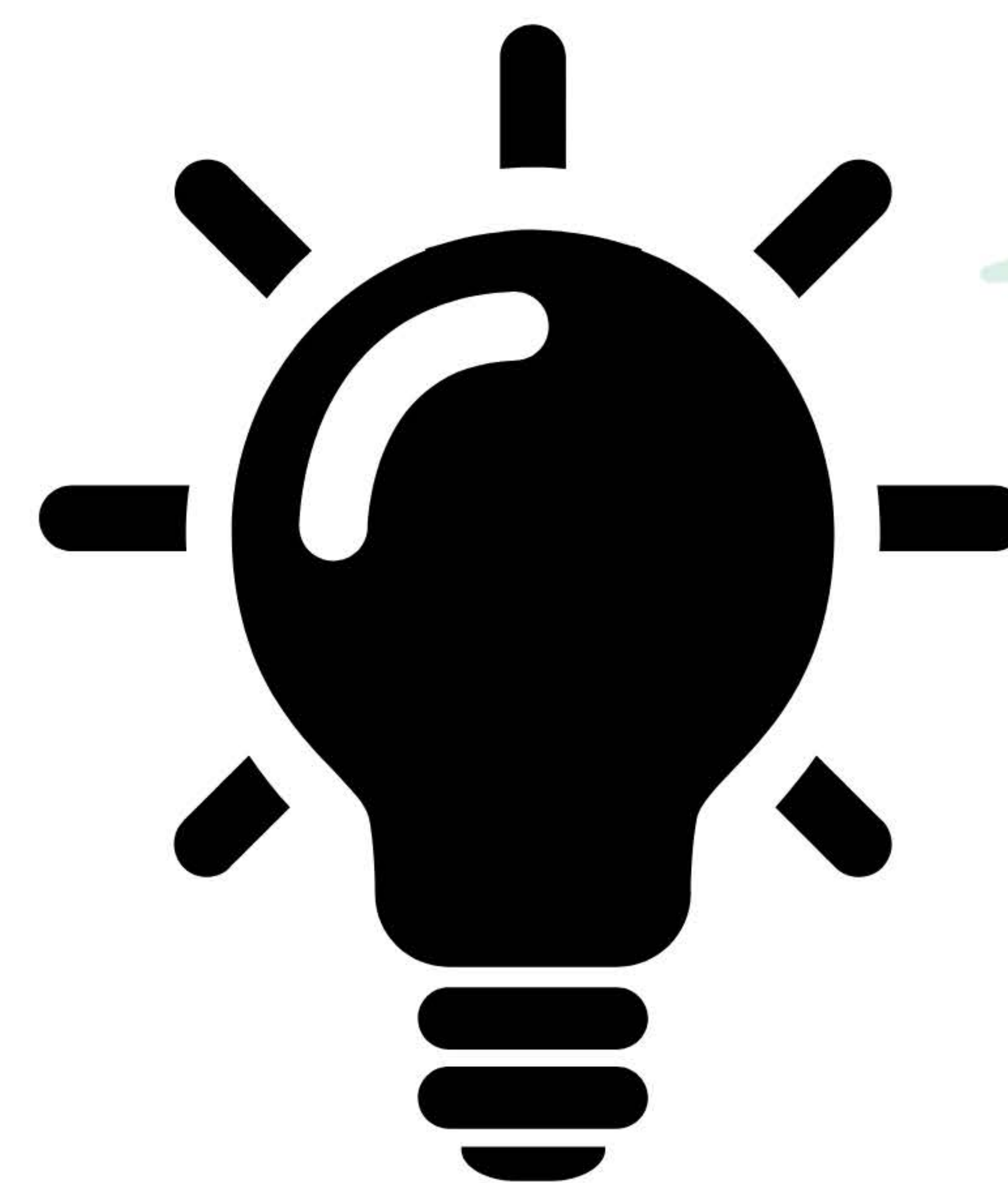
Activity: Jesus is my lamp.

Materials Needed: Printed worksheet, scissors, glue stick, crayons or markers.

Let the child use crayons or markers to color each of the pieces on the page, carefully cut out each shape along the bold lines. Help the child arrange the cut-out pieces to form the final image. The half-circle piece represents a lamp, and the rectangular piece represents the light base. The oval piece will be the "flame."

Once everything is arranged, apply glue to each piece and attach them in place, forming a "lamp."

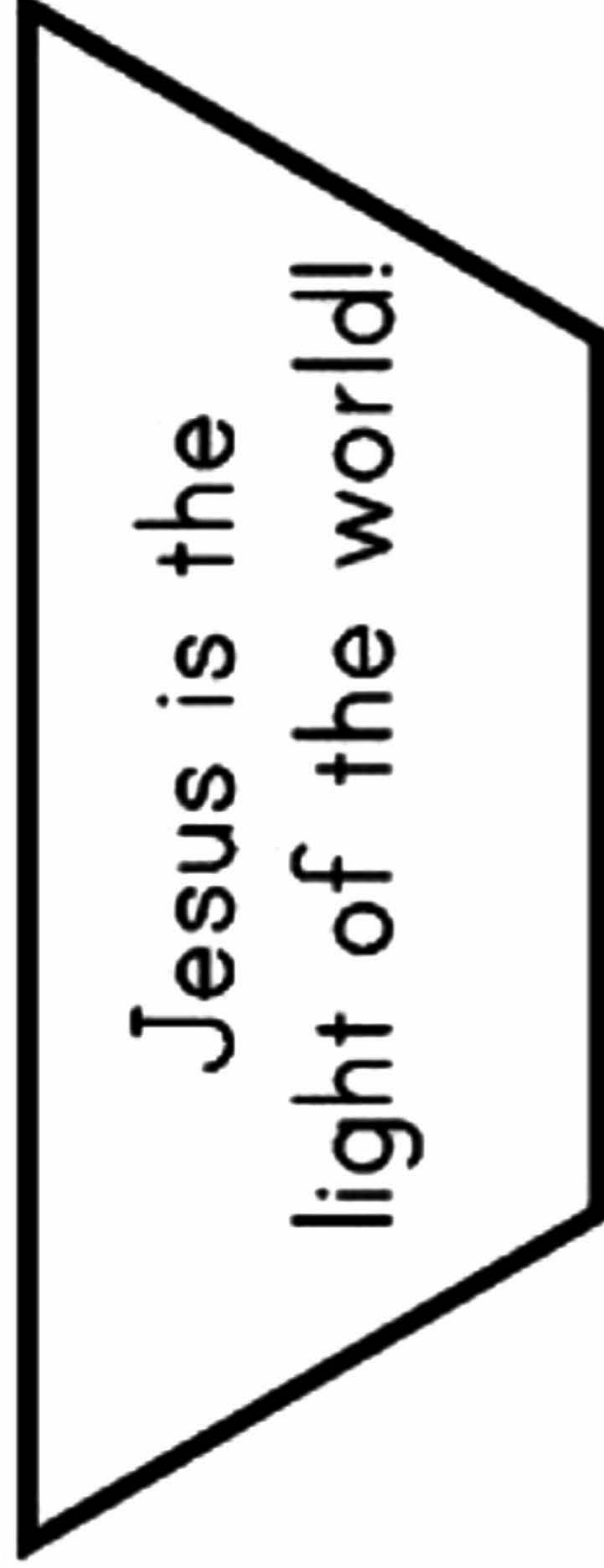
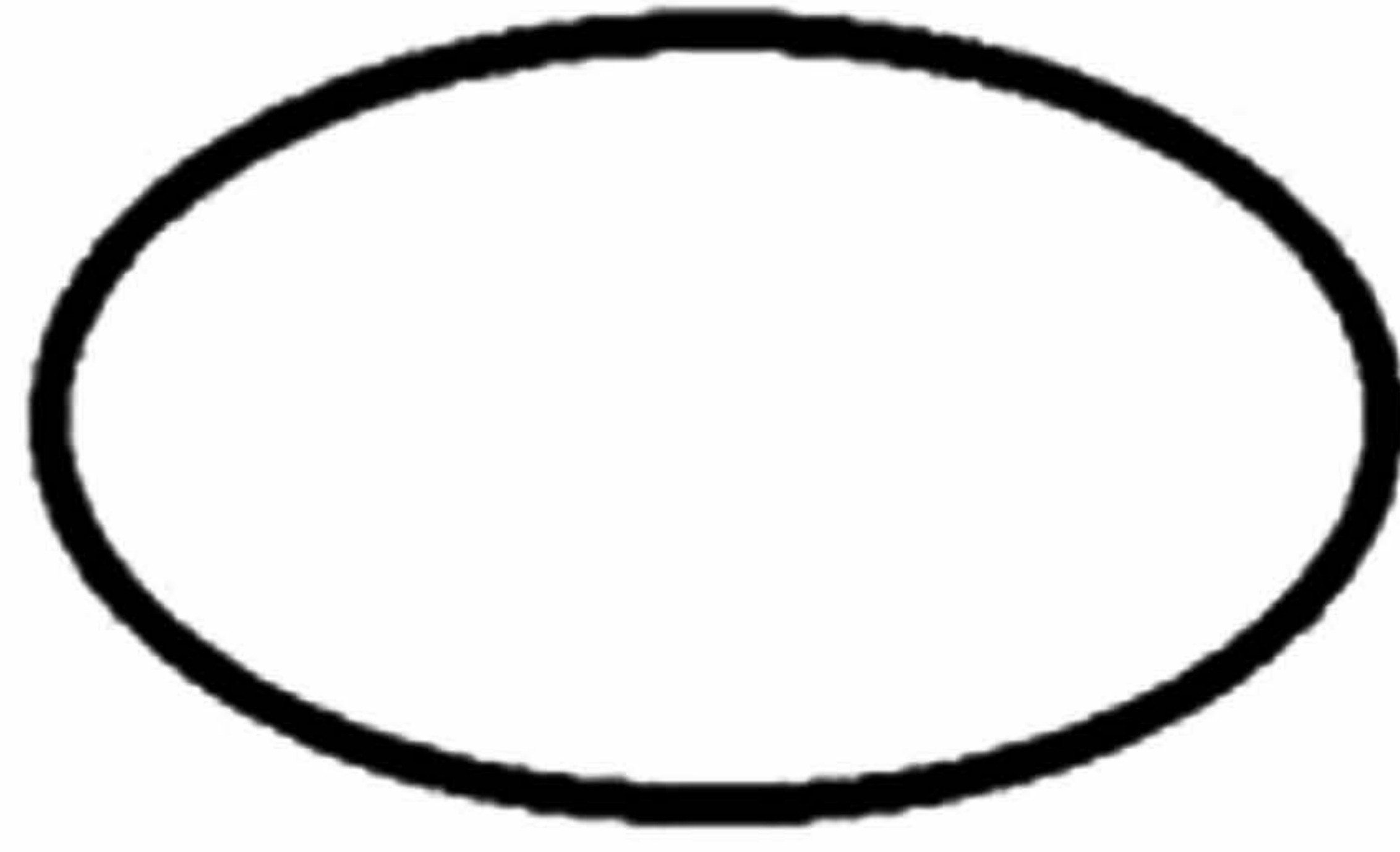
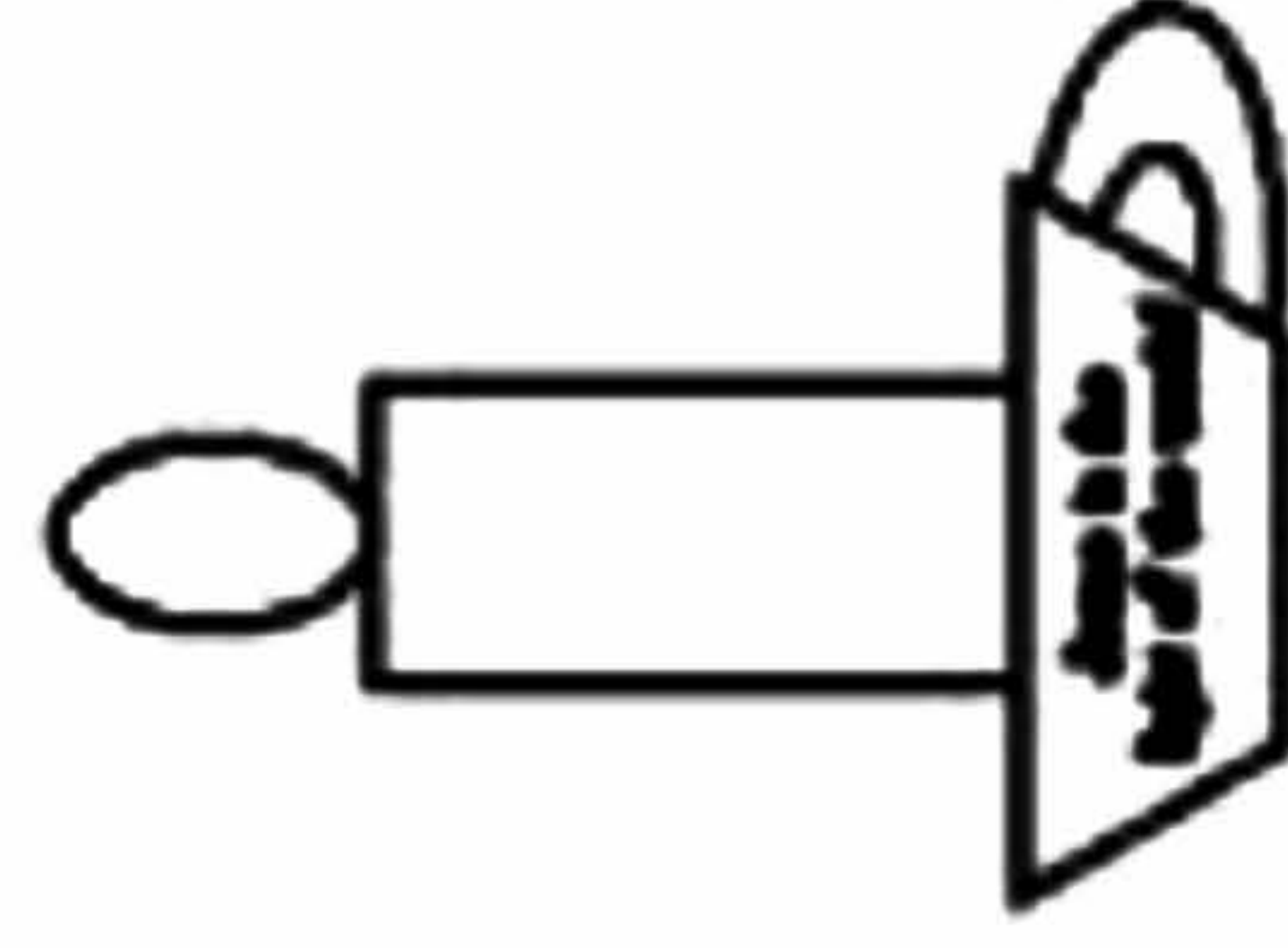
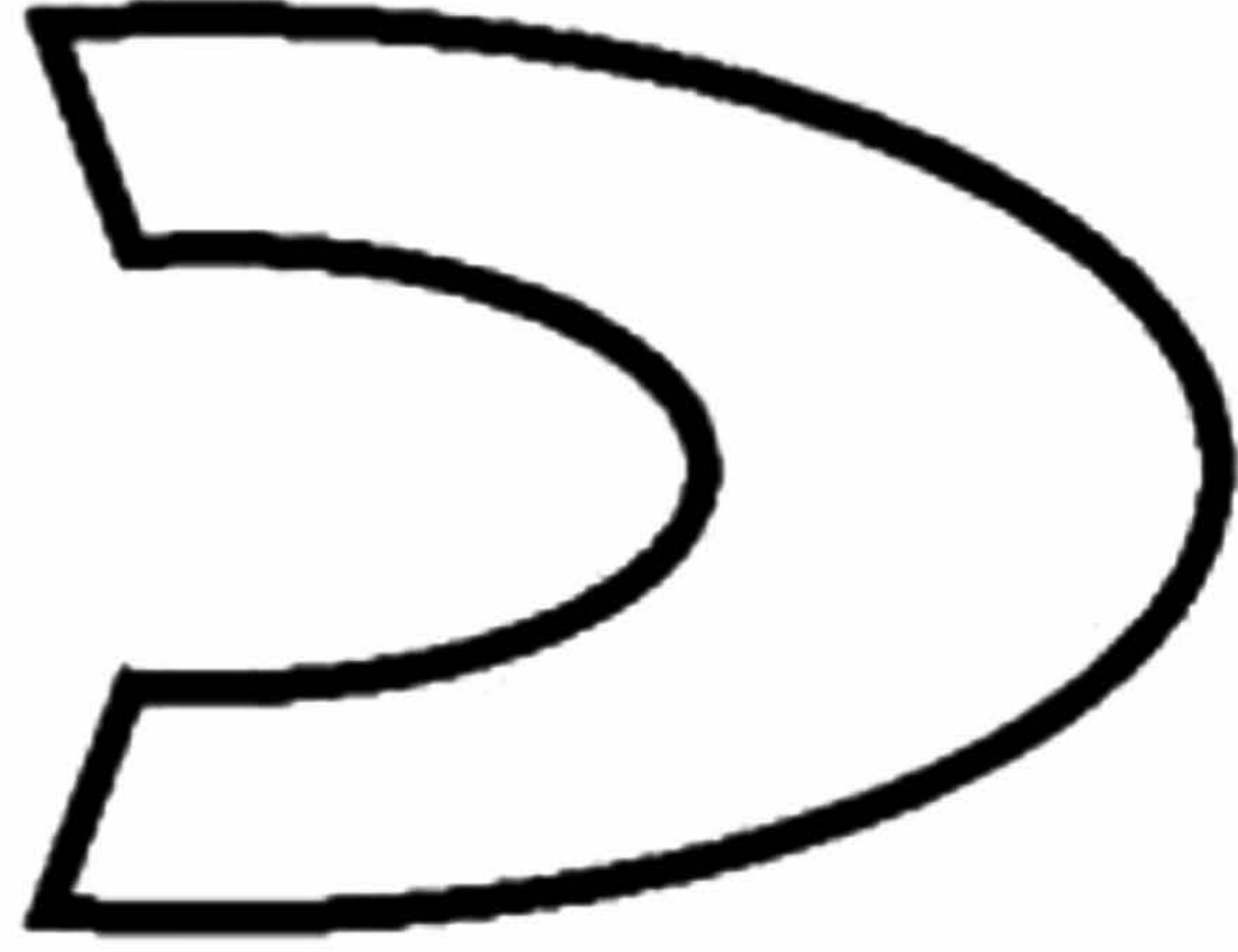
Talk to your child about how Jesus is the light of the world and how His light guides us. You can use this craft as a visual reminder that Jesus' light shines bright, even in the darkest places.



Key Words: Light of the world

Jesus is the Light of the World

Cut and Paste





The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Activity: Shepherd Puppets

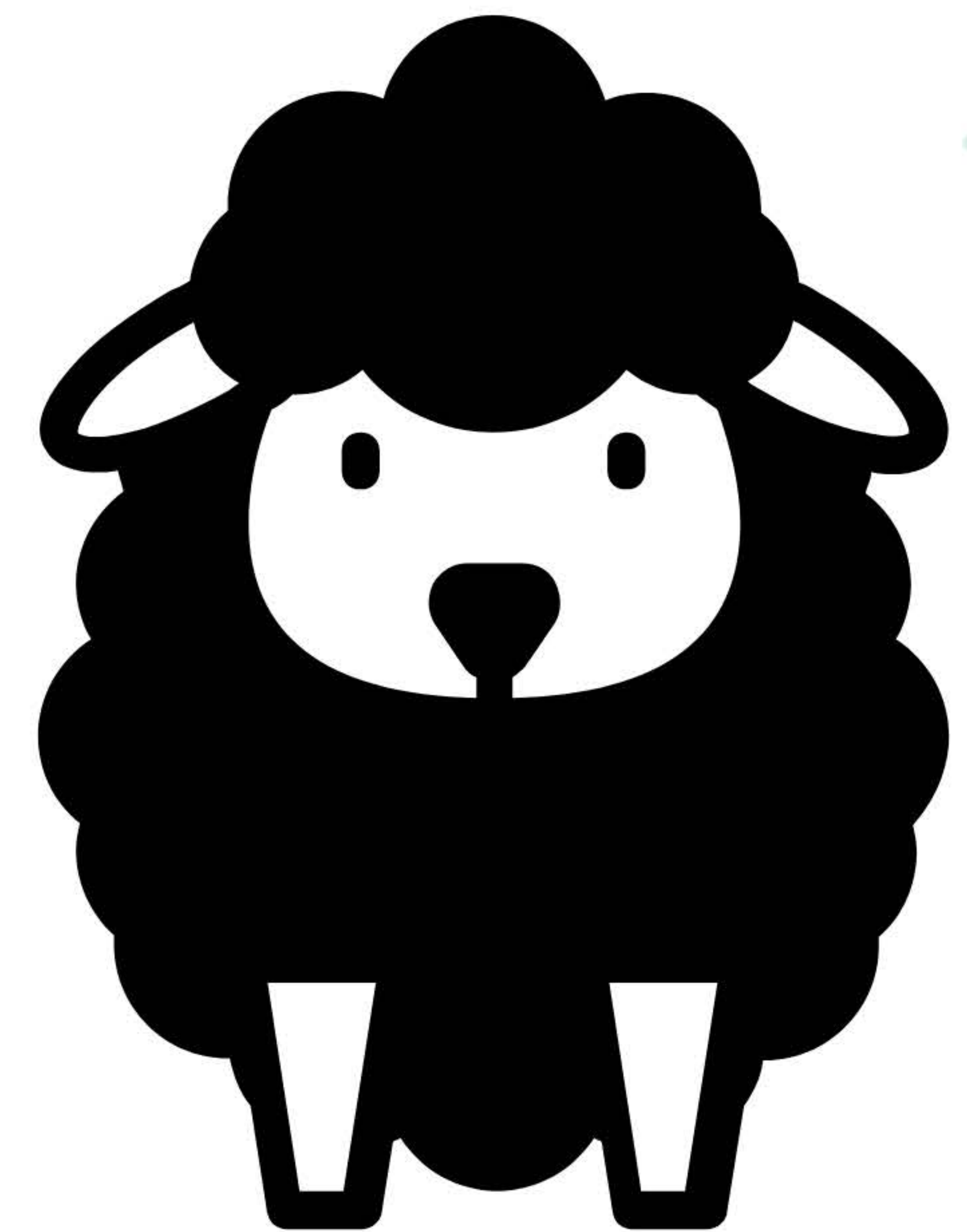
Materials Needed: Printed shepherd figures, crayons, markers, or colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, wooden craft sticks (optional for puppet handles)

Have your child color the shepherd figures using crayons, markers, or colored pencils. They can make the shepherds' robes colorful and add details like beards or staff decorations.

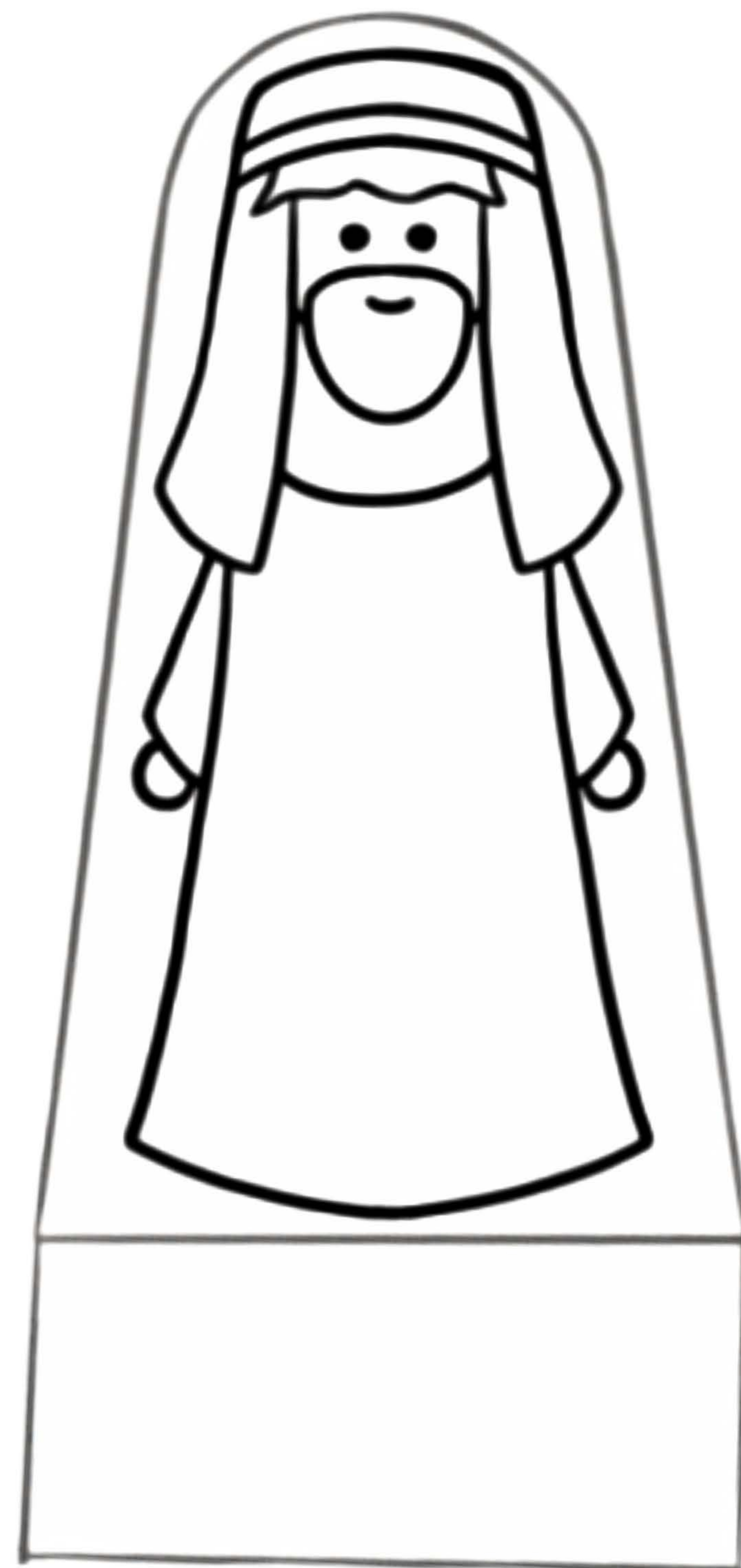
Carefully cut along the outline of each shepherd figure. Make sure to follow the lines closely so the puppets have a nice shape.

Fold the bottom rectangle of each figure along the line to form a base that allows the shepherd to stand upright. Use glue or tape to secure the flap to the back, creating a stable base for each shepherd.

If you'd like to use the shepherds as stick puppets, attach a wooden craft stick to the back of each figure with glue or tape. This will make it easier for children to move the shepherds around as they act out the story.



Key Words: Shepherds and praise.





“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Key Words: Hope, joy and peace.

Activity 1: Color the world

Let the children decide which colors they would like to use, encourage them to be creative with their choices and let them have fun coloring.

Activity 2: Hope Jar

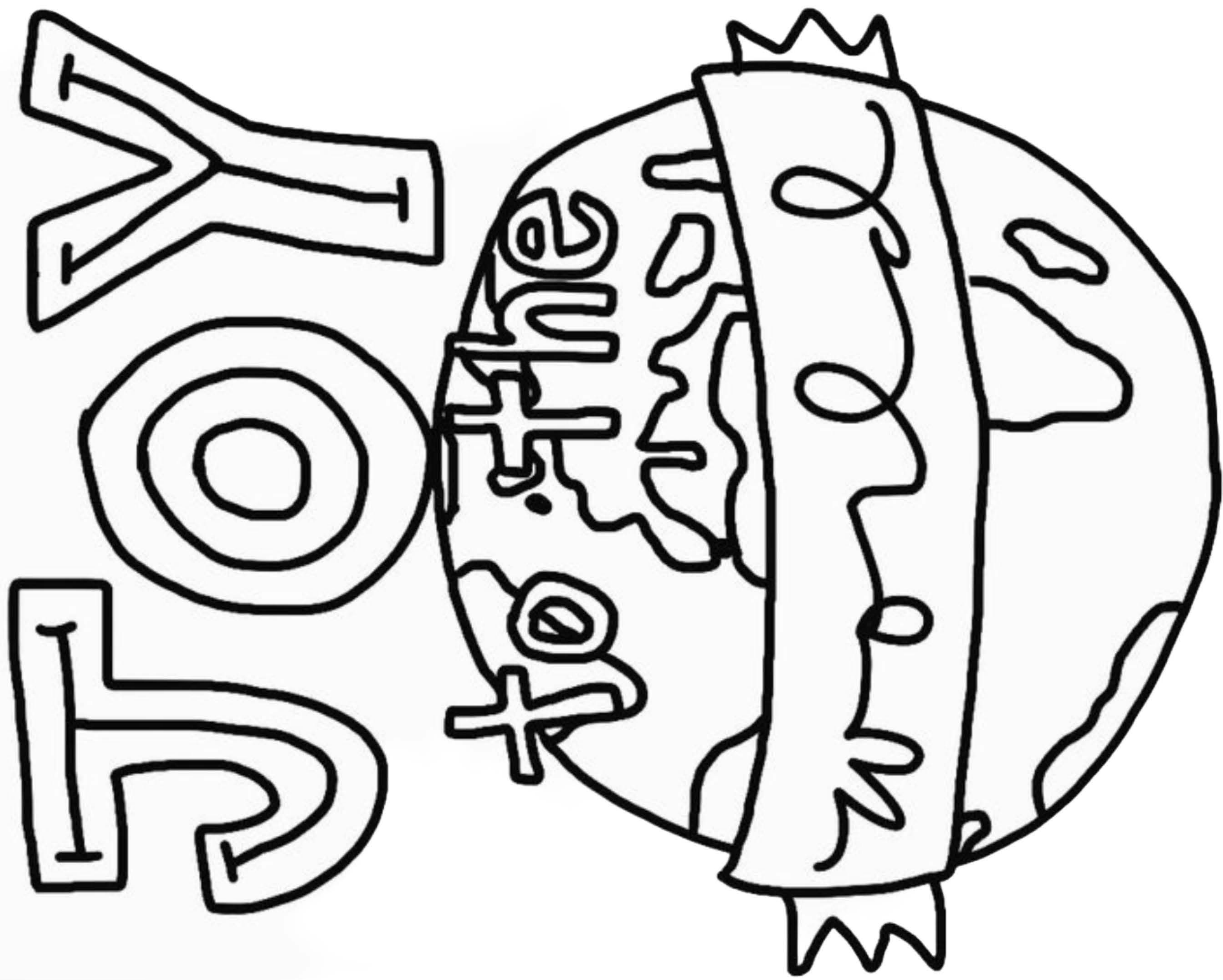
Materials Needed: A clean jar or plastic container, small strips of paper (colorful ones are ideal), markers or crayons, stickers or decorative items, glue.

Have your child decorate the outside of the jar with stickers, markers, or other craft items. On each strip of paper, have your child write or draw something hopeful or joyful. It could be a Bible verse, something they are thankful for, or a picture that makes them happy.

If they need help, parents can write messages like, "God loves me," or "I am never alone," and have the child decorate the paper.

Fold each strip of paper and put it into the jar. The goal is to fill the jar with as many hopeful thoughts as possible.

Encourage your child to pick a strip from the jar each day and read it. This activity will serve as a reminder of the hope, joy, and peace God gives us.



Here are some examples for you to get inspired





“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Christmas is a time to celebrate Jesus' birth, the greatest gift we have received. Just as Jesus commanded His disciples to share His love with all nations, Christmas gives us the opportunity to share the good news with those around us. Whether it is through acts of kindness, words of encouragement, or helping others, we can follow Jesus' command to "make disciples of all nations." Remember, Jesus is always with us, and His love knows no boundaries. Let this Christmas be a time when we not only celebrate His birth but also actively share His love and kindness with those around us.



Key Words: Always with you, go and make disciples.

Activity: Christmas Cookie Blessing

Objective: Encourage children to share the love of Jesus by baking cookies and delivering them to friends or neighbors, along with a verse about Jesus and the true meaning of Christmas.

Instructions:

Bake Cookies:

Gather the children and bake Christmas cookies together. Let them use cookie cutters to create shapes like stars or hearts that represent the love and light of Jesus.

Decorate:

Once the cookies have cooled, decorate them with icing or sprinkles to make them festive and special.

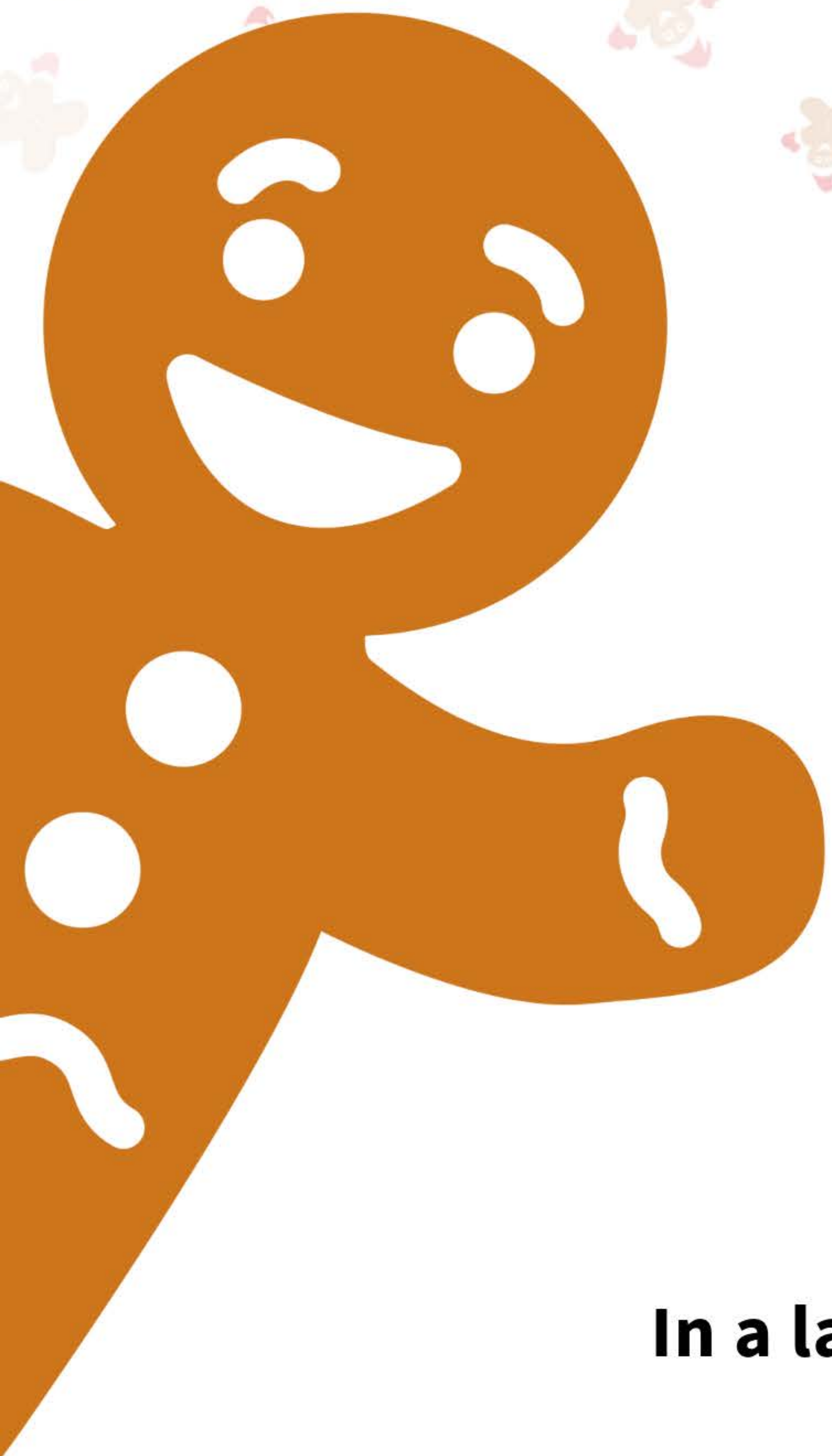
Prepare Gift Packages:

Place a few cookies in a decorative bag or box.

Attach a printed or hand-written Bible verse about Jesus and the meaning of Christmas to each package. Use ribbon or string to tie it securely.

Deliver with Love:

Go out with the children to deliver the cookies to friends, neighbors, or family members. As you hand them out, encourage the children to say a kind word or wish them a Merry Christmas, sharing the joy of Jesus.



Gingerbread Cookie Recipe Ingredients:

**2 cups of all-purpose flour
1/2 cup of margarine
1 egg
1 cup of brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
Sprinkles (for decoration)**

These cookies are a tradition at Ensino Bilin, and they are perfect for making with children, creating fun memories while spreading the Christmas spirit!

In a large bowl, cream together the margarine and brown sugar until smooth.

Add the egg and mix well until fully combined.

Add the flour, ground cinnamon, ground ginger, baking powder, and salt. Mix everything until you get a firm, consistent dough.

Wrap the dough in plastic wrap and refrigerate for about 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F).

Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to about 0.5 cm thick.

Use Christmas-themed cookie cutters to cut the dough into fun shapes.

Place the cookies on a greased or parchment-lined baking sheet.

Bake for about 10 to 12 minutes, or until the edges of the cookies are lightly golden.

Let the cookies cool completely before decorating with your choice of toppings.

Receita de Gingerbread Cookies

Ingredientes:

2 xícaras de farinha de trigo

1/2 xícara de margarina

1 ovo

1 xícara de açúcar mascavo

1 colher de chá de canela em pó

1 colher de chá de gengibre em pó

1 colher de chá de fermento em pó

1 colher de chá de sal

Confeitos (para decorar)

Esses biscoitos são uma tradição do Ensino Bilin, e são perfeitos para fazer com crianças, criando memórias divertidas enquanto se espalha o espírito de Natal!

Modo de Fazer:

Em uma tigela grande, misture a margarina e o açúcar mascavo até formar um creme homogêneo.

Acrescente o ovo e misture bem até incorporar.

Adicione a farinha de trigo, a canela em pó, o gengibre em pó, o fermento e o sal. Misture tudo até obter uma massa firme e consistente.

Embrulhe a massa em um plástico filme e leve à geladeira por cerca de 30 minutos.

Preaqueça o forno a 180°C.

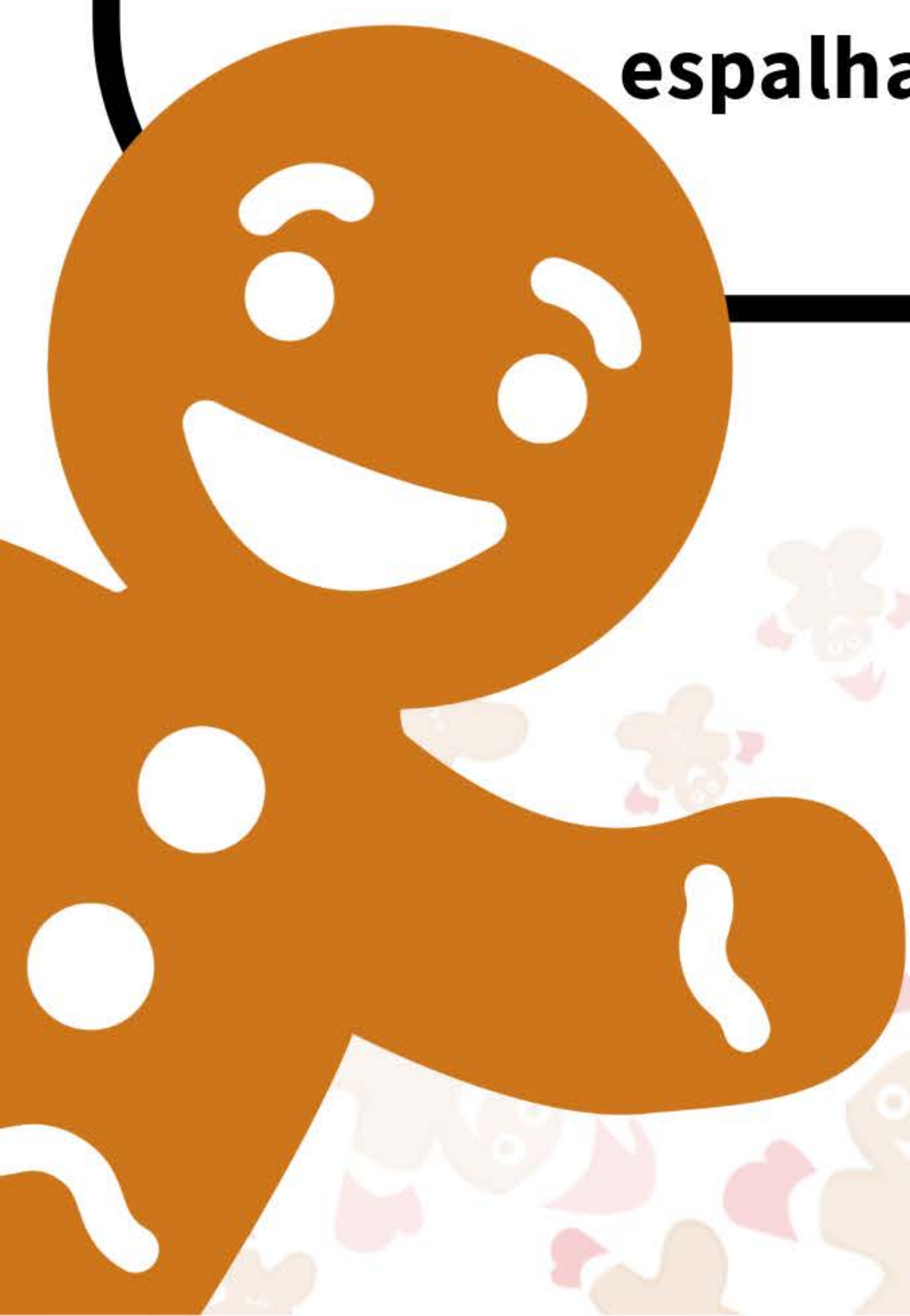
Abra a massa sobre uma superfície levemente enfarinhada, até que fique com aproximadamente 0,5 cm de espessura.

Use cortadores de biscoito com temas natalinos para cortar a massa em formas divertidas.

Coloque os biscoitos em uma assadeira untada ou forrada com papel manteiga.

Asse por cerca de 10 a 12 minutos, ou até que os biscoitos estejam levemente dourados nas bordas.

Deixe os biscoitos esfriarem completamente antes de decorar com confeitos à sua escolha.



The Lord
God is
my strength

Hab. 3:19

Be not
faithless
but believing

John 20:27

The battle
is not yours
but God's

2 Chron. 20:15

His name
shall be called
Wonderful

Isa. 9:6

The Lord
God is
my strength

Hab. 3:19

Be not
faithless
but believing

John 20:27

The battle
is not yours
but God's

2 Chron. 20:15

Love
your
enemies

Luke 6:27

His name
shall be called
Wonderful

Isa. 9:6

Love
your
enemies

Luke 6:27

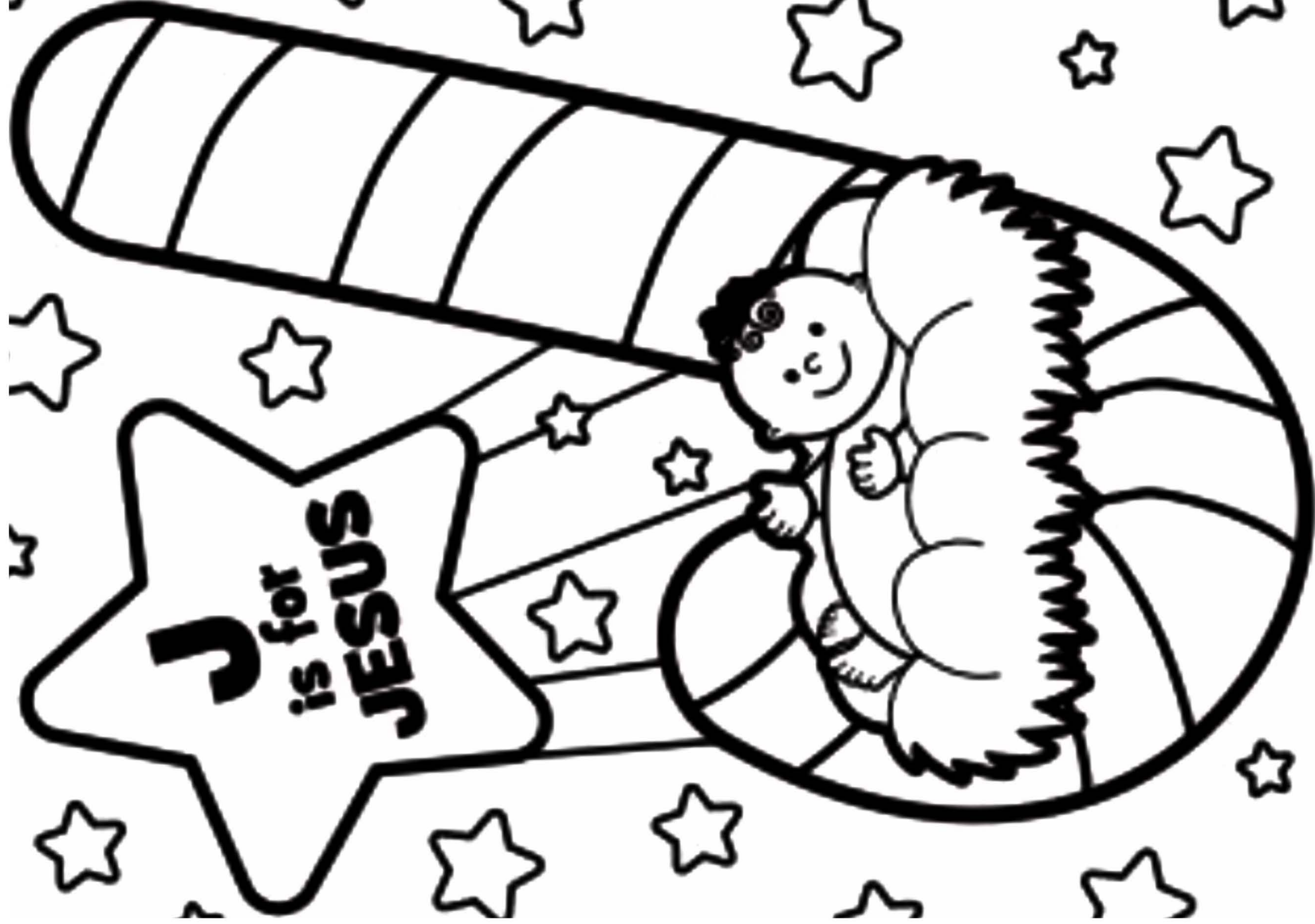
Speak
evil of
no man

Tit. 3:2

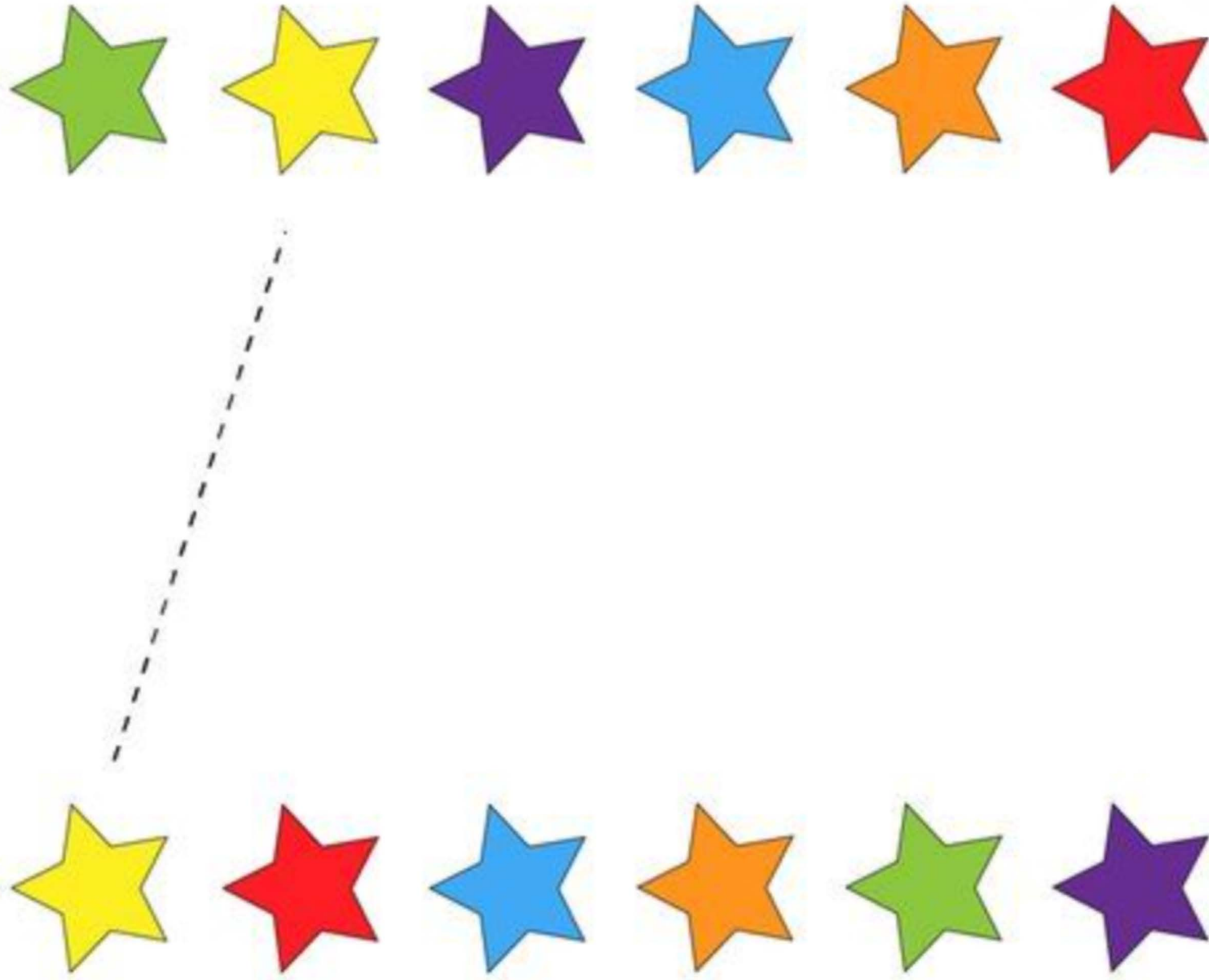
Speak
evil of
no man

Tit. 3:2

EXTRA ACTIVITIES



Match the Stars



My Itsy Bitsy

First

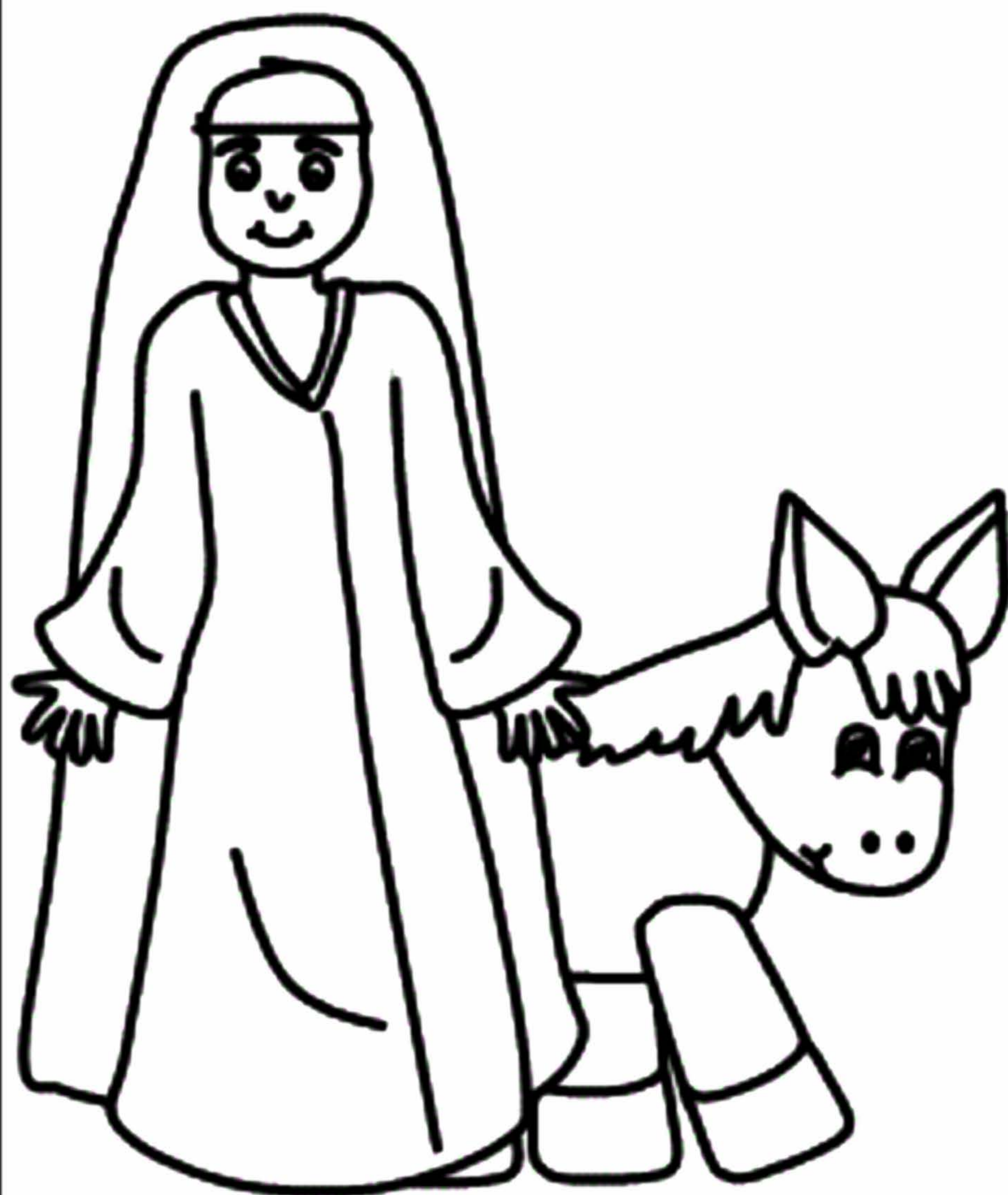
Christmas

Book

Name:



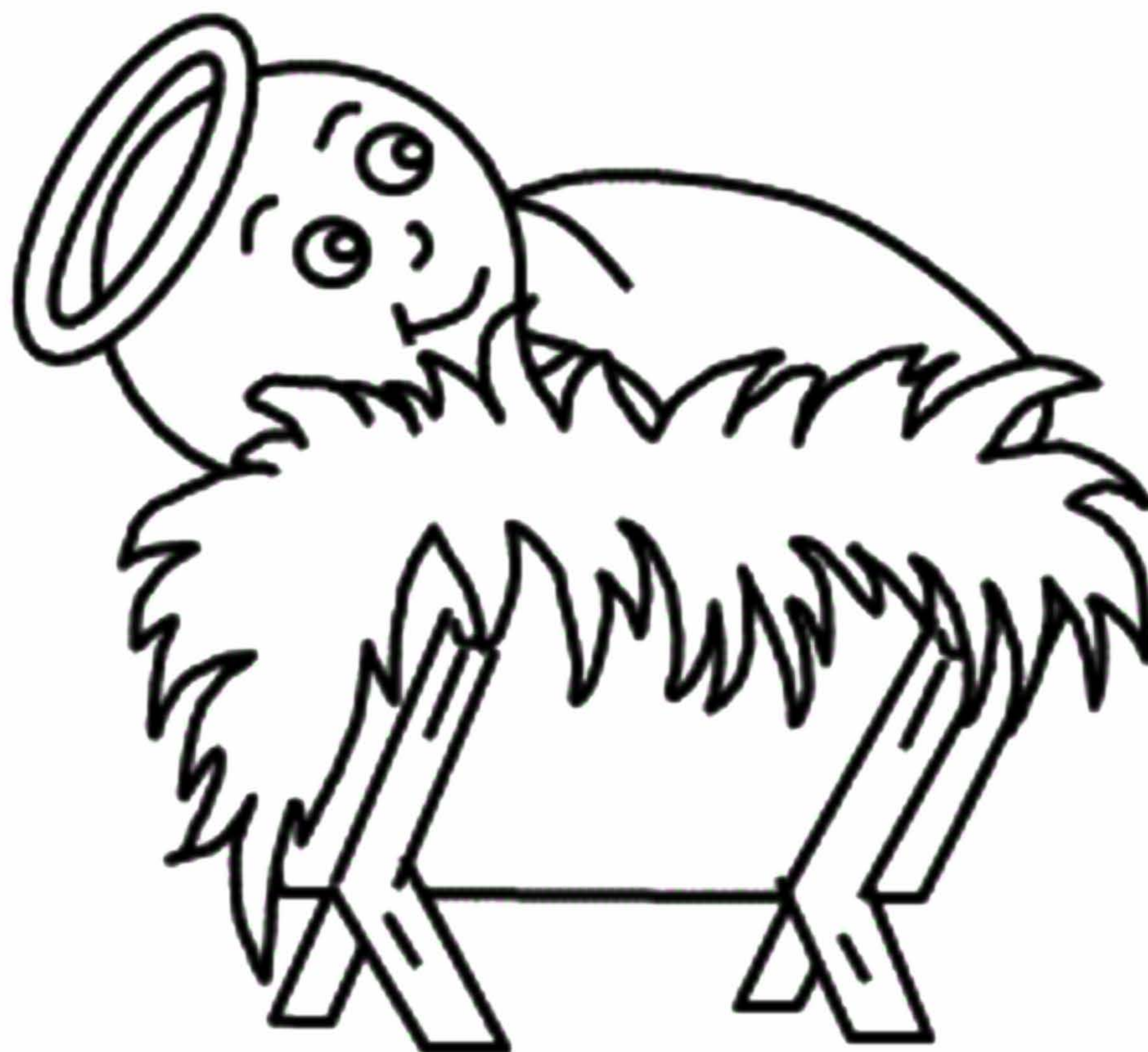
Joseph



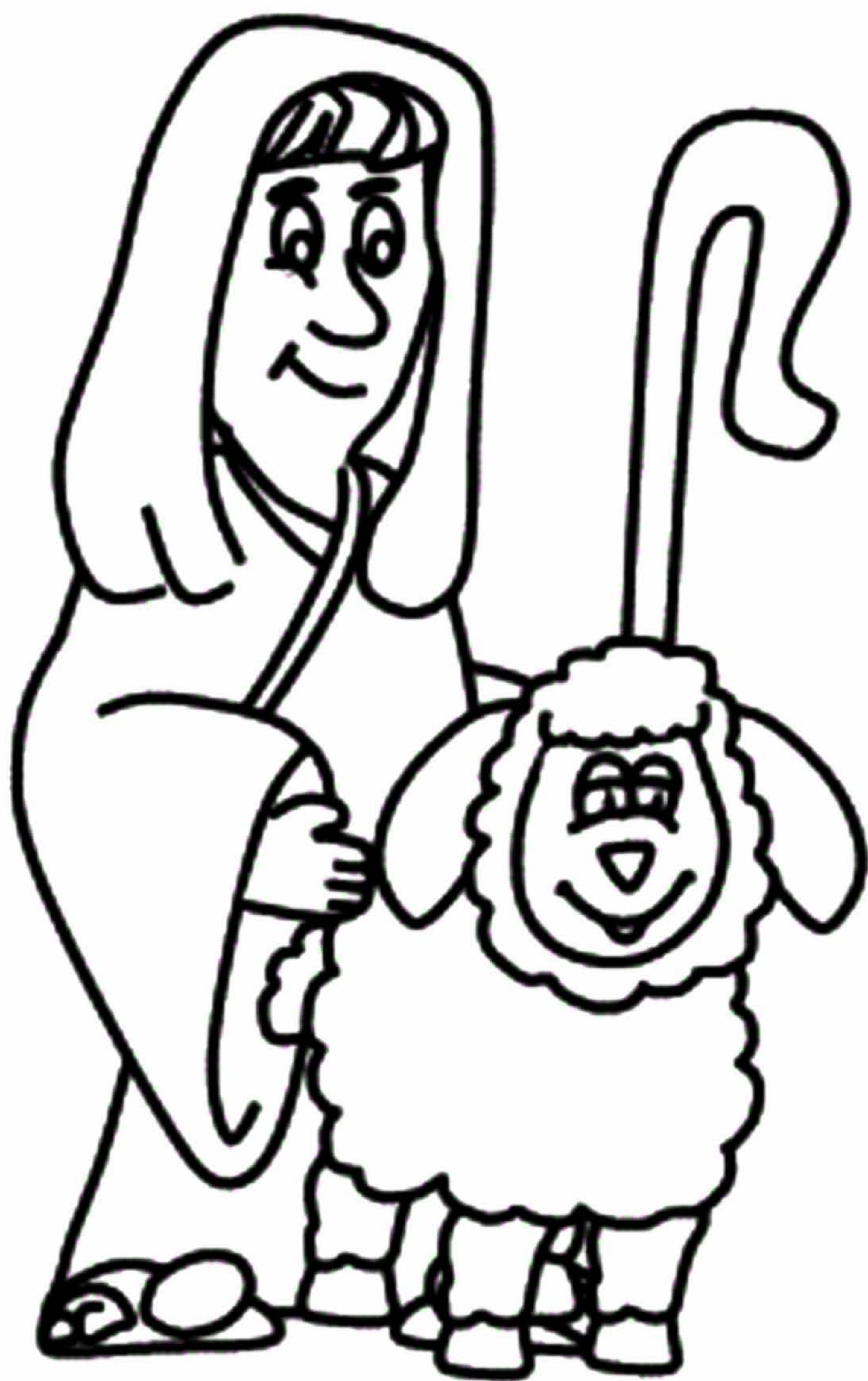
Mary



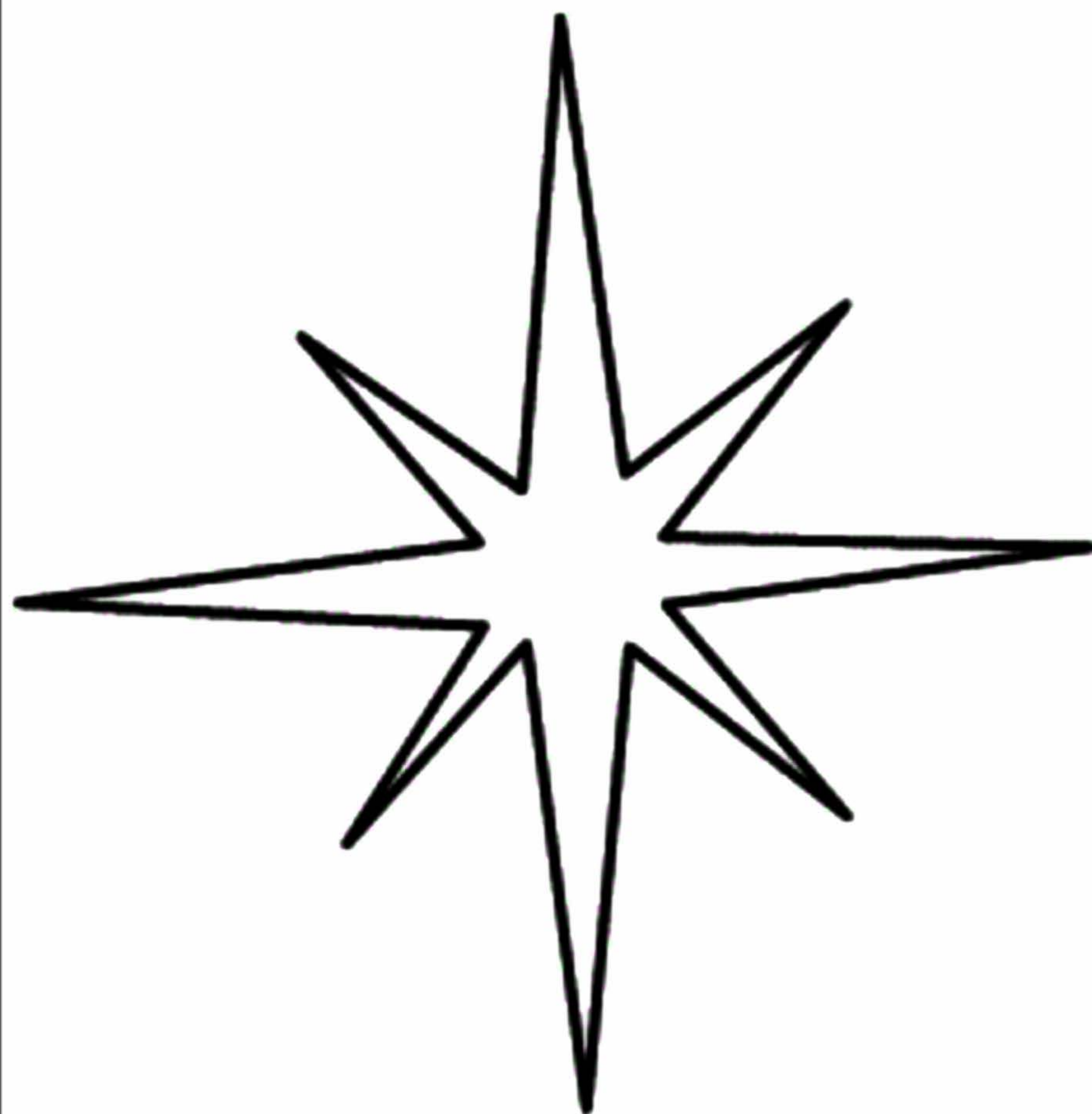
angel



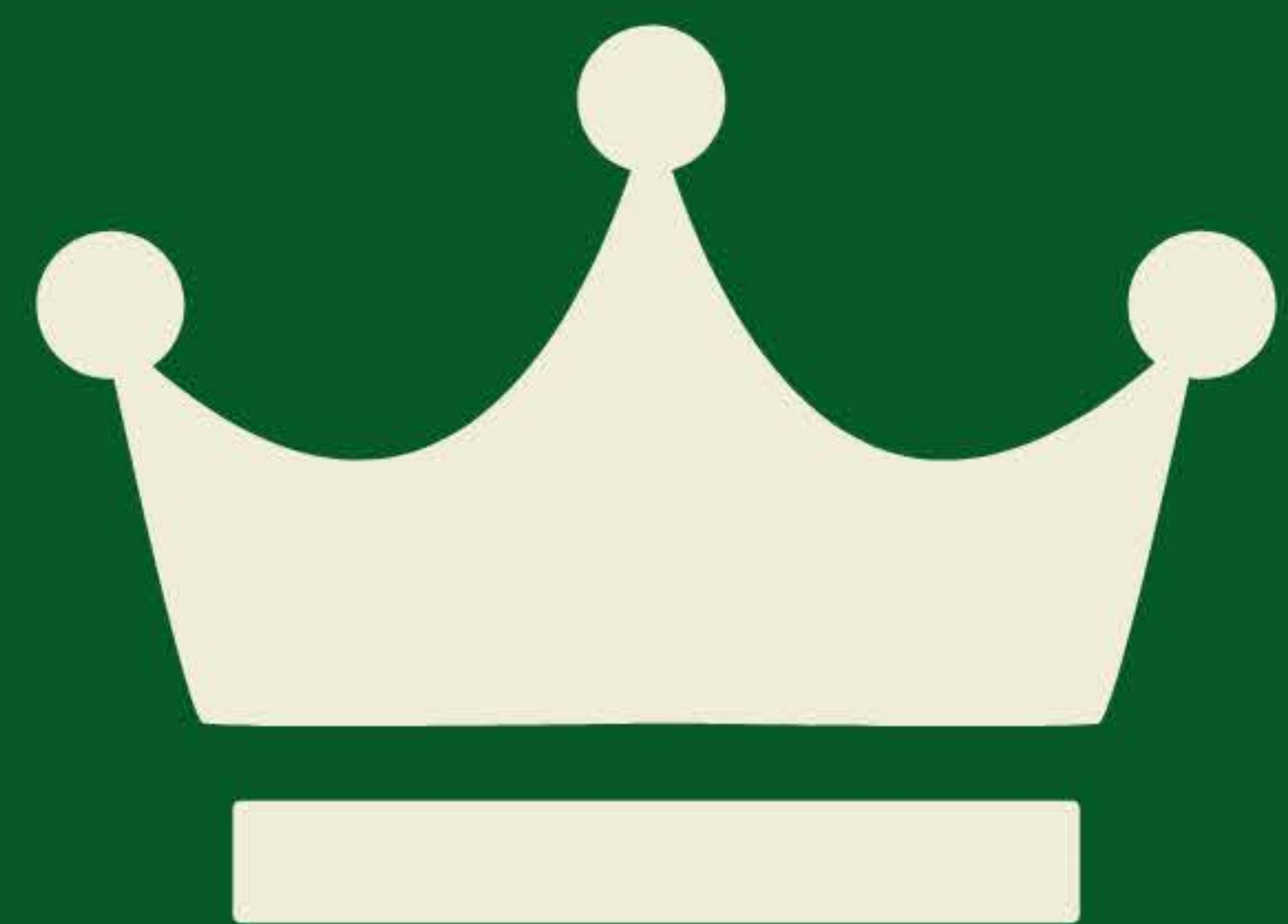
Jesus



shepherd



star



Merry Christmas

Ensino Bilin

