

THE
Holly
AND THE
Ivy

A COLORING BOOK
CELEBRATING THE WONDER
OF CHRISTMAS



SNEAK
PEEK

UNCORRECTED
PROOF

THE Holly AND THE Ivy

A COLORING BOOK CELEBRATING
THE WONDER AND JOY OF CHRISTMAS





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INTRODUCTION

“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

—*Luke 2:14 (NKJV)*

Christmas truly is one of the most wonderful times of the year! With candles in the windows, lights in the trees, stockings over fireplaces, and the sound of bells in the air, it’s a season full of wonder and joy. In this time, we celebrate the birth of the Savior and renew our expectation of his return. We give generously to those in need and share more readily the gifts of goodwill and God’s love to those around us. Even if the year was marked by challenges or difficulties, the season of Advent gives us the opportunity to reflect on the blessings that did come our way. And even if the month of December feels overcrowded with shopping trips and holiday events, it also presents us with the chance to offer cheer and good tidings of joy to everyone we encounter.

Of course, this season isn’t always cider and sugar cookies. For many, Christmas can mean challenges, painful experiences, or reminders of a past loss. And whether it’s from the classic Christmas songs playing on the radio or the boxes of family decorations that have been handed down over the years, memories can hold a stronger

weight, carrying with them a feeling of nostalgia that, while welcome for some, might be bittersweet for others. If that feeling resonates with you or someone you know, may this coloring book invite you into a place of peace and comfort and encourage you with the knowledge that you are not alone. And no matter your circumstances, past or present, remember that Christ has come and now sits on the throne—and that is good news indeed!

So grab your colored pencils and some cocoa and settle yourself in front of a cozy fire—or gather some friends and assorted Christmas treats and throw a holiday-themed coloring party. However you use this book, may the inspiring words and festive illustrations spark in you an attitude of comfort, peace, and joy so that you can in turn become a source of cheer and goodwill to others.

If you’d like to share some of your artwork and connect with fellow artists during this season, post your colored pages on Instagram using the hashtag #HollyAndIvyColoringBook.

Merry Christmas!

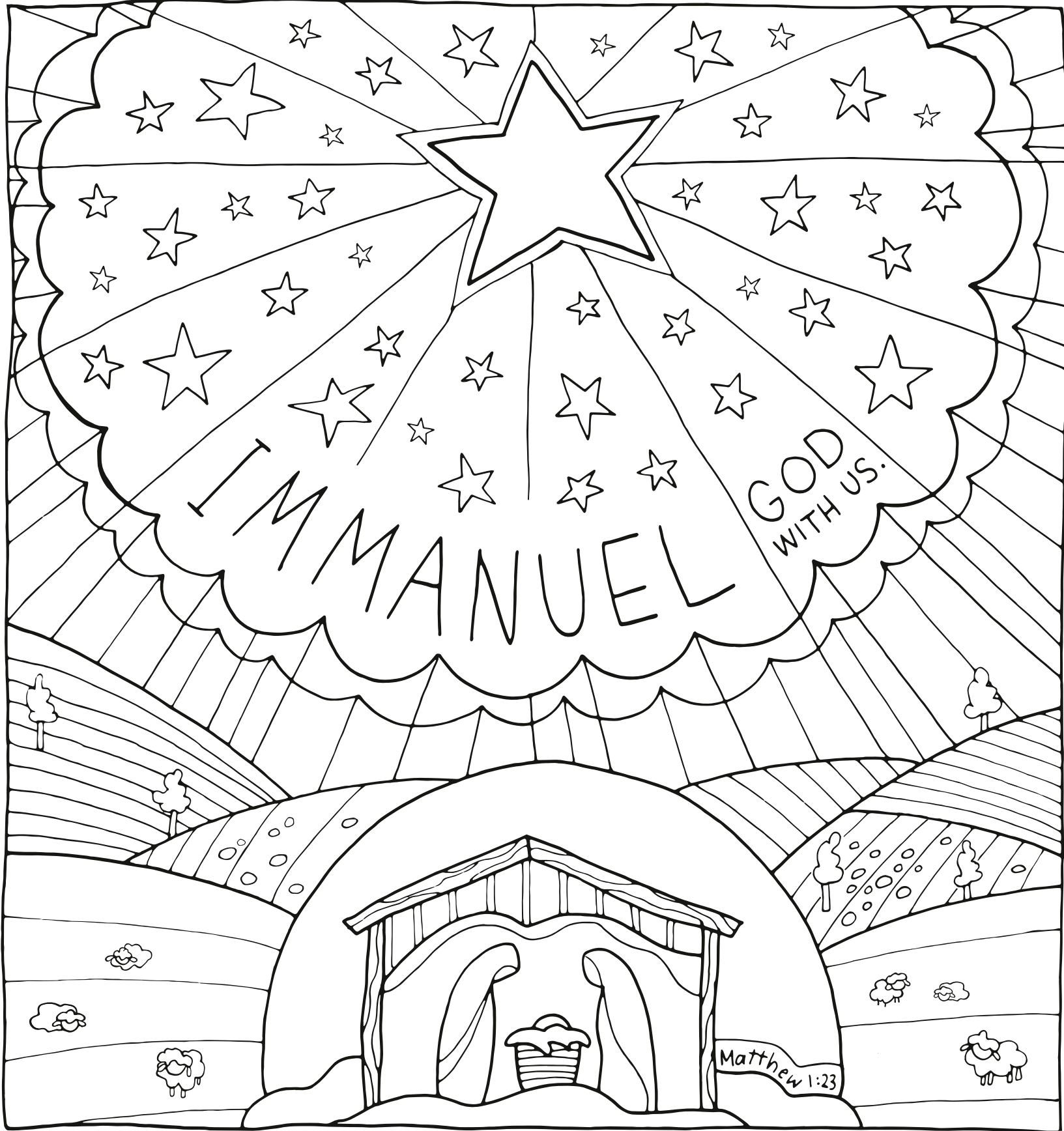


Christmas is a together-y
sort of holiday. - A. A. MILNE

Christmas is a together-y sort of holiday.

—A. A. Milne (1882–1956), in *Winnie the Pooh*. An English author, poet, and playwright, Milne is best known for his books featuring the beloved teddy bear Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends in the Hundred-Acre Wood.

Illustrated by Bridget Hurley



The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means “God with us”).

—Matthew 1:23

Illustrated by Ann-Margret Hovsepian



I WILL HONOUR CHRISTMAS IN MY HEART AND TRY TO KEEP IT ALL THE YEAR.

—Charles Dickens

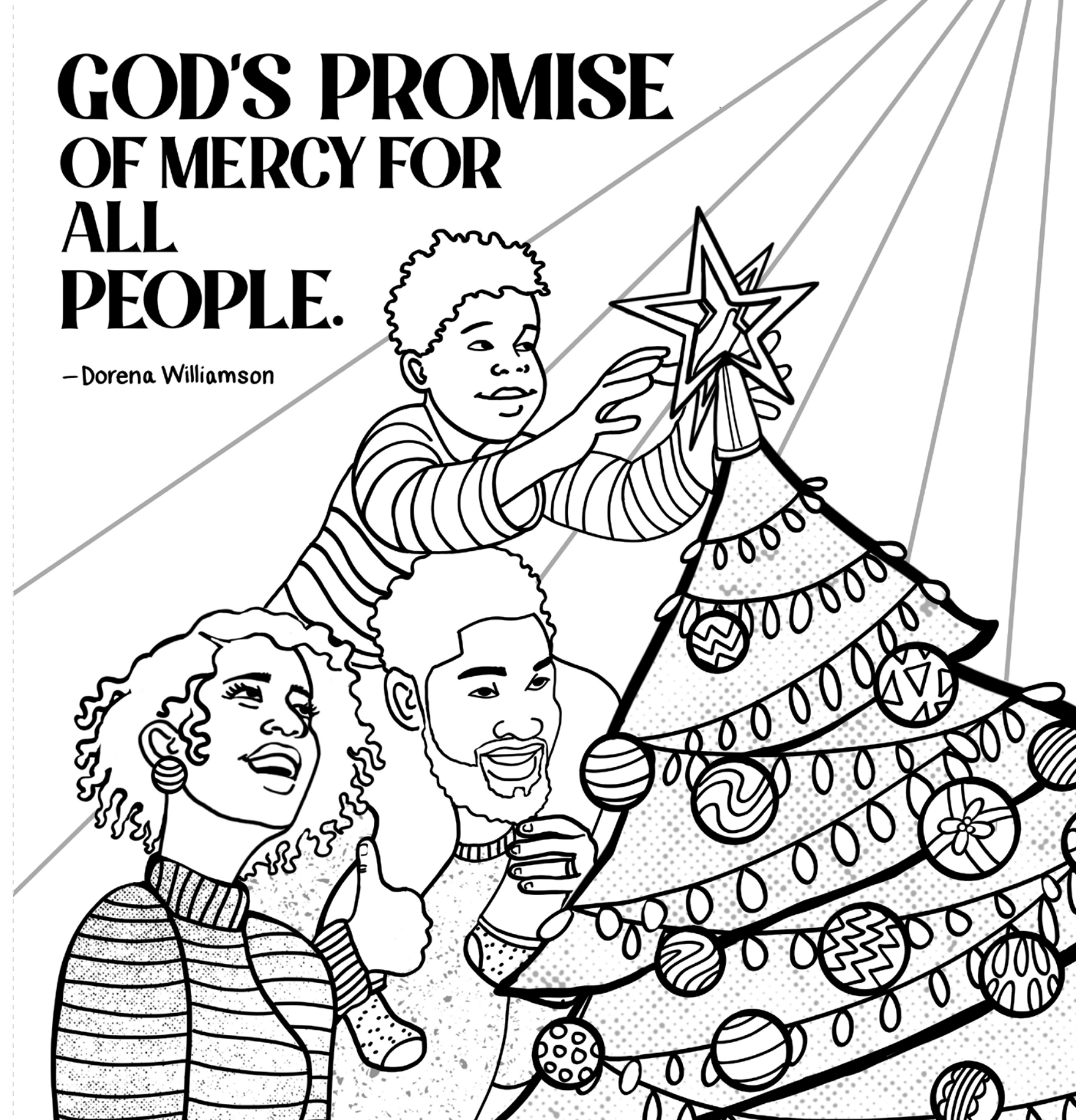
I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach.

—Charles Dickens (1812–1870), in *A Christmas Carol* (1843).
Known for his popular novels like *Oliver Twist*, *Great Expectations*, and *A Tale of Two Cities*, Dickens was an English writer and social reformer who is widely considered to be one of the greatest novelists of the Victorian Era. His novella *A Christmas Carol* has sold over two million copies since its publication and continues to be adapted across all artistic mediums.

Illustrated by Jesalee Go

GOD'S PROMISE OF MERCY FOR ALL PEOPLE.

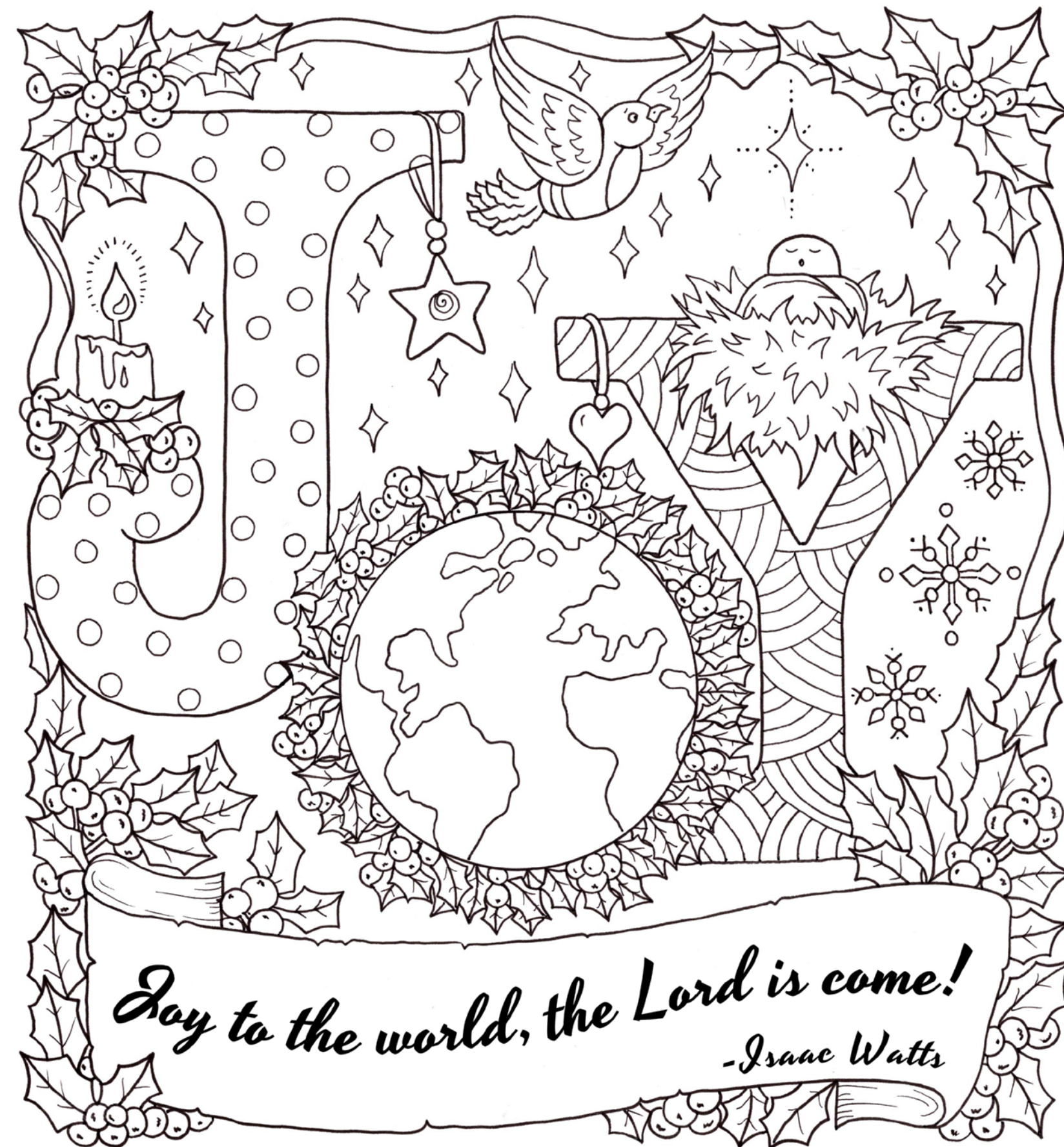
—Dorena Williamson

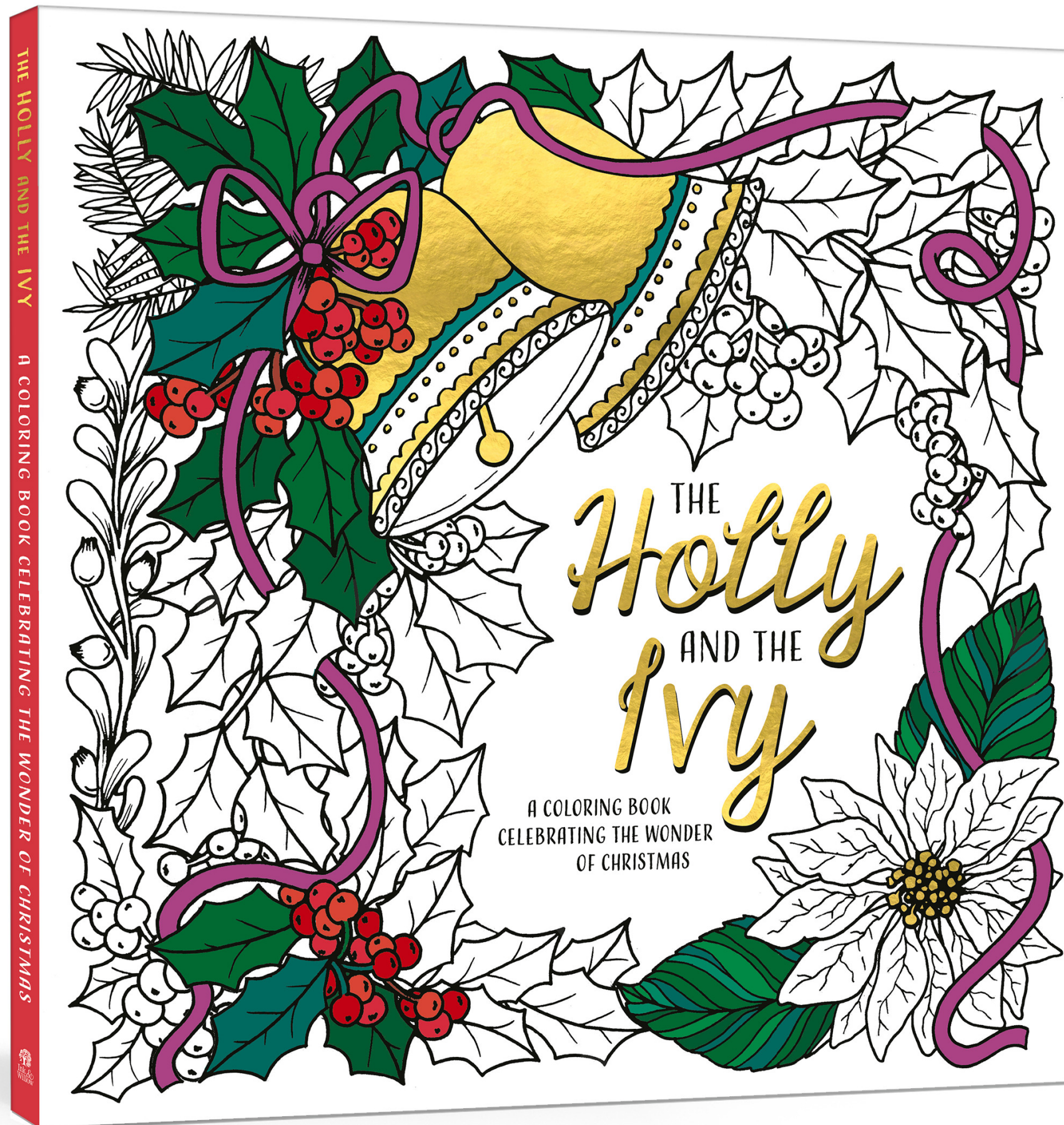


As Mary looked at her brown baby, she saw in Him God's promise of mercy for all people.

—Dorena Williamson, in *Brown Baby Jesus* (WaterBrook, 2022).
Williamson, a bestselling author, writes children's books celebrating multiculturalism, including *Crowned with Glory*. She is also a preacher's kid, pastor's wife, and cross-cultural ministry veteran.

Illustrated by Monica Mikai





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