



God's Love Colors Everything



A NATIVITY COLORING BOOK Story by Jeanne Murawski Illustrations by Ted Dawson

Good
always
loved

has
ays
us!



At Christmas, we celebrate
that God's love came into
our world, and into our lives,
in a very special way.

Long, long ago, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to tell a young woman named Mary that she was going to have a baby. This baby would be God's own child, and would show God's love to all people.





Mary ran to tell her cousin Elizabeth the good news. It turned out that Elizabeth was going to have a baby, too. They celebrated together, and Mary sang a song of power and praise for God's love.



At that time, the Emperor Augustus declared that all the people needed to be registered. So together, Mary and Joseph set off for Bethlehem. It was a very long journey.

While they were there, Mary's baby was born. She named him Jesus, and wrapped him in cloths. Mary laid Jesus in a manger among the animals, since there was no other room where they could stay.





Meanwhile, shepherds were out in the fields watching their sheep. They thought it was an ordinary, boring night.

But then an angel appeared, bringing the shepherds good news of great joy. The angel told the shepherds about the baby born in Bethlehem, and how this child would show God's love to all people.





Suddenly, the entire
sky was filled with
angels cheering,
and singing of
God's love.

When the angels had gone, the shepherds
ran to Bethlehem. There they found Mary,
and Joseph, and Jesus, just like they
had been told.





A bright star shone in the sky.



Wise travelers from the East saw the star,
and followed it to see the newborn King. Although
they came from far away, they knew they were
included in God's love, too.



This is the story of God's love for all people.
Through Jesus, born in Bethlehem, we know God's love today.
And when we tell this story, God's love colors the entire world.





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★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND

for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund



For over 100 years, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has helped clergy and lay church employees who are facing challenging financial situations. United Church of Christ congregations and individuals all across the country give generously so that the Pension Boards, on behalf of the whole church, can continue this ministry of direct support. It's no surprise that people run into difficult financial situations. It is also no surprise that the wider

church family has found a way to be there with support and care when these needs occur for those who serve God's mission through the United Church of Christ.

The Christmas Fund has developed this *Nativity Coloring Book* so that you can tell the good news of how *God's Love Colors Everything*. Just like a box of new crayons, the story is meant to be opened and shared across the pages of our lives and the world. Illustrations were created by Ted Dawson, a member of Judson Memorial Church in New York City and the story was adapted from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible by Reverend Jeanne Murawski, pastor of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Streamwood, Illinois.

Additional copies of the *NATIVITY COLORING BOOK* can be downloaded for free at www.christmasfund.org or purchased at www.uccresources.com.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



The Pension Boards
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Operating at the Intersection of Faith and Finance

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