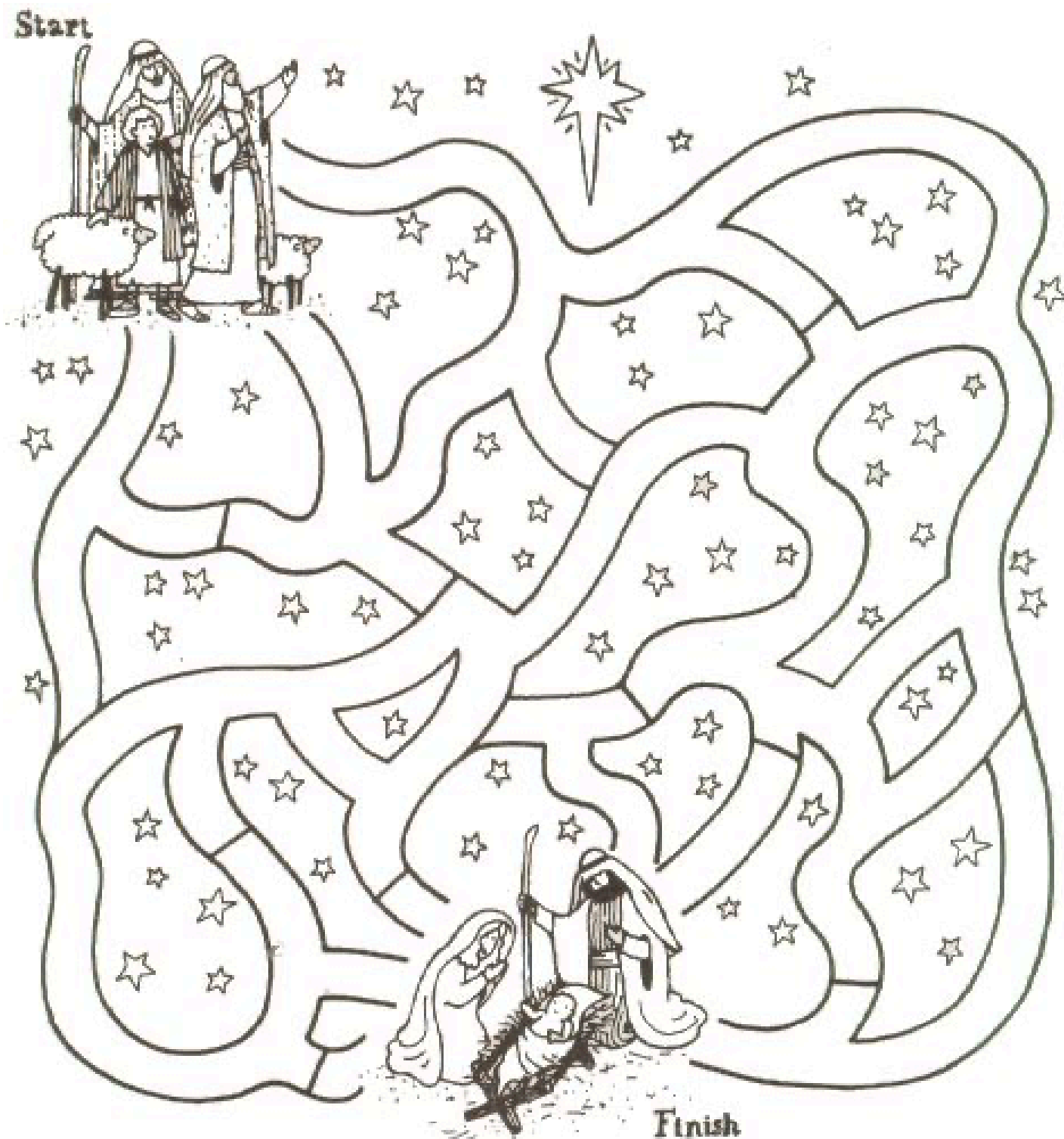


*Help the shepherds find the path to Jesus.*



**Hope Lutheran Church**  
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**Want to have the Awesome God Squad mailed to you each month? Contact Pastor John LeCain at [pastorjohn@hope4all.church](mailto:pastorjohn@hope4all.church).**

# The Awesome God Squad



**Kidz Korner**

**December 2024**

## A Savior for All of Us - (A Modern Retelling of the Birth of Jesus)

It was a cold December night in Meadowville, where Christmas lights sparkled on every house. At the community center, Maria and Joseph sat quietly in a corner. They'd come to town for a family reunion but found all the hotels full because of the Christmas festival. Maria, expecting a baby any day, was exhausted. A kind janitor, Bridget, offered them some blankets and space in the gym.

Meanwhile, across town, Sophie and her friends were talking about Christmas plans. Sophie, who had just been diagnosed with diabetes, was feeling out of place this year. Her best friend Max was frustrated from being picked on at school, while Jade, a creative artist, struggled with dyslexia. Marco, the newest kid in town, mostly stayed quiet, not wanting to admit how lonely he felt.

Sophie's mom came in with surprising news. "Did you hear? There's a family staying at the community center. The mom's about to have a baby, and they don't have anywhere else to go."

The kids decided they had to help. "Let's bring them something," Jade suggested. Sophie packed cookies, Marco brought a baby blanket, and Max offered his favorite flashlight—"in case the baby needs a nightlight."

When they arrived, Joseph greeted them with a tired smile. "Thank you. Maria will be so happy to see you." But as they handed over their gifts, Maria gasped. "The baby's coming!"

With Bridget's help, Maria gave birth right there in the gym. "He's beautiful," Maria whispered, wrapping the baby in Marco's blanket. "His name is Jesus."

The kids stood in awe, gazing at the baby. Sophie finally spoke. "I think he's here for people like us—people who sometimes feel different or left out."

Max nodded. "Yeah, it's like he's here to show us we're loved no matter what."

As they marveled at baby Jesus, a group of carolers outside began singing, their voices filling the night with joy. One of the singers, a teenager named Tyler, came in with a bundle of props from the festival nativity play. He knelt by the baby, his voice trembling. "This baby... he feels like hope."

The kids stayed late into the night, laughing, singing, and feeling something new in their hearts. It wasn't just about Christmas lights or presents anymore—it was about love and hope.

That Christmas, the original story of Jesus came alive for the kids of Meadowville, reminding them—and the whole town—that a Savior had come for everyone, just as they were.

# **SUPER!** TEST YOUR BRAIN

**Question:** What gifts did the wise men bring to baby Jesus?

**Answer:** Gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## What is Epiphany?

In January, a church's calendar remains busy. There are still many stories to share.

Let me share the story of the epiphany.

### What Is an Epiphany?

An epiphany is a moment when you suddenly understand something amazing or surprising. In the church, Epiphany is the day we remember the wise men, or Magi, who discovered who Jesus really was—a Savior for everyone!

## MEMORY CHALLENGE

How good is your memory?

Try to memorize this Bible verse:

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

Mark 4:39

## The Story: "A Journey to Jesus"

A long time ago, in a faraway land, three wise men were studying the stars.

One night, they noticed a star brighter than all the others. It seemed to shine with a special message.

"This star is a sign," said one. "A new king has been born!"

The wise men packed their things and set off on a long journey. They followed the star through deserts and hills, traveling day and night. They wondered what kind of king they would meet—was he powerful? Rich?

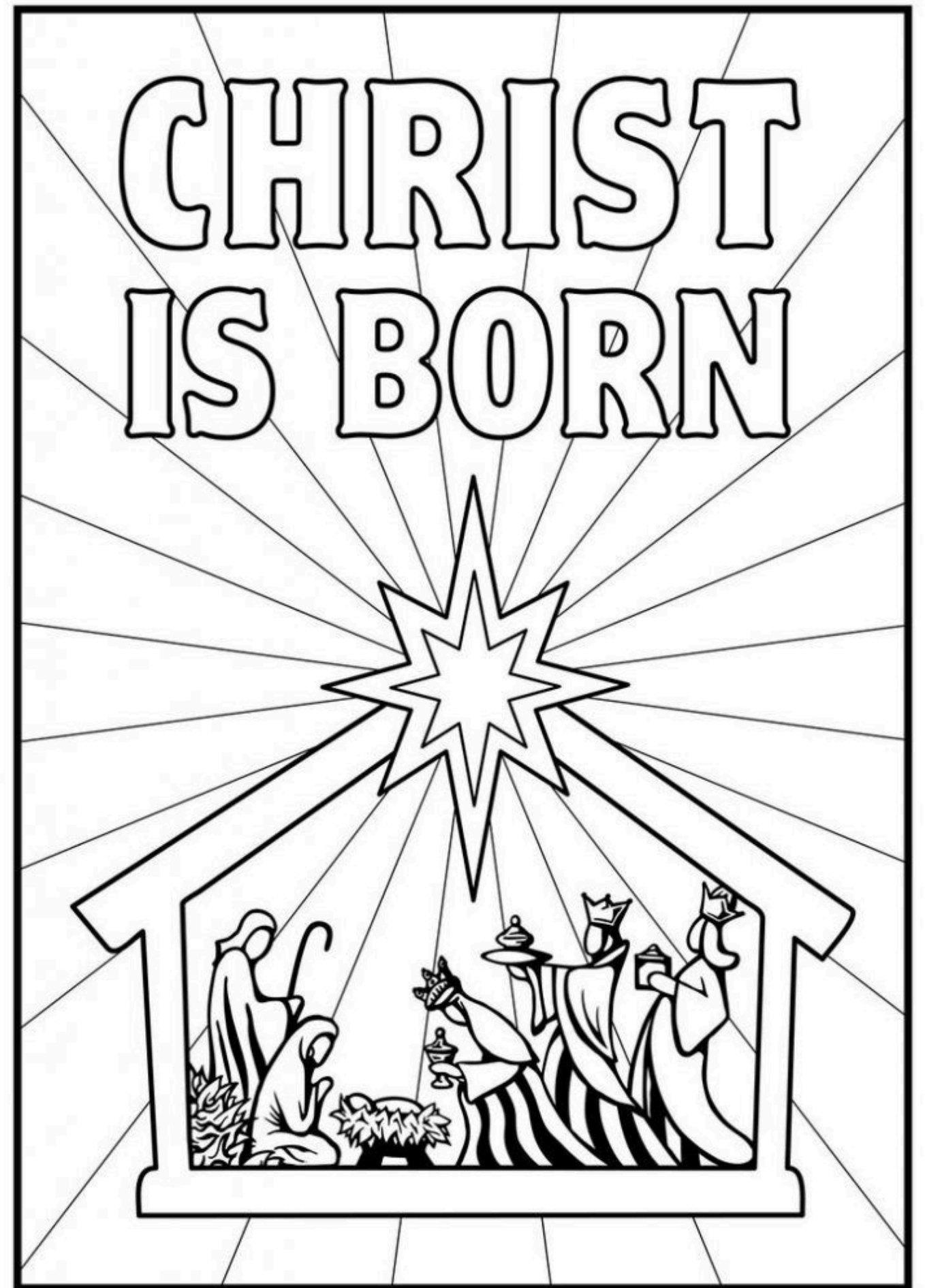
Finally, the star stopped over a small house in Bethlehem. Inside, they found Mary holding baby Jesus. He didn't look like a king. There was no palace, no throne—just a simple family.

But when the wise men saw him, they knew. This was no ordinary king. Jesus was God's Son, sent to bring love and hope to the whole world.

They gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—symbols of honor and worship.

Then, filled with joy, they returned home, telling everyone the amazing news: Jesus came not just for one group of people, but for everyone, everywhere.

That's the epiphany—realizing that Jesus is the Savior for all!



# TIME FOR COLORING