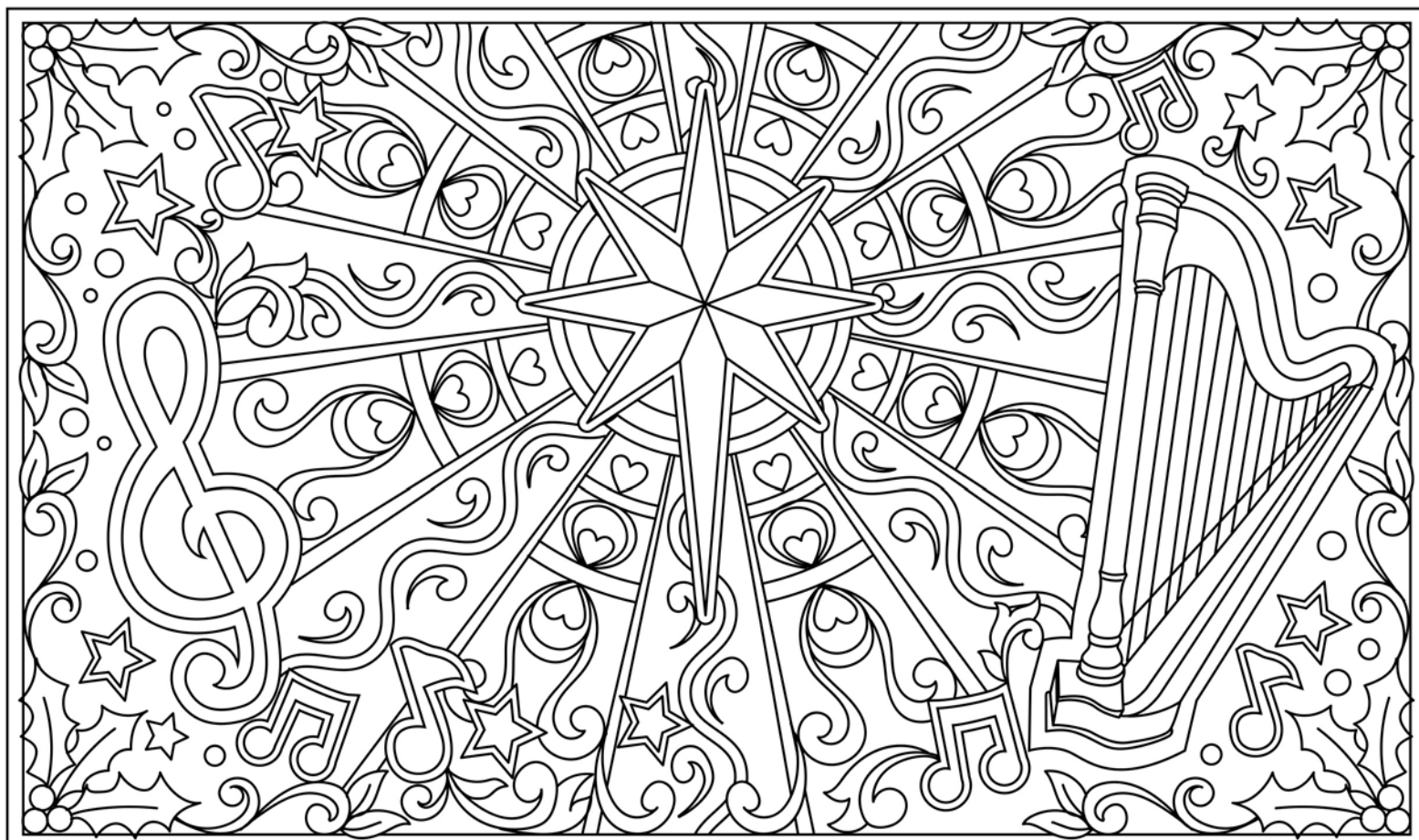




ILLUMINATED CHRISTMAS

A Christian Coloring Book

Illustrations by Carolyn Williams

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE • SAINT LOUIS



Copyright © 2024 by Concordia Publishing House
3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118–3968
1-800-325-3040 • cph.org

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system,
or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise,
without the prior written permission of Concordia Publishing House.

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by
Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Hymns are from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

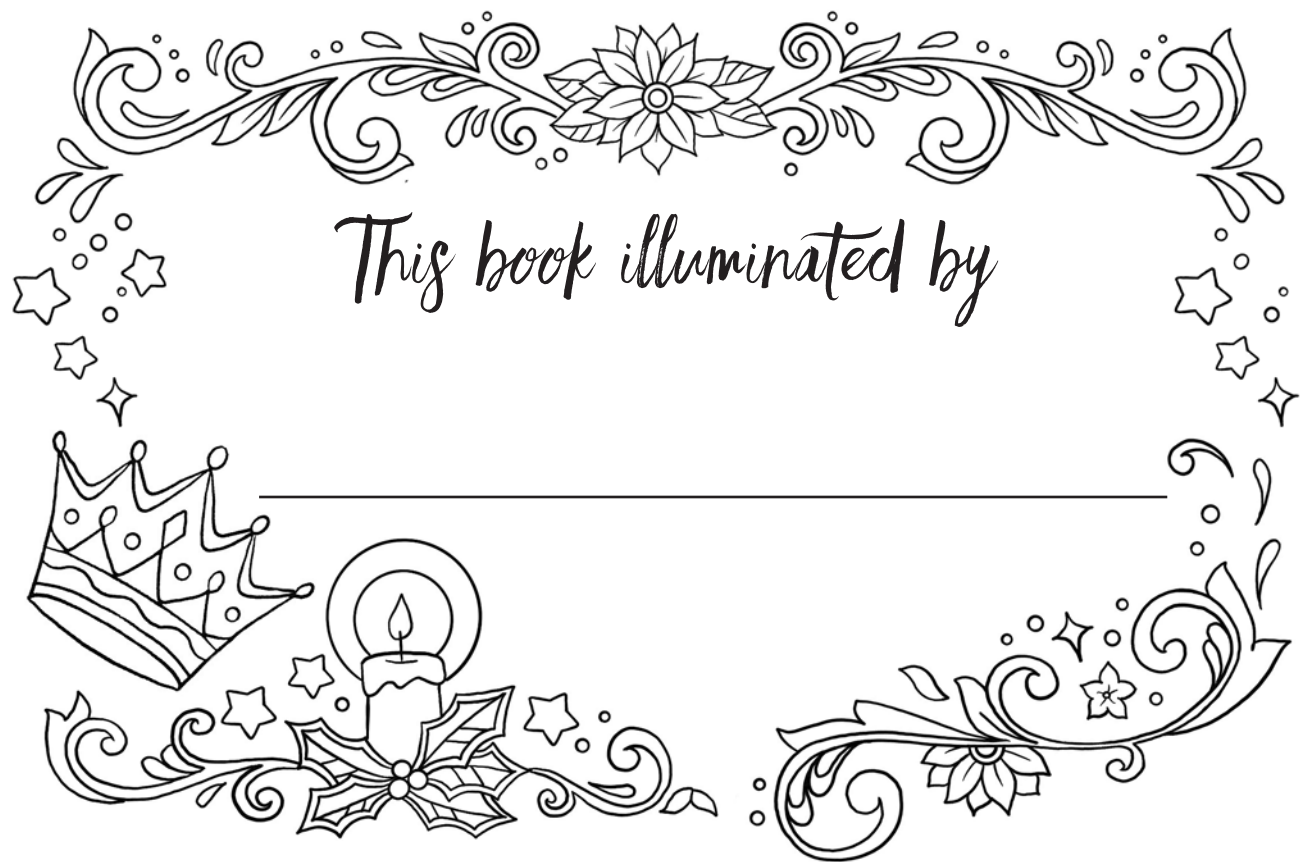
Hymn text for "Prepare the Royal Highway" © 1978. Copyright administered by Augsburg Fortress Publishers and
Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

"In a manger Jesus lies" is from *Christmas Joy*,
William A. Kramer © 1965 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

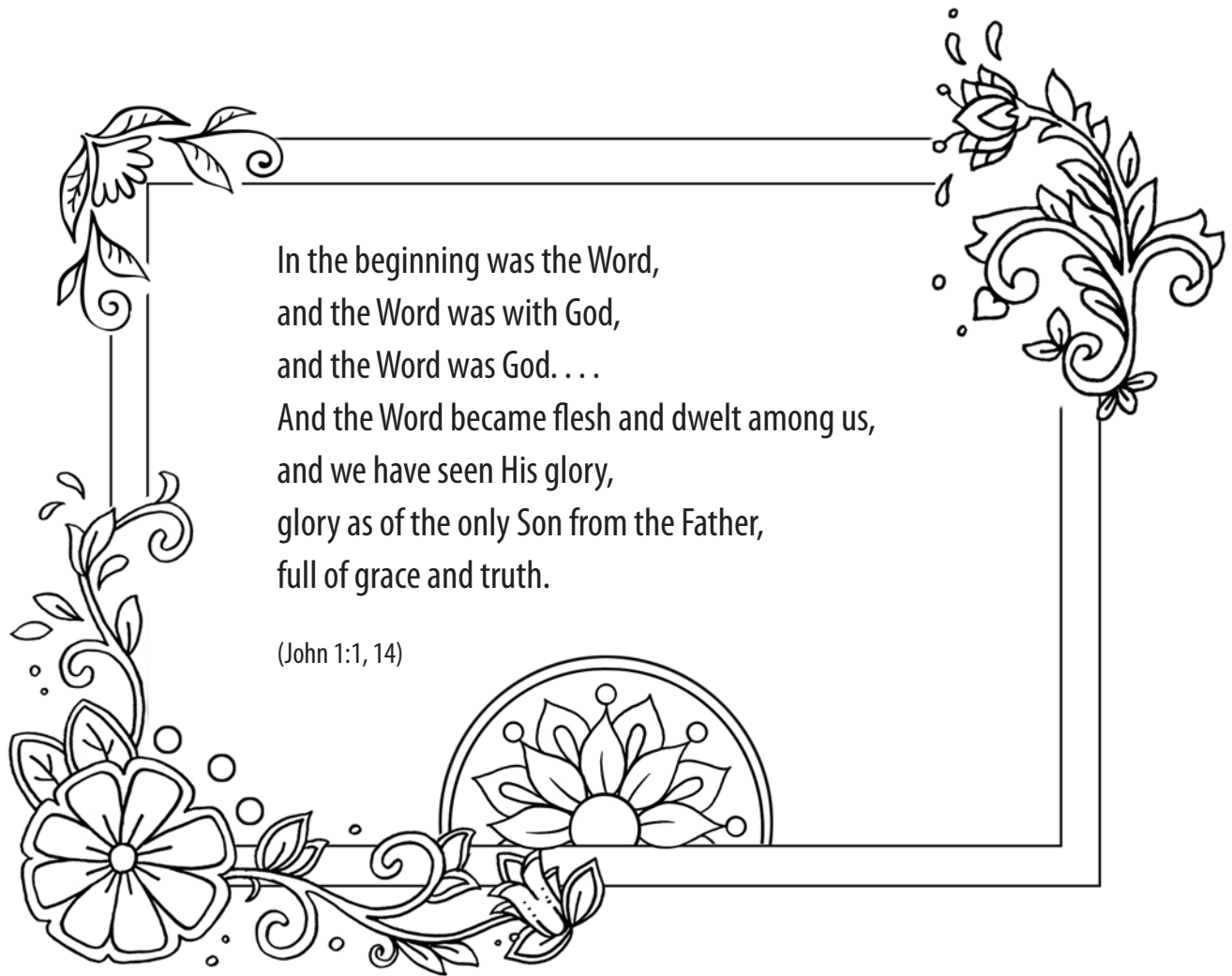
"Christmas isn't only" is from *Come, Lord Jesus*,
Ruth S. Hummel © 1964 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

"May the story of Christmas be told" is from *Because of Christmas*,
Dean Nadasdy © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Manufactured in the United States of America

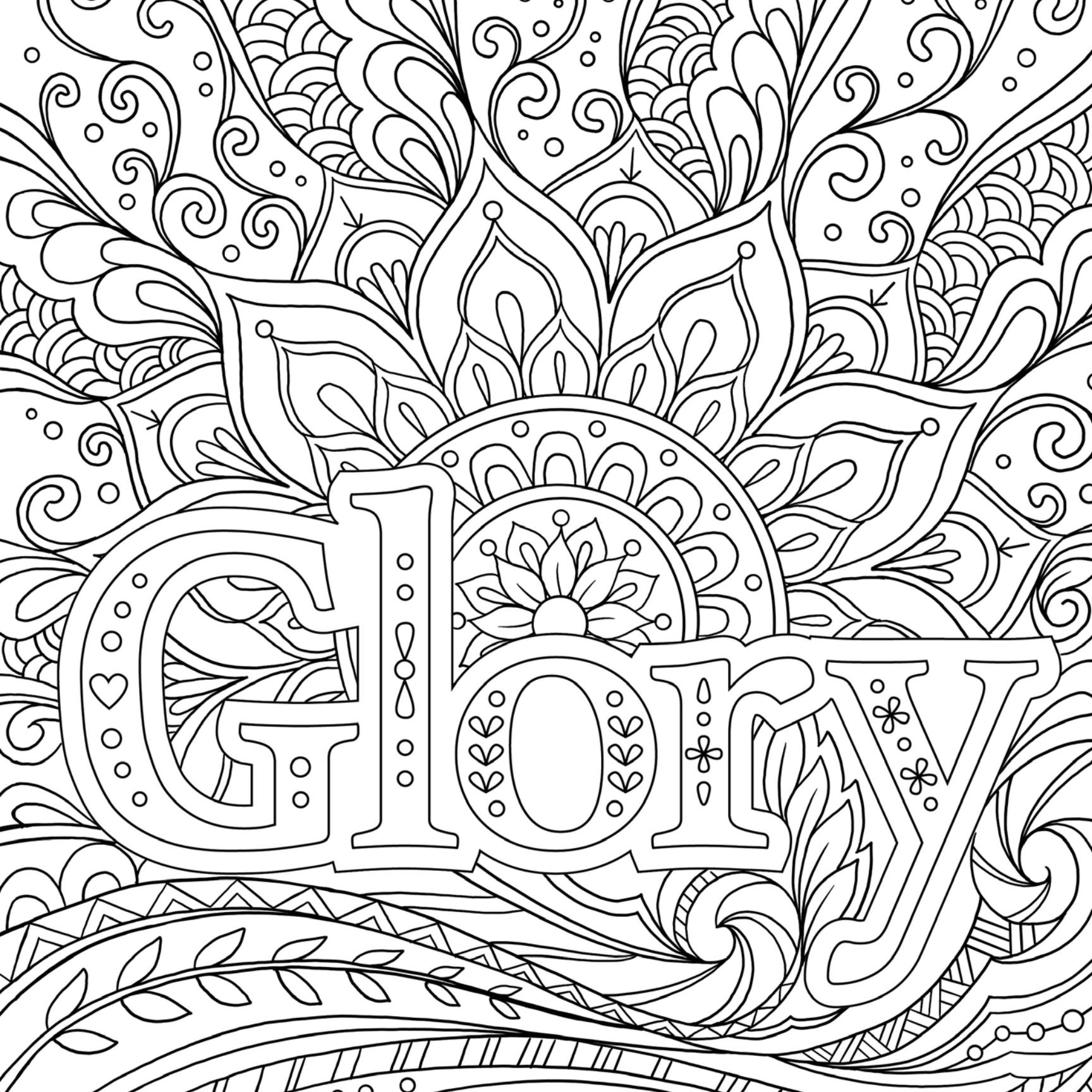


This book illuminated by



In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. . . .
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen His glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.

(John 1:1, 14)





Prepare the Royal Highway

Prepare the royal highway;
The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory
Foretold in sacred story: *REFRAIN*

REFRAIN:

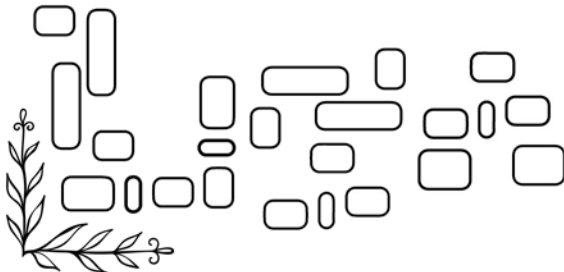
Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

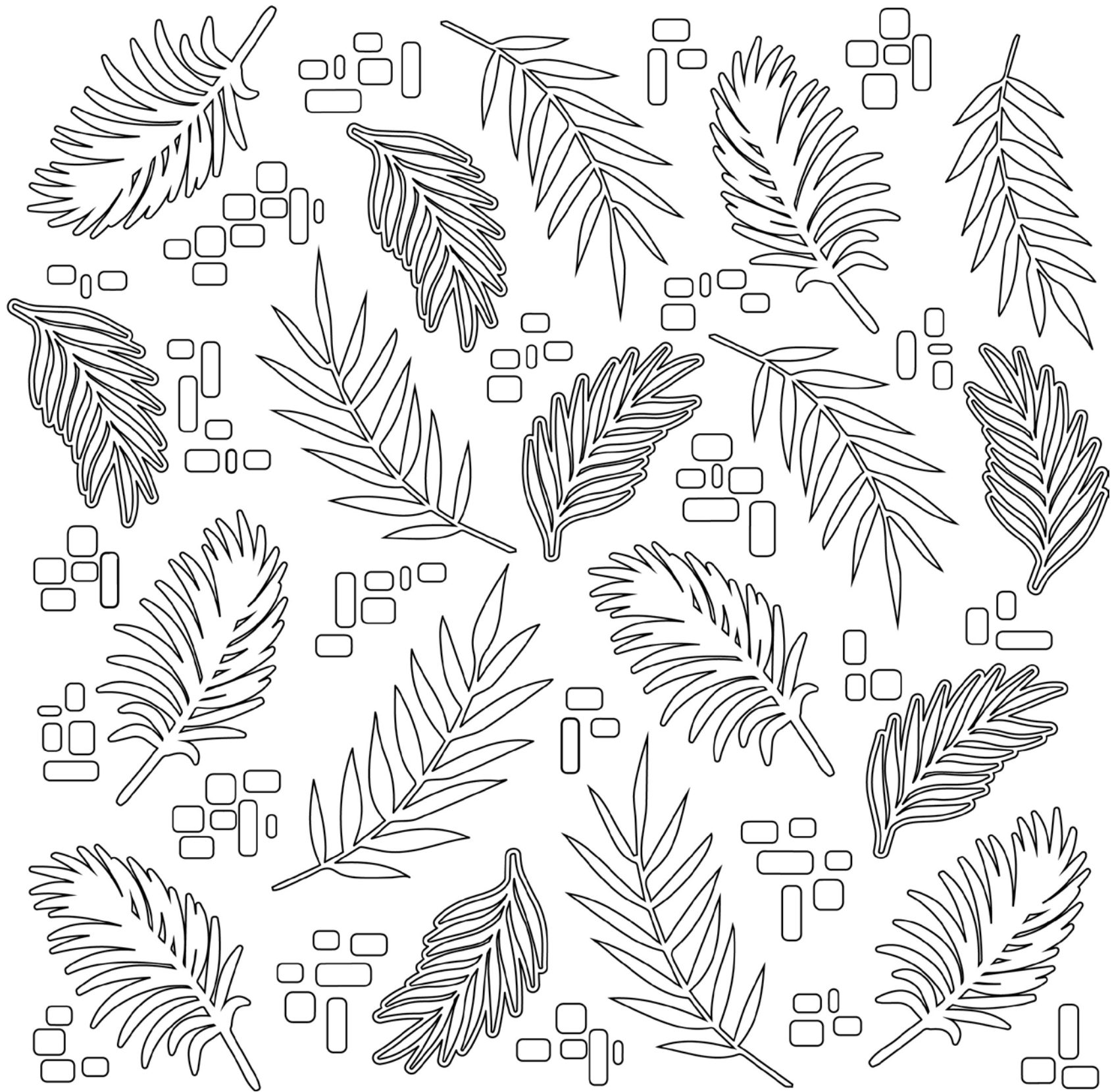
God's people, see Him coming:
Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before Him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *REFRAIN*

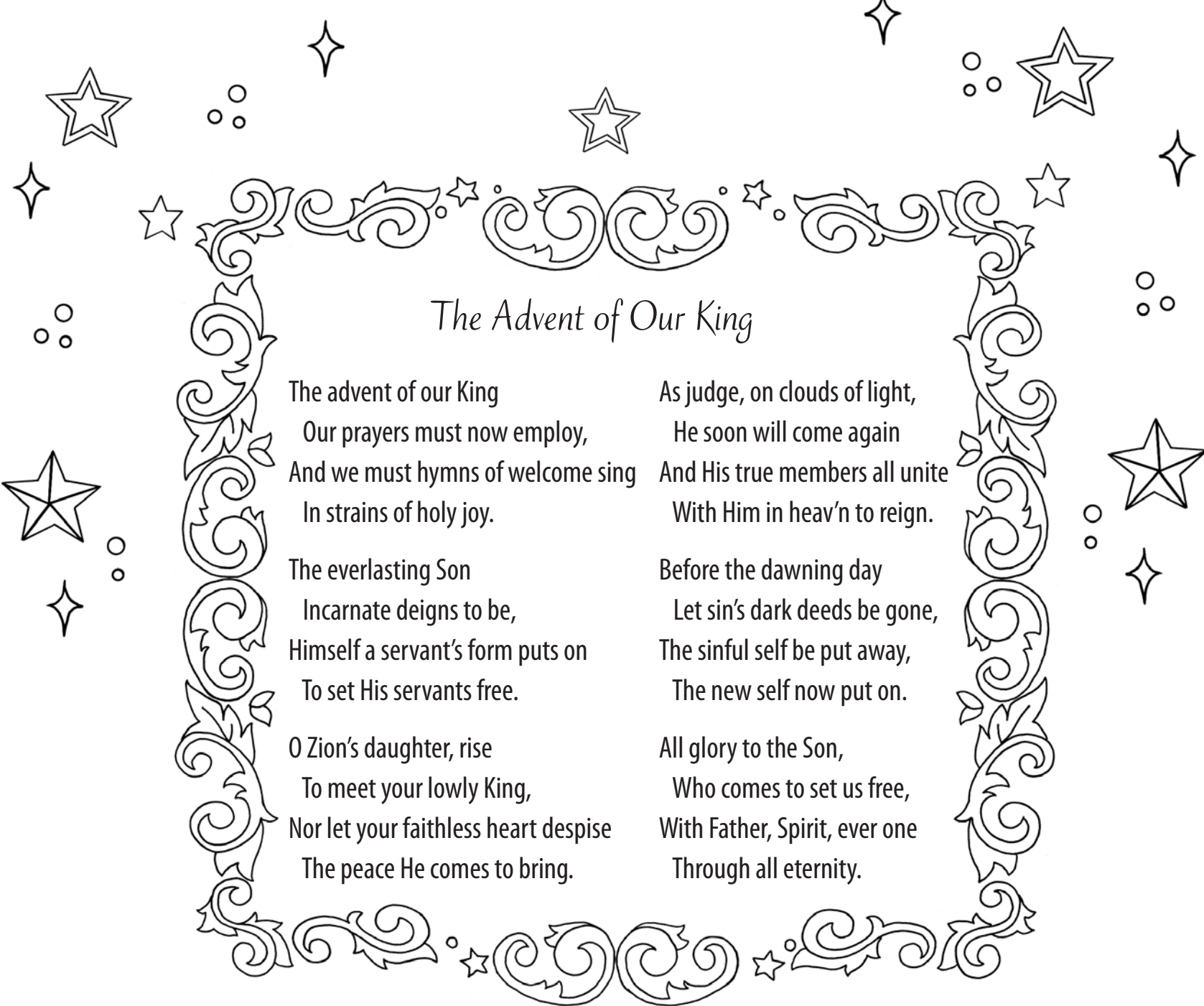
Then fling the gates wide open
To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him!
All nations, now adore Him! *REFRAIN*

His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
For kindness so abounding: *REFRAIN*

© 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship







The Advent of Our King

The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

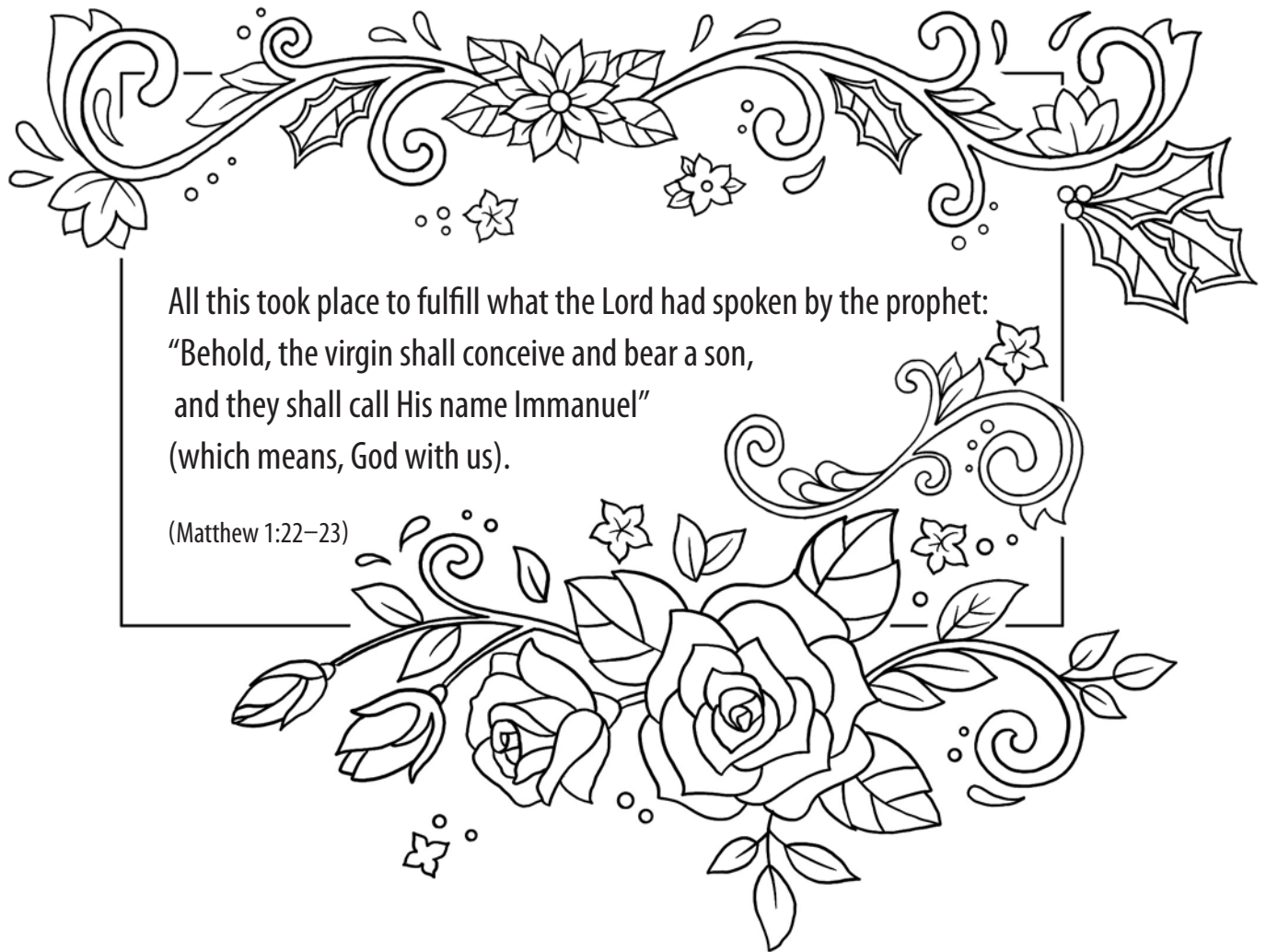
As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

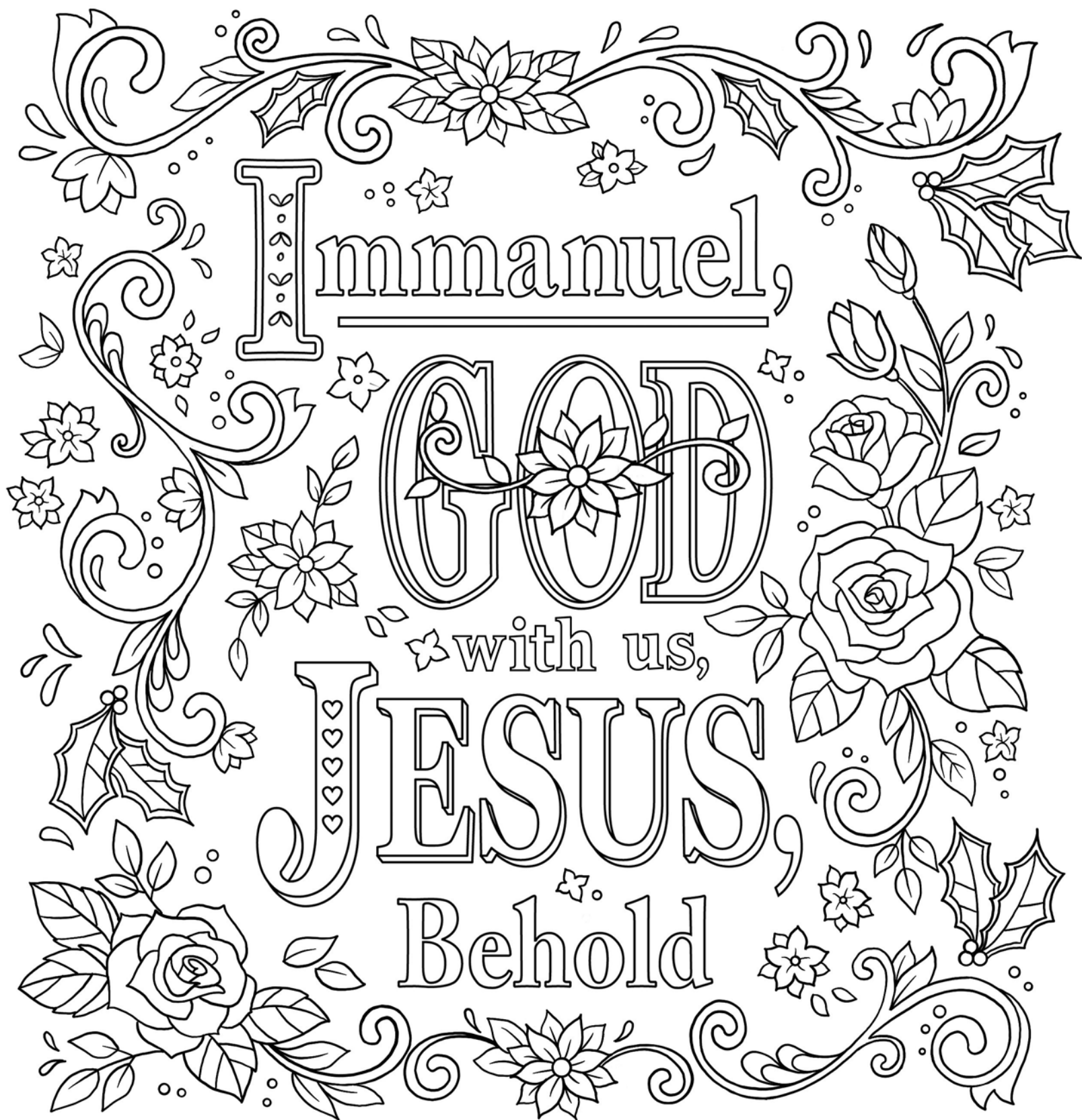
Since the 1600s, the Advent wreath has been used to mark devotion time. A round wreath made of evergreen branches symbolizes God's infinite, eternal, and living love. The four candles symbolize the hope, peace, joy, and love that are ours because of Christ Jesus. Three of the candles are blue, the color of Advent, reflecting the hope of the coming Messiah and the second coming of Christ. The color of the third week of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, is rose, indicating our joy that the Messiah has come.





All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call His name Immanuel"
(which means, God with us).

(Matthew 1:22–23)





O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. *REFRAIN*

REFRAIN:

Rejoice!
Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. *REFRAIN*

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. *REFRAIN*



O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *REFRAIN*

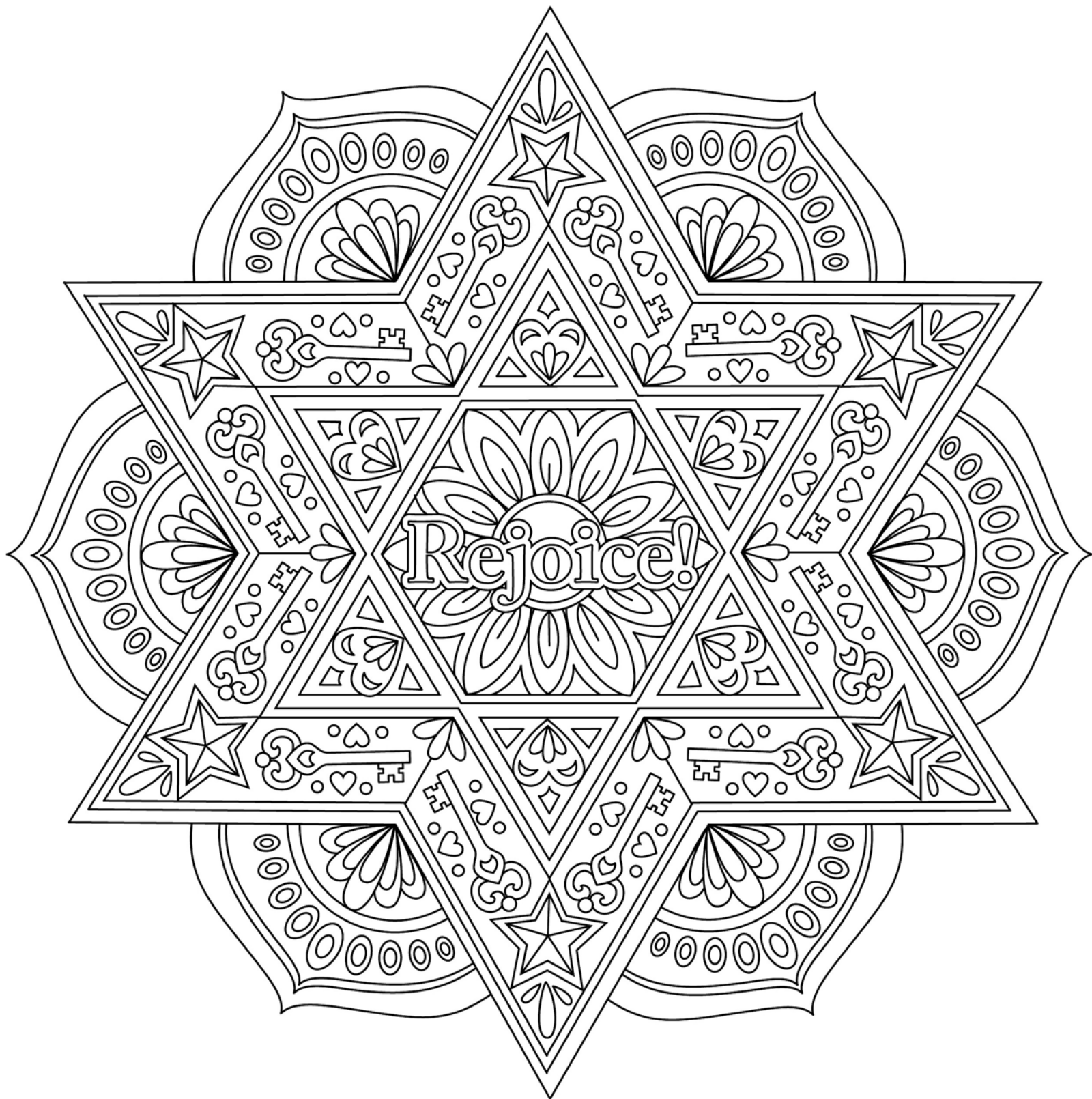
O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *REFRAIN*

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing night;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *REFRAIN*

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *REFRAIN*



With origins dating to the eighth century, this hymn paraphrases the *O Antiphons*, titles and names of the Messiah drawn from the book of Isaiah. Our meditation is aided by symbols and shapes that remind us that God's promise to the children of Israel has been fulfilled in Jesus. The key image is our reminder that Jesus opened heaven to us.

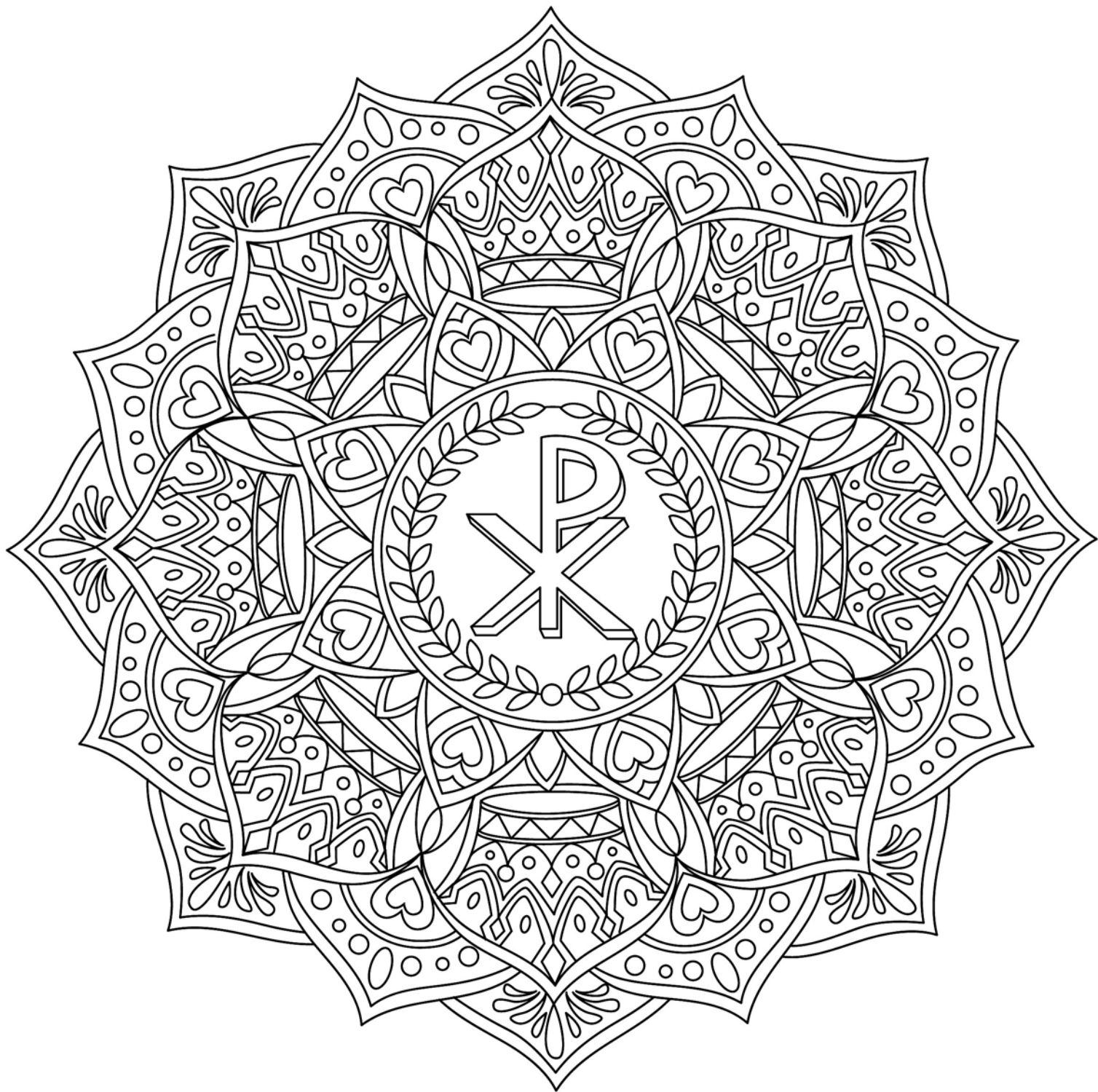


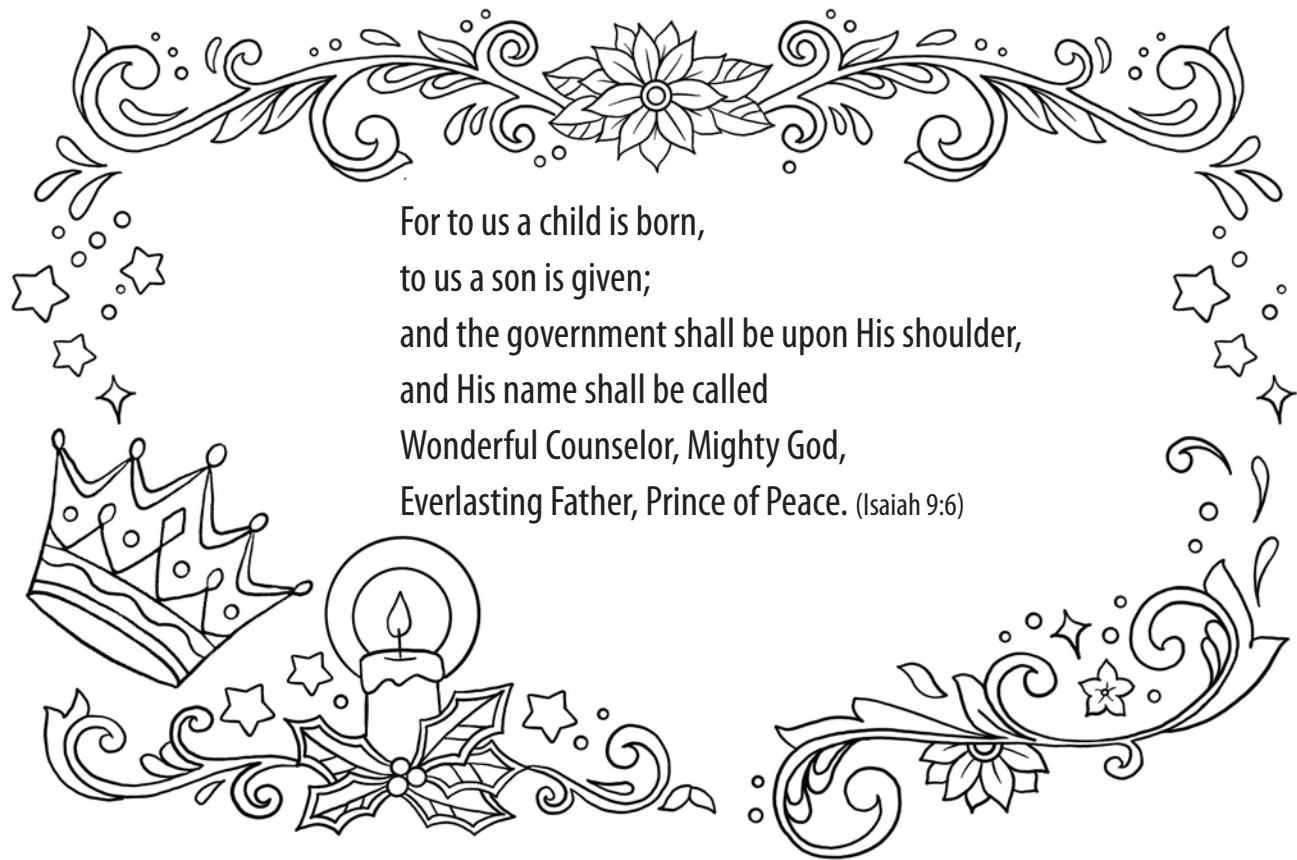


Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,	Born Thy people to deliver;
Born to set Thy people free;	Born a child and yet a king!
From our fears and sins release us;	Born to reign in us forever,
Let us find our rest in Thee.	Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
Israel's strength and consolation,	By Thine own eternal Spirit
Hope of all the earth Thou art,	Rule in all our hearts alone;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,	By Thine all-sufficient merit
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.	Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Even as we rejoice that our "long-expected Jesus" has come, we long for His return to "raise us to Thy glorious throne." The crown symbol reminds us that Jesus is indeed the King of kings and Lord of lords. The laurel at the center of the illustration reminds us of the peace that is ours in Jesus. The many hearts remind us that the Spirit, sent by Jesus, "rule[s] in all our hearts." And the Chi-Rho at the center has been used by Christians since the 300s; these symbols are the first two letters in the Greek word for Christ.





For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

