

The light
is surely
coming,

Ted Dawson

A CHRISTMAS COLORING BOOK

Story by Shernell Edney Stilley Illustrations by Ted Dawson



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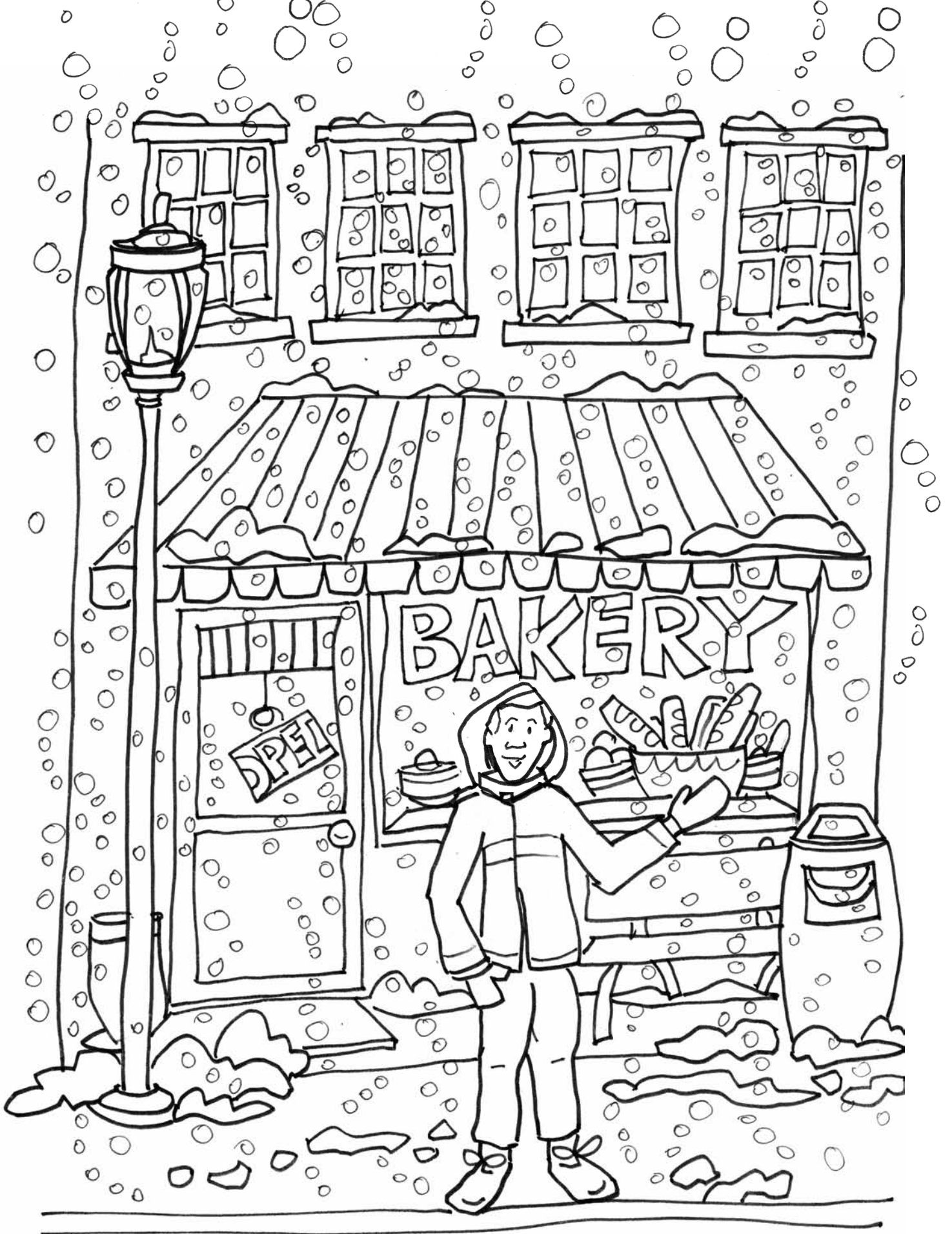




Mama! Mama! Mr. Abdul is outside trying to shovel the snow!
May I go out and help?



Sure, Austin.
You can take the bulletin from church over, too.
Tell him we missed him on Sunday!



Hey, Mr. Abdul!



I came to help you shovel the snow!

Austin, it's so good to see you!
I could definitely use some help!
You know what? I'm tired from shoveling.
Would you sit on the steps with me?

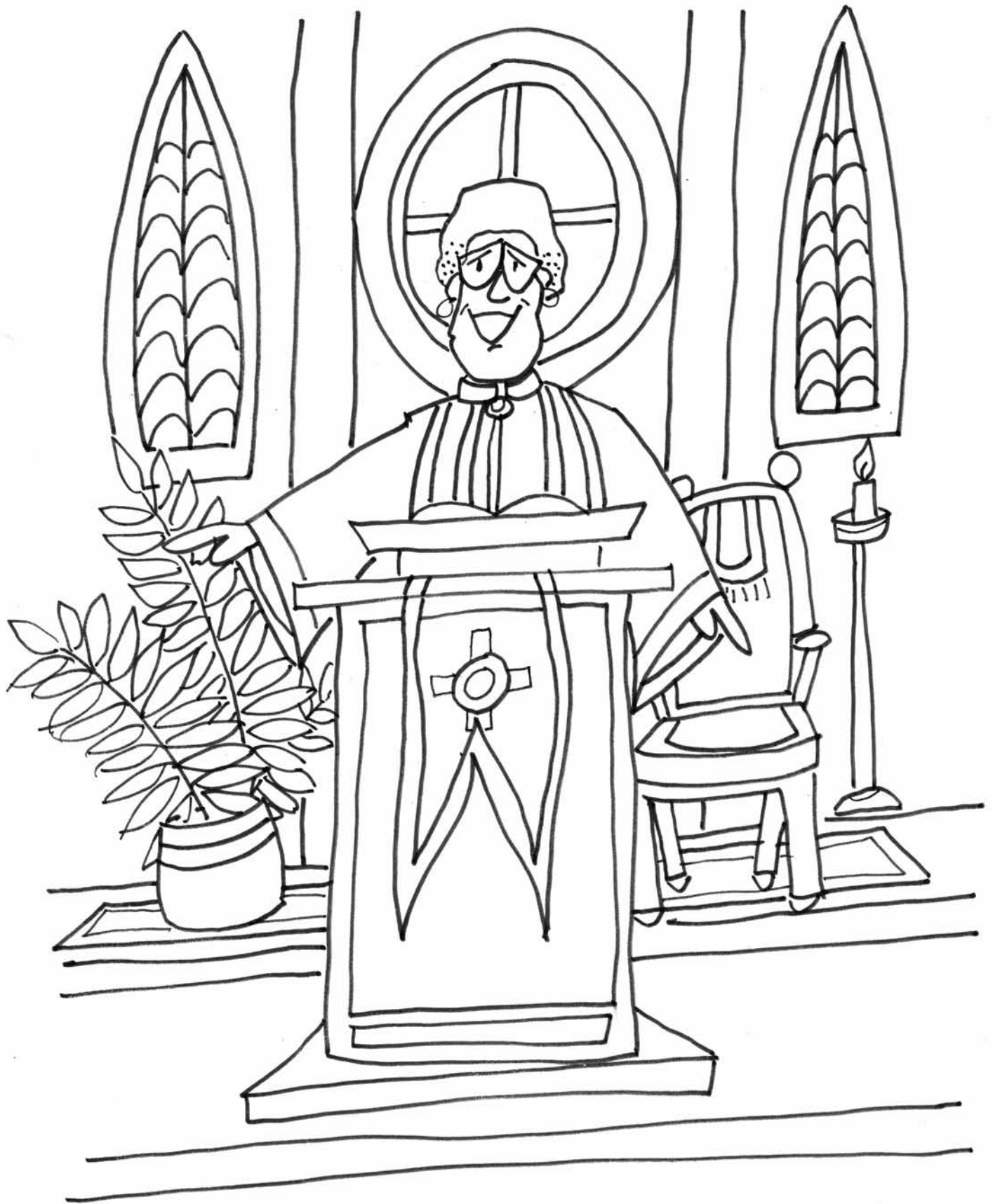




Sure! I can tell you about what happened at church.
Mama sent you a bulletin.



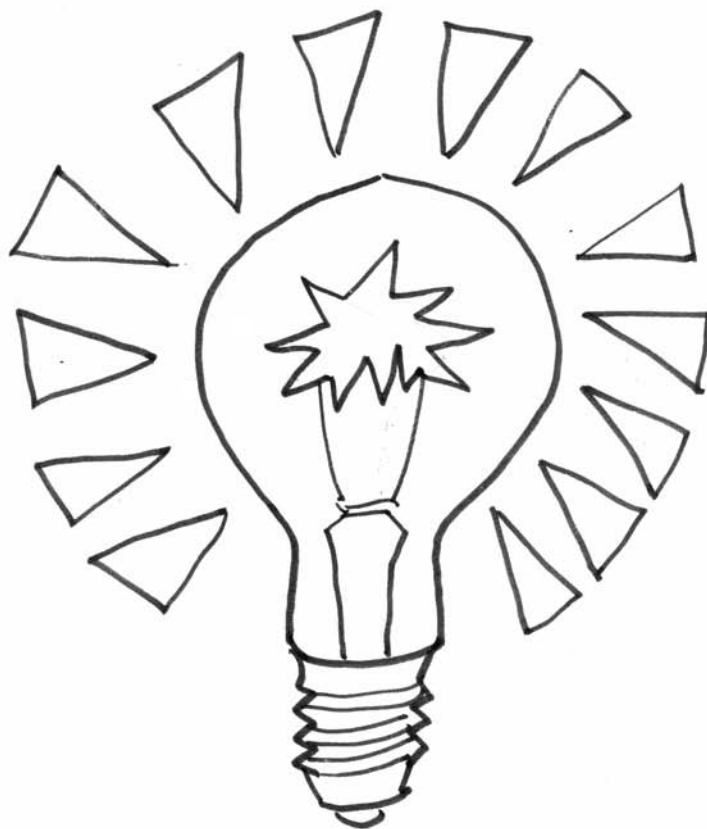
Wish I could have been there.
I've been going to that church for 50 years!



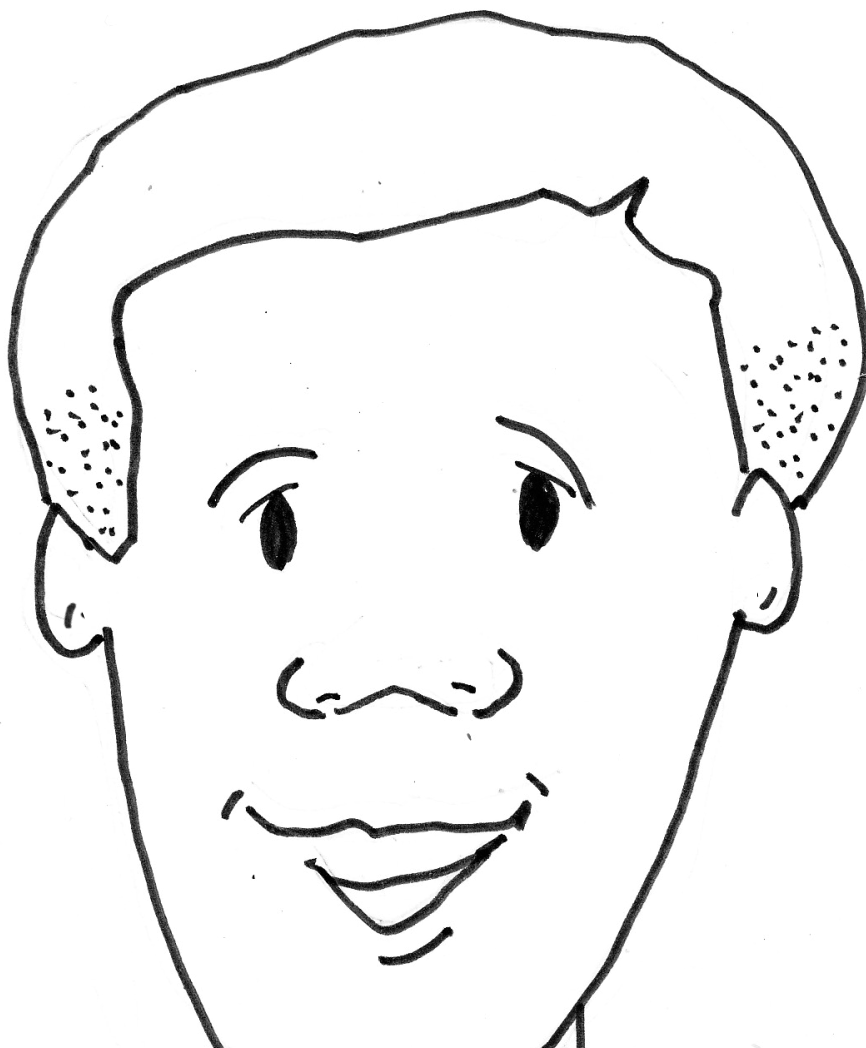
I know! Mama told me you taught her Sunday School.
Reverend Dream says people like you are lights! She said it can get pretty dark without people who help in the church and bring in light.



It works both ways. I can give light because the church has always been a light for me. Thanks to people at church, like you and your Mom, I get help when I need it.



So . . . you mean I'm a light, too?!

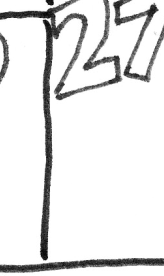
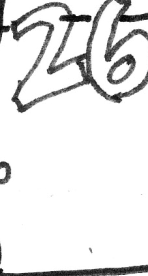




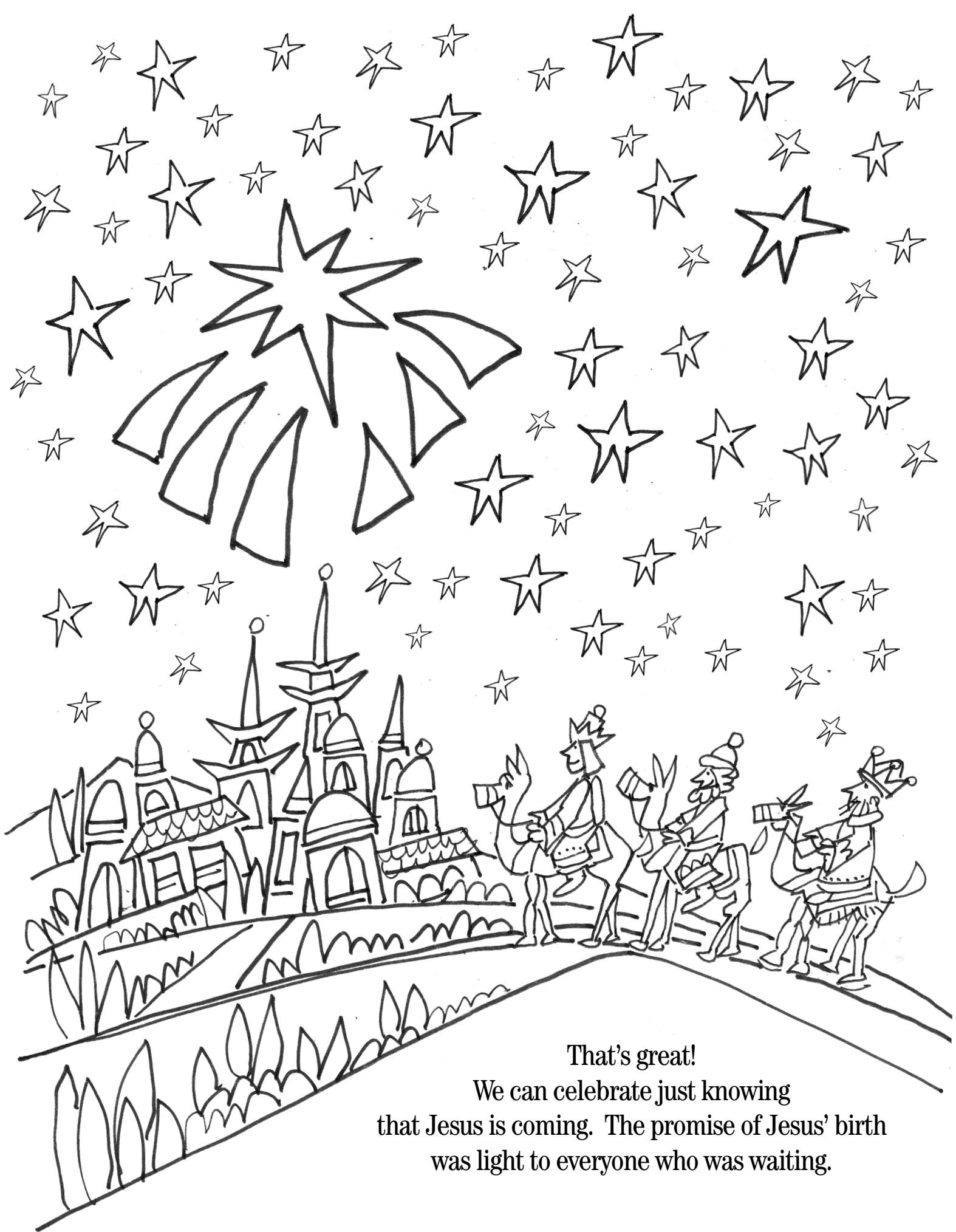
Absolutely! Just like Jesus came to help others, you do the same every time you come over and keep me company.

Advent

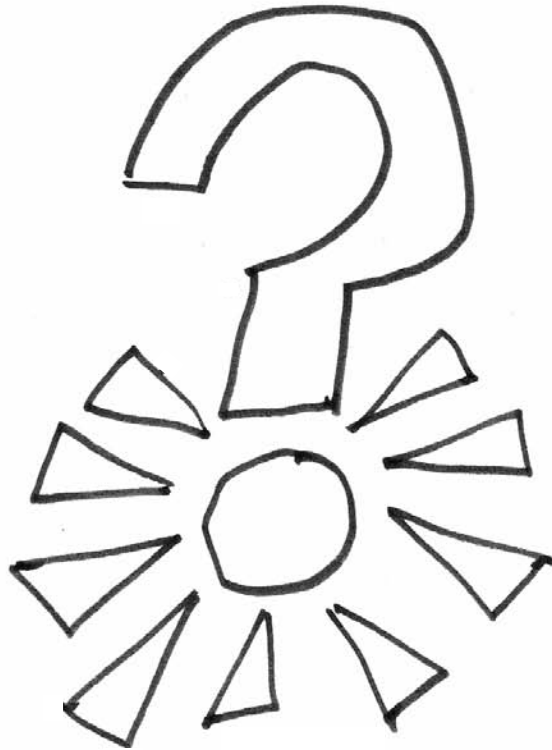
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Jesus' birthday is almost here!
We're counting down at church on the calendar!

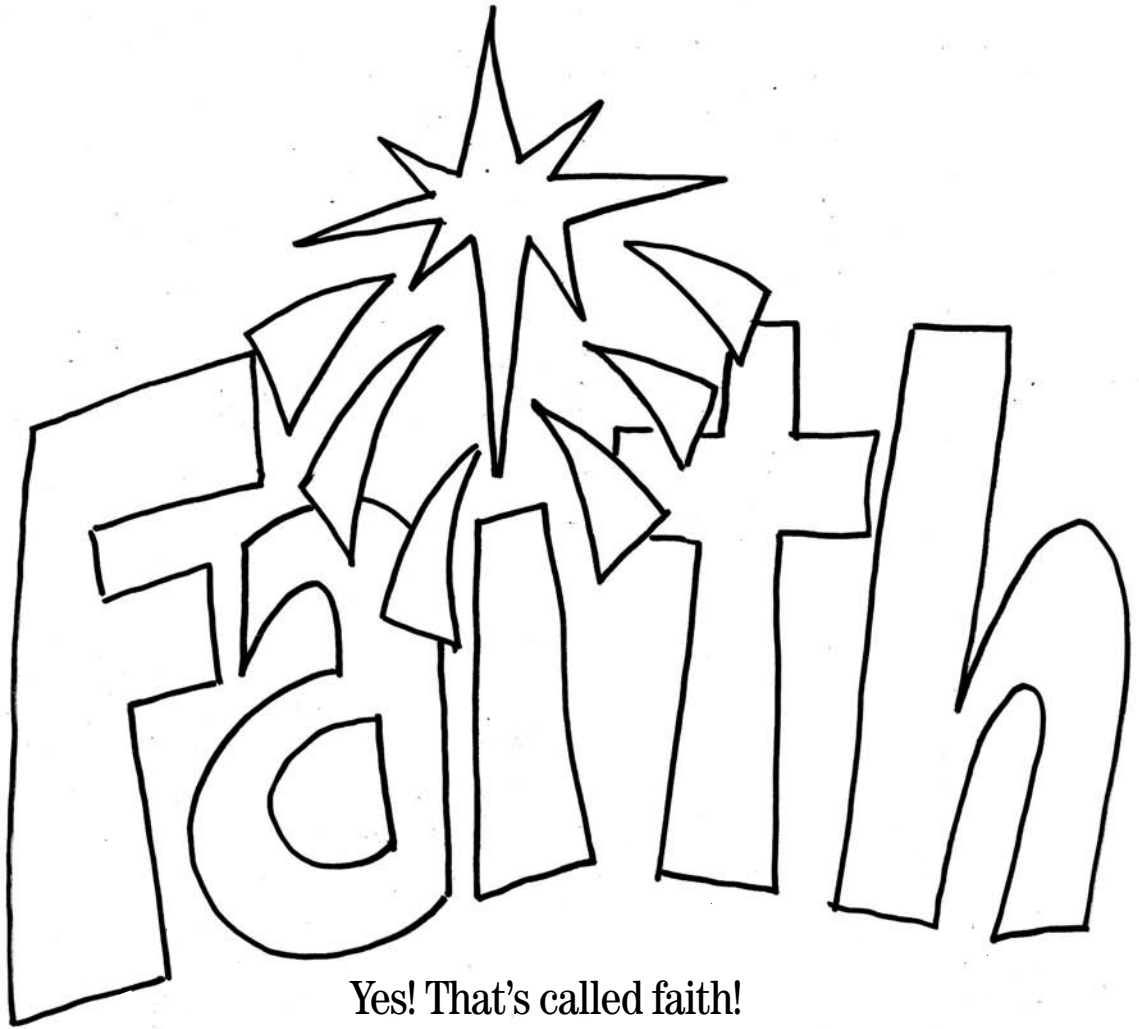


That's great!
We can celebrate just knowing
that Jesus is coming. The promise of Jesus' birth
was light to everyone who was waiting.



Do you mean just getting excited about something coming is like light?





Yes! That's called faith!





We get excited because we believe that
something good is **SURELY** coming!



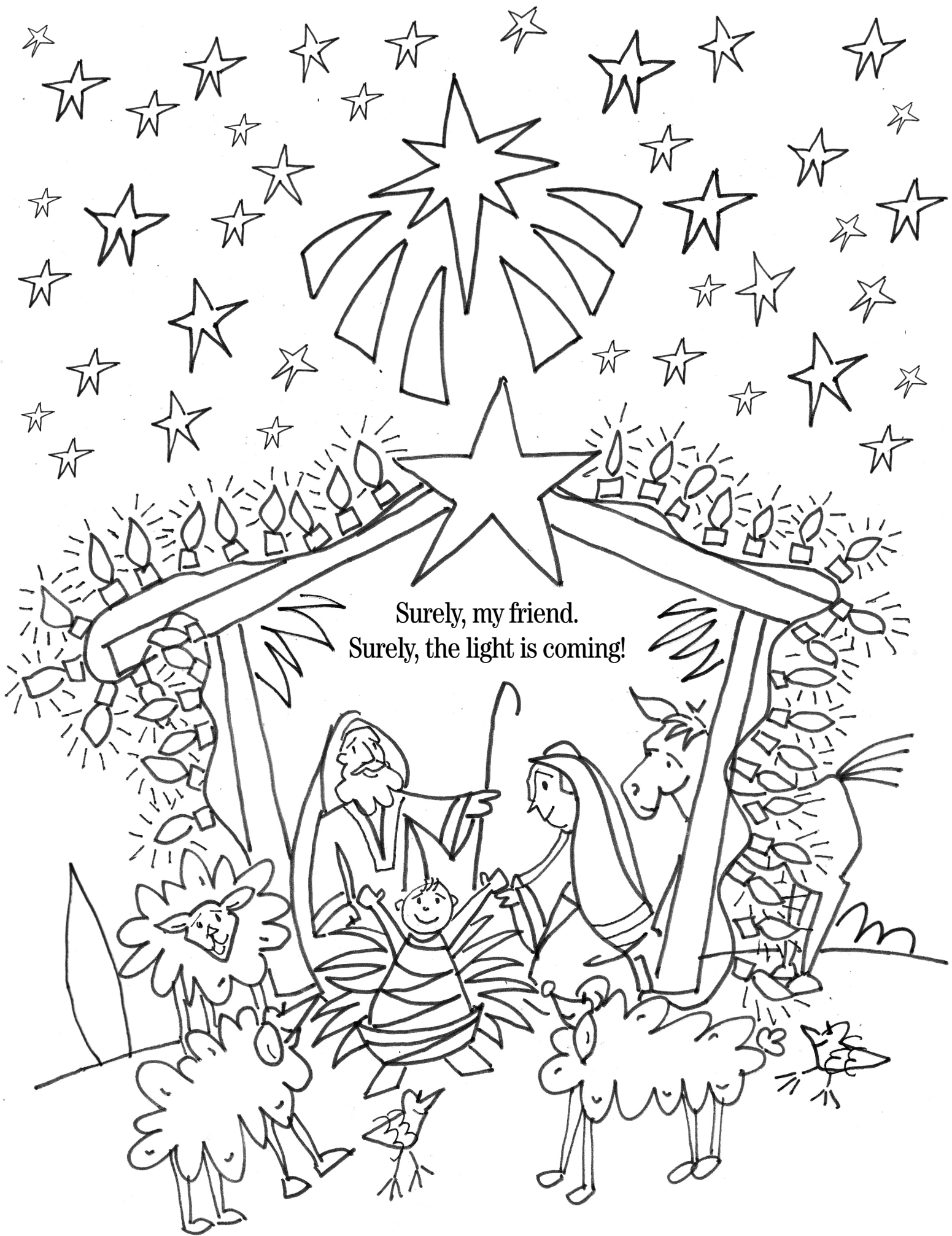
You're one of MY lights, Mr. Abdul. I get excited just thinking
about coming to help you!



Thanks, Austin! We can ALL be light to each other,
just like Jesus came to be a light for ALL of us.



I like that! We can be excited all year long
because the light is always coming!



Surely, my friend.
Surely, the light is coming!

★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND

for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund



The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world for over 115 years. One of the four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ, the Christmas Fund provides UCC congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in kindheartedness to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church and who now find themselves facing worrisome financial needs. The Pension Boards, on behalf of the whole church, passes on this direct support so that real needs may be met and support may be felt. Through your gifts to the Christmas Fund, you can help ensure that **"The Light is Surely Coming"** and pass on God's love.

The Christmas Fund has developed this coloring book to help United Church of Christ congregations tell the story of the light of God moving throughout time and creation and how we can be lights to the world today. Illustrations were created by Ted Dawson, a member of Judson Memorial Church in New York City, and the story was written by Shernell Edney Stilley, Minister for Congregational Life at First Congregational Church of San Jose, United Church of Christ, in California.

Additional copies of this coloring book can be downloaded for free at www.christmasfund.org or purchased at www.uccresources.com.



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