

Yellow Teddy

Colouring

Christmas Pictures and Cards



Yellow Teddy



ALL YOU NEED IS:

- Paper or card
- Scissors
- Coloured pencils, crayons or paints
- Envelopes for cards



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Ten Christmas Story pictures with text

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- 21-31 Large A5 colouring cards, plus 1 with blank front – print on one A4 sheet and fold in half.
- 32-41 Colouring sheets A4

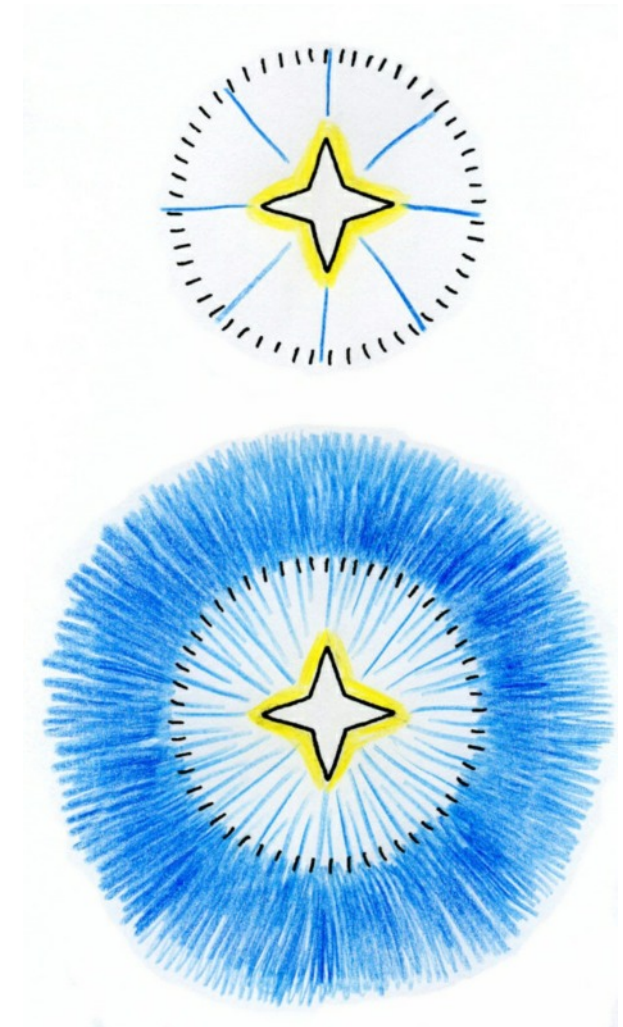
Free download from www.yellow-teddy.org.uk

More free Christmas Colour and Cut Out PDFs available

All Bible quotations are from the New International Version

Tips and Ideas

- If you are using thin paper, colour in with pencils or crayons, because wet paints will make the paper crinkle.
- If you are using marker pens, place a spare piece of paper underneath, as the ink sometimes goes right through the paper. If this happens, cut out the picture and stick it onto one of the blanks.
- The blank cards are for you to make your own drawings. You can get a good effect by printing the blanks on coloured card, and sticking on a separate drawing made on white paper. You could also cut out the coloured picture pages and stick on.
- To get a better fold, use a ruler to mark a groove along your fold line. Use a blunt point, like the corner of another ruler or the tip of a biro that has run out of ink. The idea is to break the fibres of the paper slightly so that the fold stays flat. Press a teaspoon along the fold to help flatten it.
- You can cut off the card borders so they fit your envelopes. Try out on some scrap paper first to get the size right.
- Don't forget to sign the backs of the cards!
- When you have coloured the Christmas card sheets, scan them and print more, or have colour photocopies made, so you can send them to everyone! Keep one for yourself and make up your own artwork folder.
- Cut out the people or animals to make hanging decorations or gift tags.
- Stick the pictures on wrapping paper that needs some extra decoration.



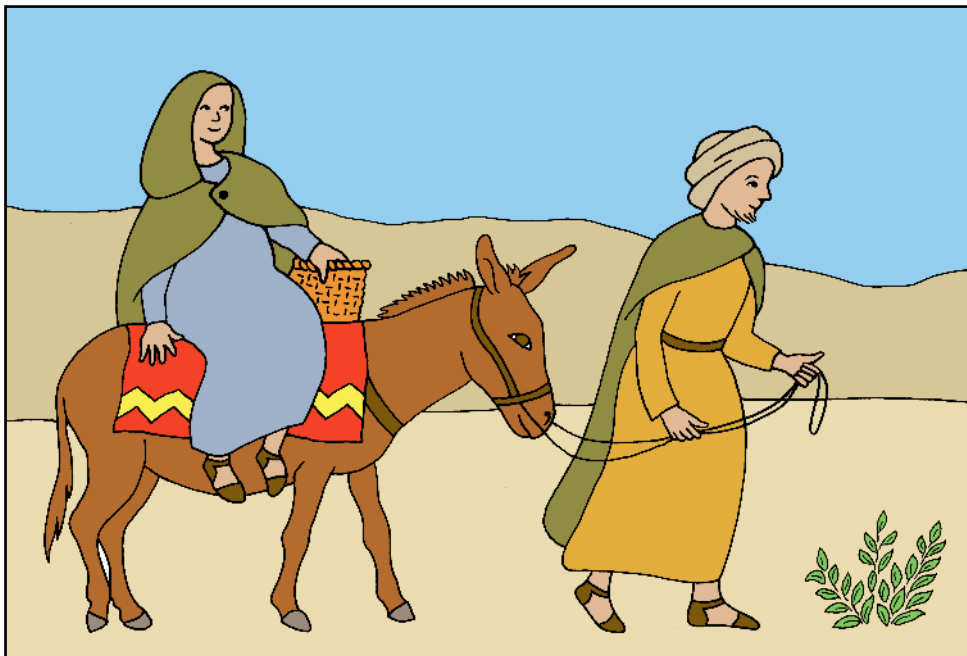
To make the star look brighter, outline it in yellow, then draw lots of blue lines coming out of it. The white spaces and stripy effect will look like rays of light. Make the sky as dark as you can.



About the Christmas Story

Mary was a young lady living in Nazareth. The angel Gabriel brought a message to Mary that she was chosen to have baby Jesus. This is sometimes called the “Annunciation” which means announcement.

In paintings, Mary is often shown wearing blue. Ordinary people could use a plant dye called indigo to make blue clothes. Dyes for really bright blue and purple were extremely expensive and only kings had them. This is why it is called Royal Blue. In some paintings Mary is shown wearing Royal Blue to honour her place in history as the mother of Jesus.



Mary married Joseph who was a carpenter. Joseph and Mary had to walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered for taxes. This was about the time that Mary’s baby was due to be born.

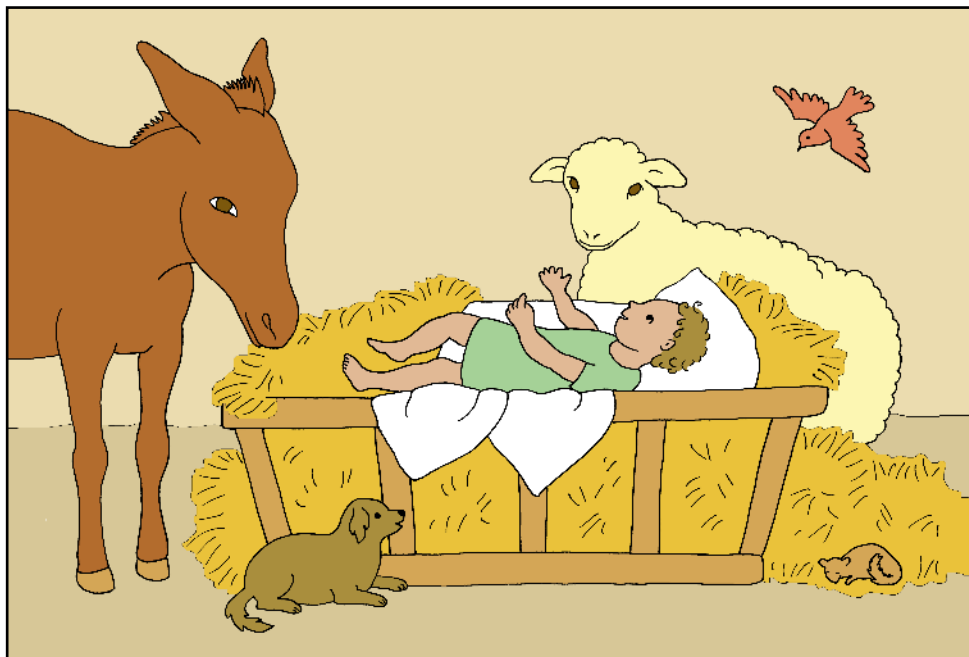
The journey through the hills and countryside would have taken about a week. The roads were mostly rough rocky tracks and not at all like our smooth roads. Donkeys were normally used to carry people and bags.



There were lots of extra people in Bethlehem, who also came to be registered. All the guest rooms were full of these visitors, and Joseph and Mary could not find a room. They had to find somewhere else.

They may have stayed in a stable or a villager's house. In those days, people kept their animals in the lower part of the house at night, to keep them safe. The animals also provided warmth for the house!

This is where Mary gave birth to baby Jesus.



The only place to put the baby was a manger, which is a box to hold the animals' food and hay. Manger comes from the French word for "eat".

Hay is very good at staying warm and dry, so the baby was comfortable.

In those times people wrapped newborn babies in strips of cloth called "swaddling clothes". It kept the baby warm, and made him or her feel safe and calm. This picture shows the baby before he was swaddled.



There were shepherds in the fields at night, looking after their sheep. They had to keep watch all the time, against wild animals and robbers, or to help any sheep that got hurt.

Suddenly an angel appeared and told them that a special baby had been born in Bethlehem, who would bring peace and joy to the world. More angels appeared, praising and singing, and after a while they disappeared again.

The shepherds were amazed, and they believed what the angels said.



The shepherds decided to go into Bethlehem to find the baby. It was probably their home town and not far away.

It is unlikely that they left the sheep unguarded. Some shepherds may have stayed to look after them, or they may have taken them to a sheep pen in the town.

The hilly land around Bethlehem was used for food crops, olive trees, vineyards to make wine, and for grazing sheep. Nowadays there are still pasture fields around Bethlehem where shepherds look after their sheep.



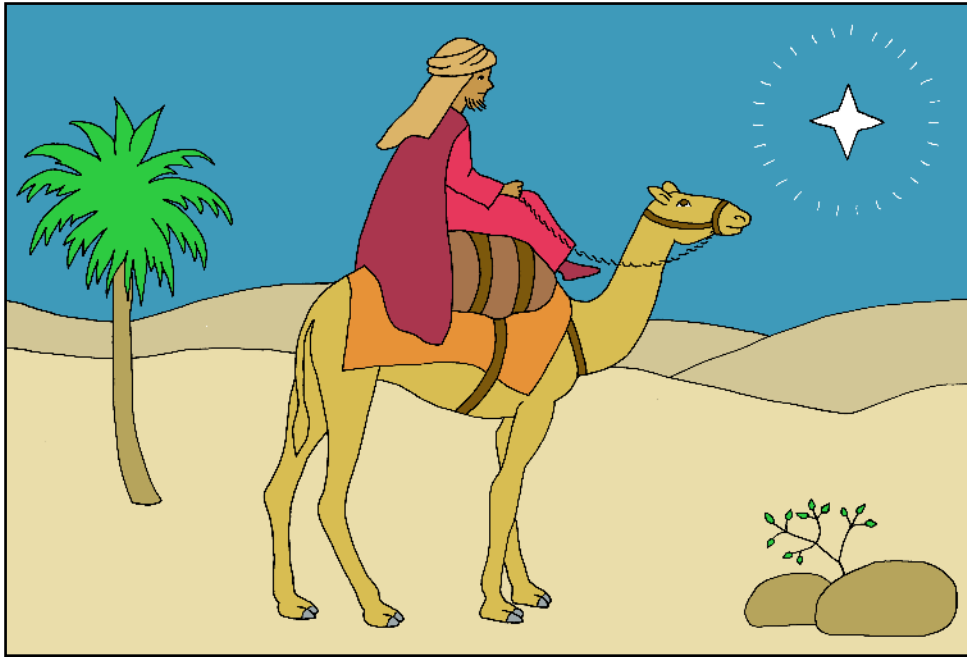
The shepherds found Joseph and Mary, just as the angel had told them. It was polite to bring a gift when visiting and it is possible that they brought a lamb from their flock. When they left, they told everyone they met all about what happened that night.

The lamp in the picture is an oil lamp – a small bowl of olive oil, fish oil or animal fat (sometimes called “tallow”), with a lighted wick in a groove at one end. It gave the same light as a candle. This was the normal form of lighting for most people. Olive oil was best – animal fat was very smoky and smelly.



The wise men were priests from a country to the east, who studied the stars. They gave special meanings to the movements of stars. In their own country, kings and governors would come to them for answers to problems, because they were well-educated men.

When they saw the new star, they believed that a new king had been born. This would be a very important event and so they decided to make the long journey to find the new king, following the Christmas star.



They probably arrived about two years after Jesus was born, as it was a very long journey. They would have crossed the deserts and mountains on camels which can survive very well in harsh conditions.

When they arrived they went to King Herod. King Herod did not want someone else to be king, so he told the wise men to tell him when they found the baby. He secretly wanted to kill the baby.

They followed the star and found Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. We assume that, by this time, Joseph and his family were living in a house in Bethlehem.

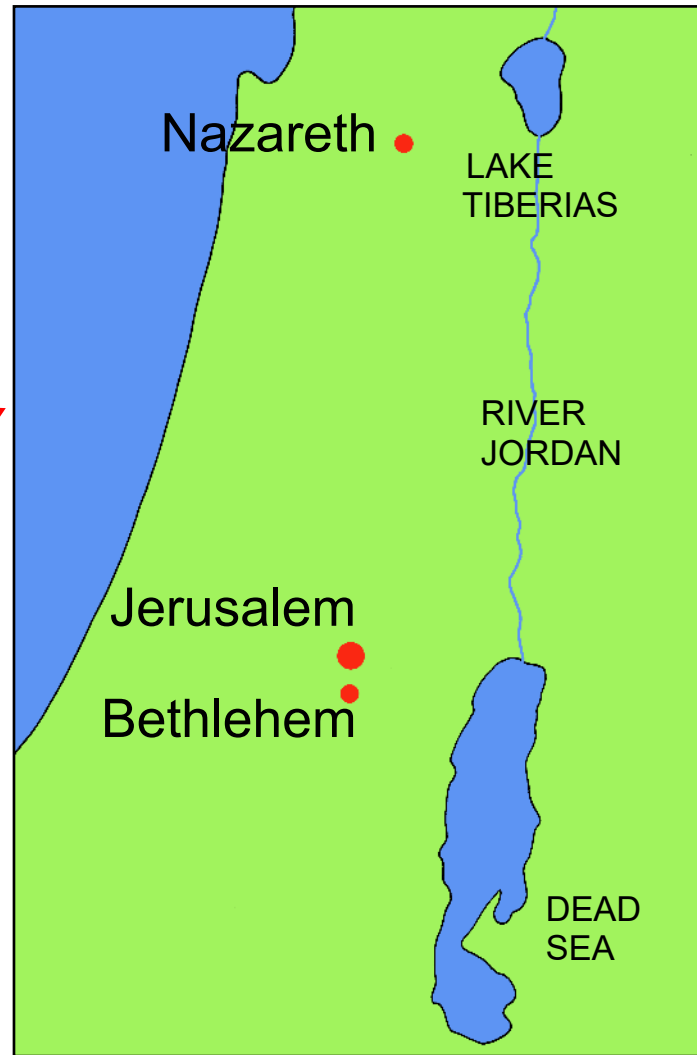
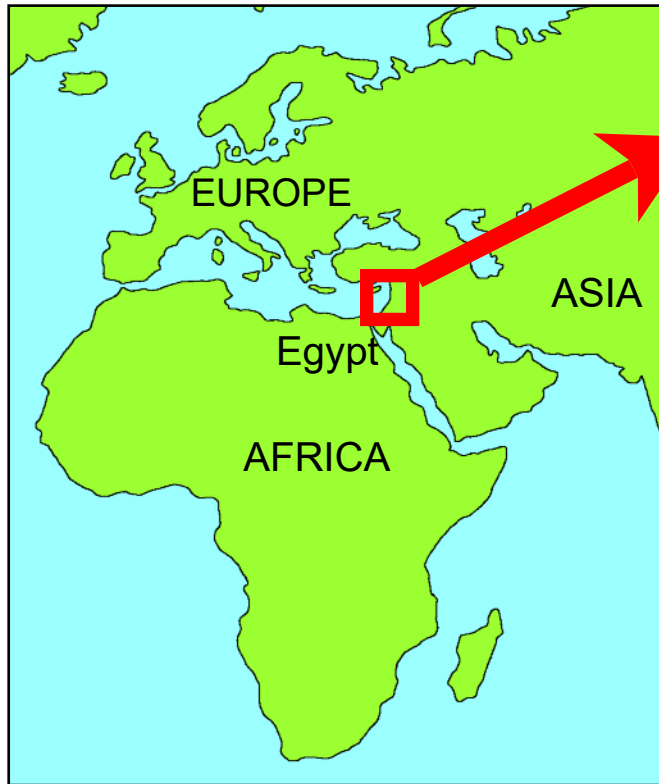


The wise men brought gifts of gold, which was like money, and frankincense and myrrh, which are very expensive perfumes. These were special presents that one would normally give to a king.

An angel warned the wise men not to tell King Herod anything, and so they went home another way. This made King Herod extremely angry.

Another angel told Joseph to take Mary and baby Jesus to Egypt until King Herod had died. After Herod's death, it was safe for them to return to Israel and they went back to live in Nazareth.

The Christmas Story took place in Israel, in the Middle East, about 2,000 years ago.



Israel has many hills and mountains. The land is flatter near the coast and in the river valley. The capital is **Jerusalem** built about 6,000 years ago. The name means "City of Peace".

Nazareth in Galilee is where Joseph and Mary made their home and where Jesus grew up. Lake Tiberias is a good fishing lake. The Dead Sea is 420 metres below sea level and nothing lives in it because it is extremely salty.

Bethlehem in Judea means "House of Bread" which probably refers to the good farmland in the area. The distance from Nazareth to Bethlehem is about 112 kilometres (70 miles).

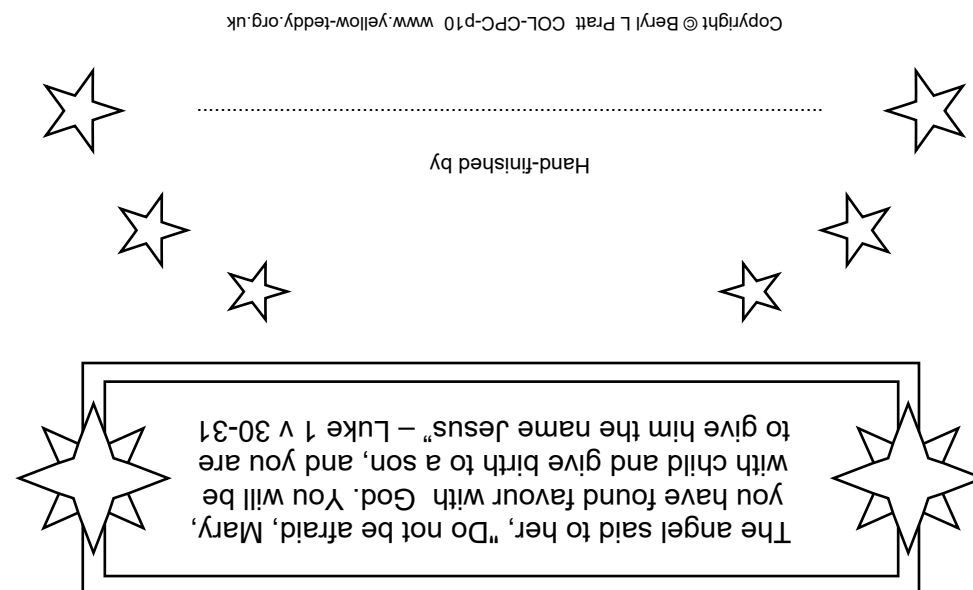
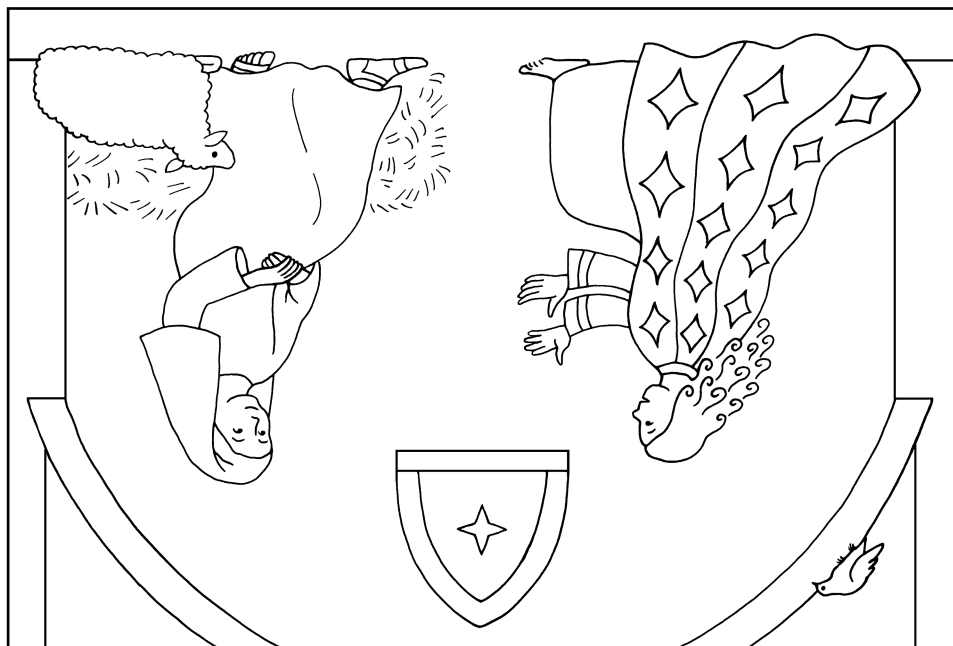
Where does the Christmas Story come from?

Most of the details are found in the Christian Bible, in the Gospel of Luke and the Gospel of Mark.

There are many historical documents which tell us what happened in times past. Records were carved in stone, on scrolls or manuscripts, and in books. All of these are stored very carefully in museums.

Archaeologists find the remains of temples, palaces, homes and everyday objects, such as pottery or jewellery.

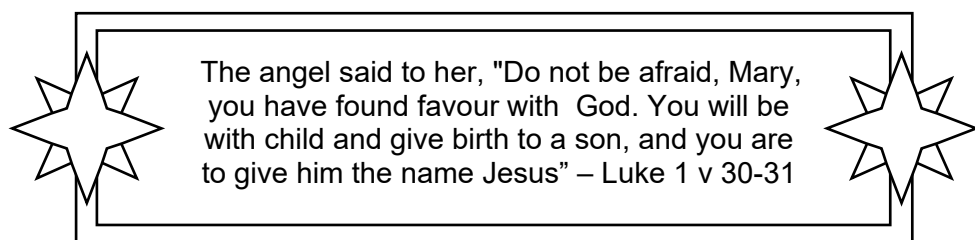
This extra information helps us to build up a complete picture of daily life 2,000 years ago, and makes it easier to understand the Christmas Story.



The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus" – Luke 1 v 30-31

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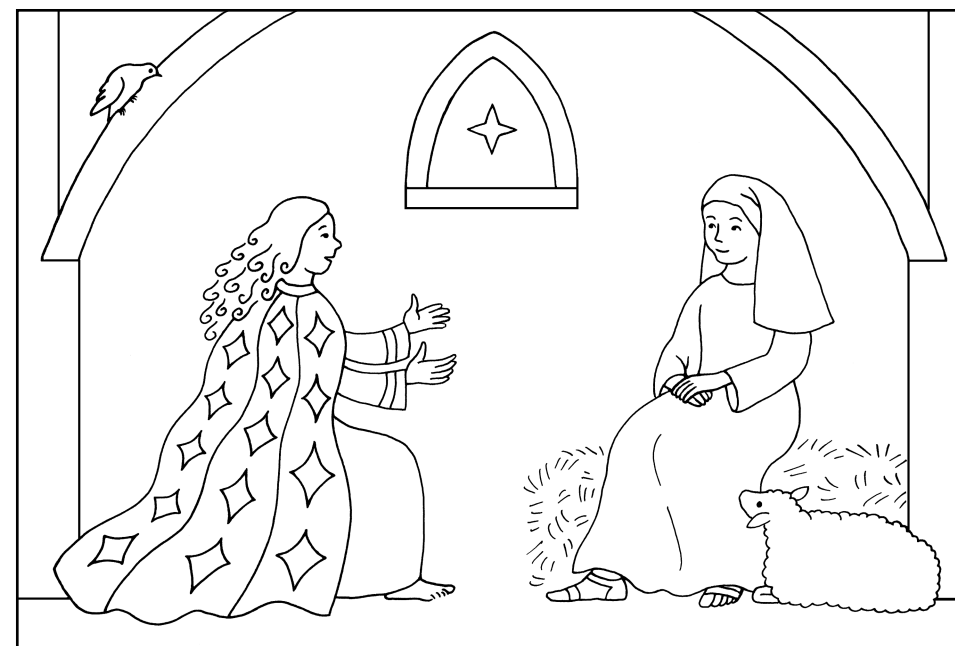
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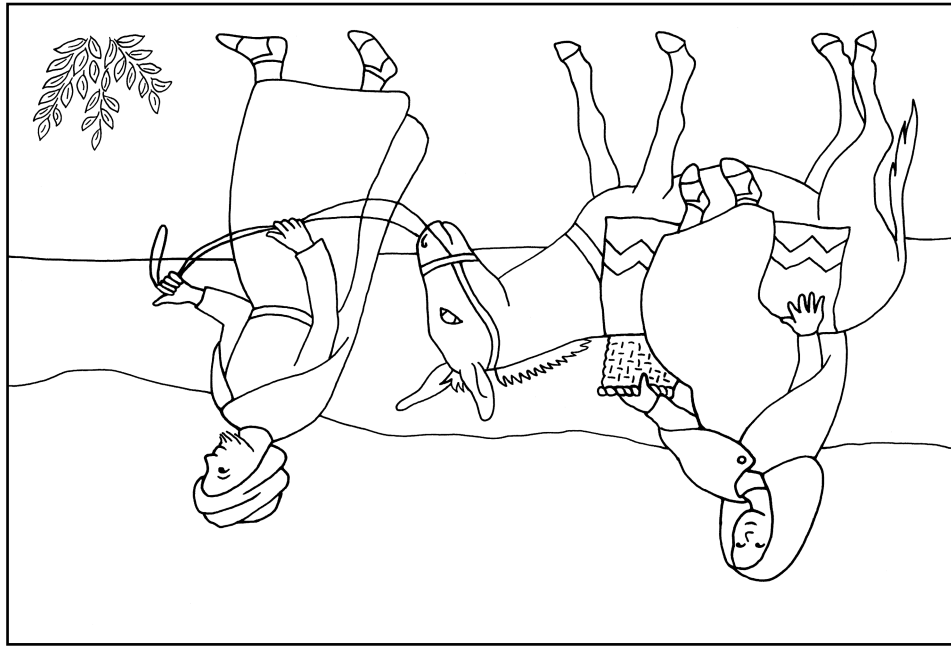


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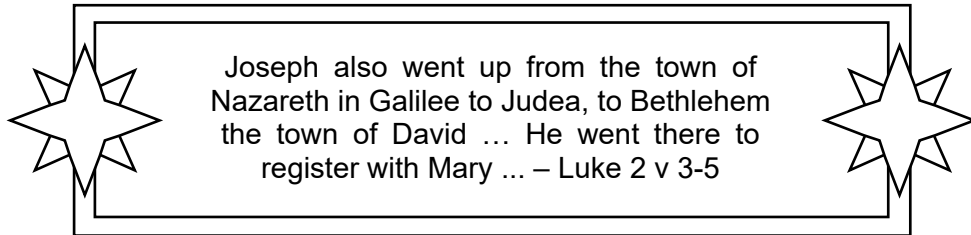
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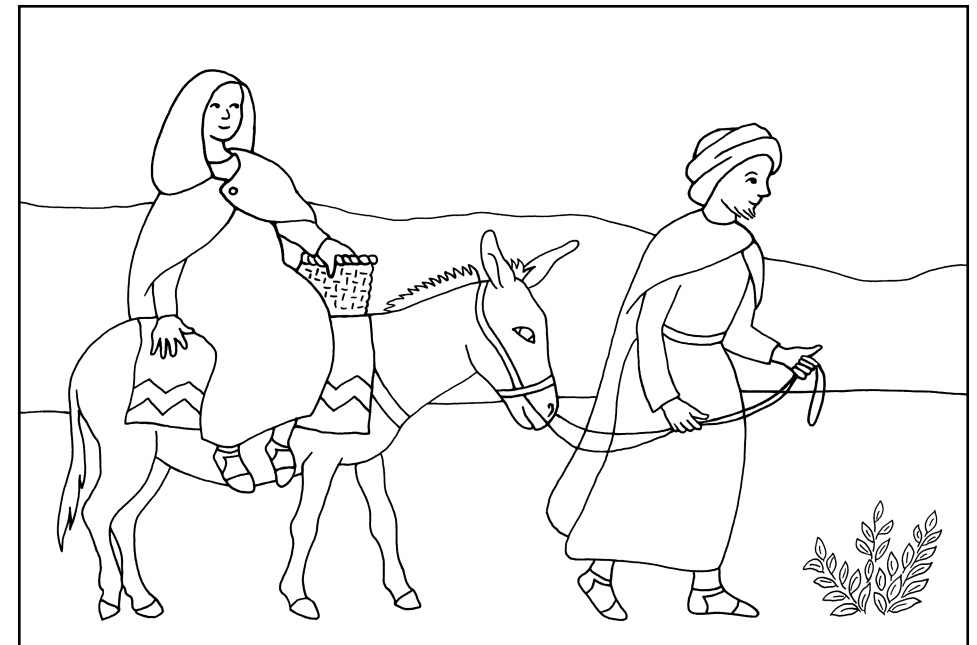
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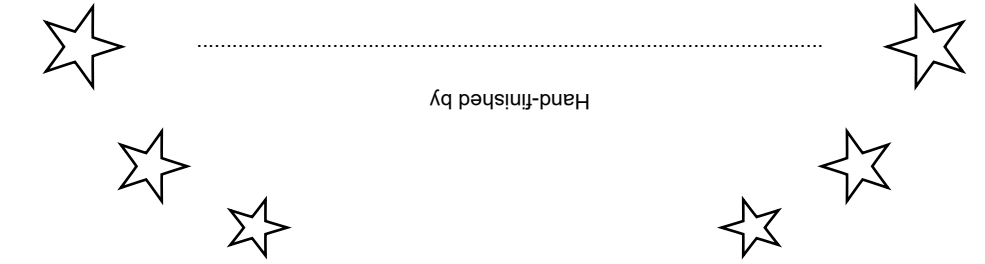
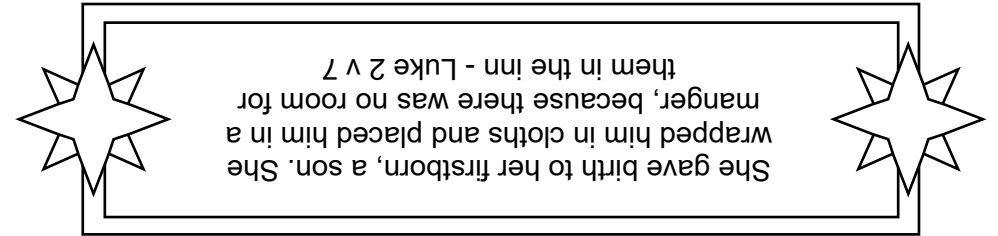
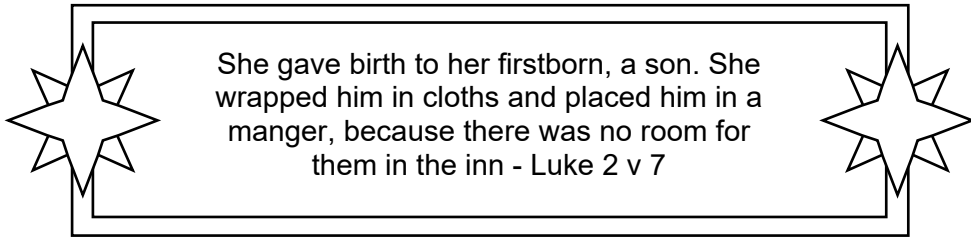
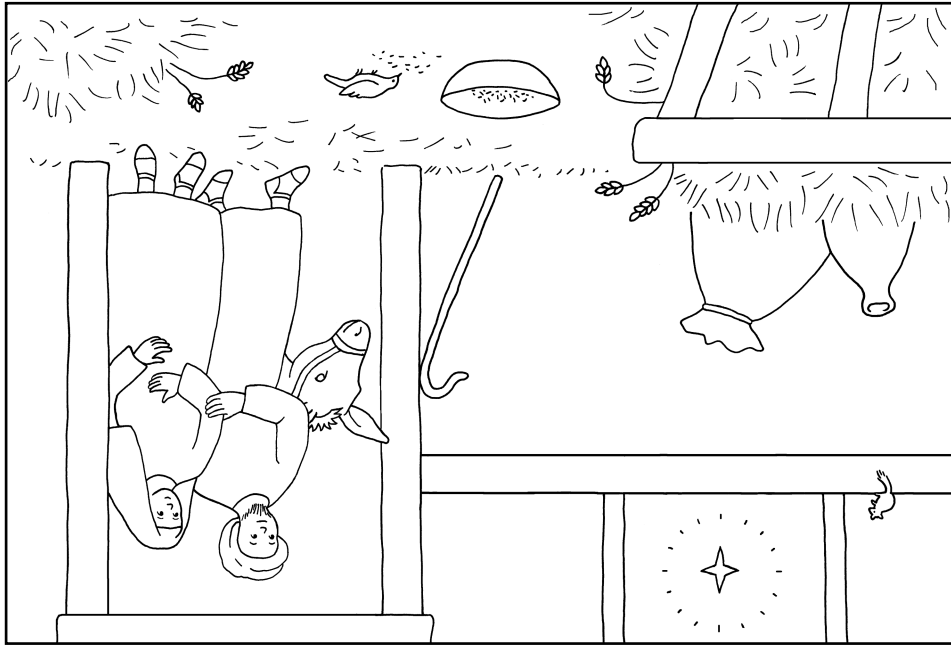
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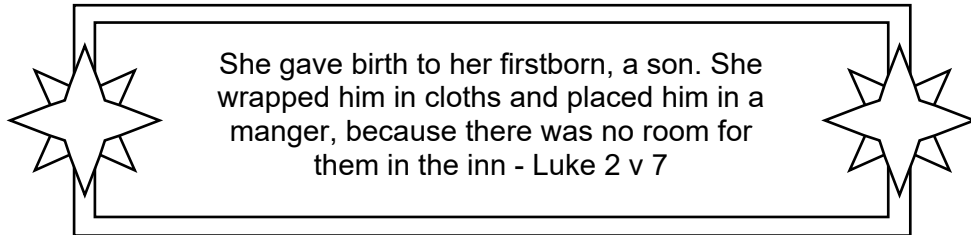






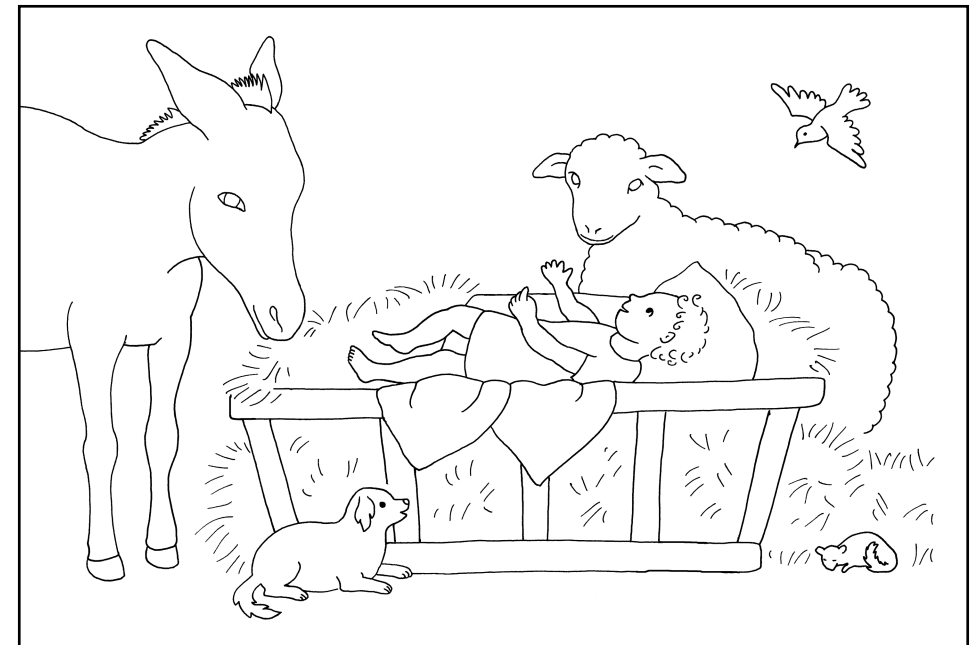
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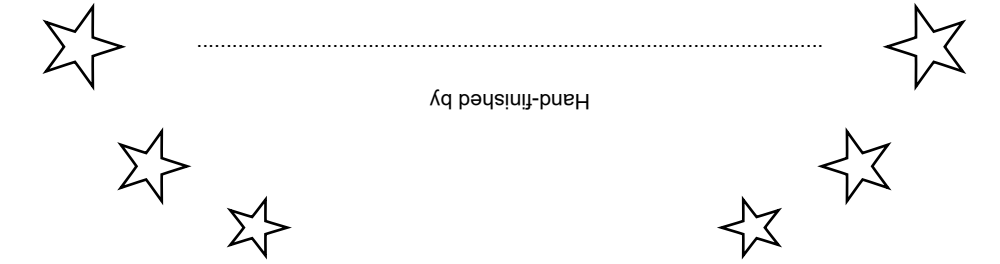
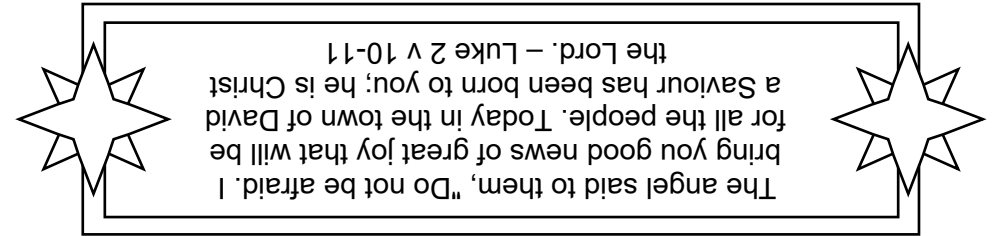
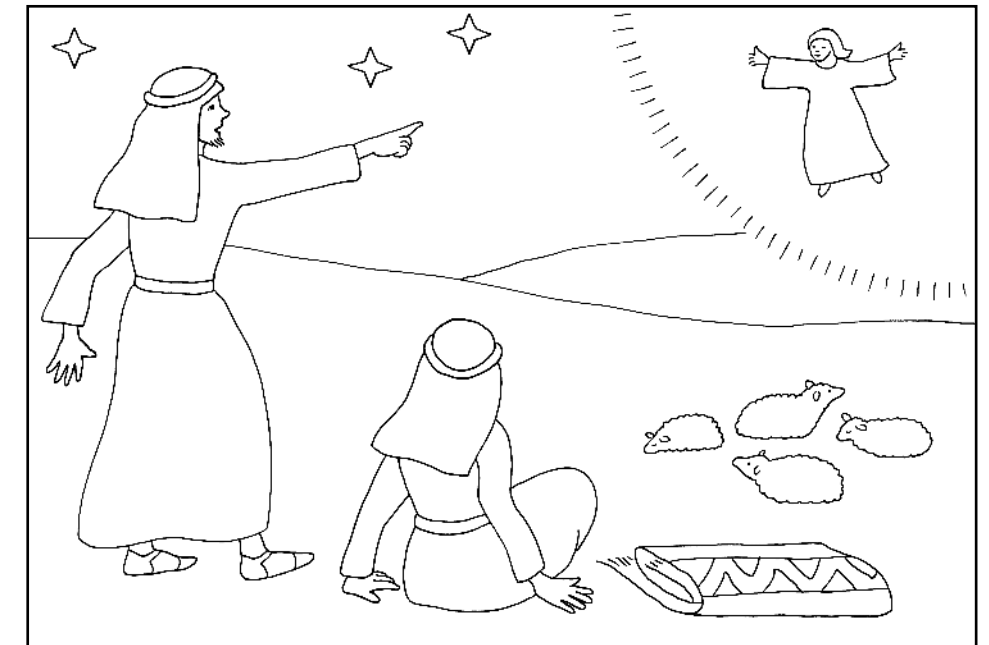
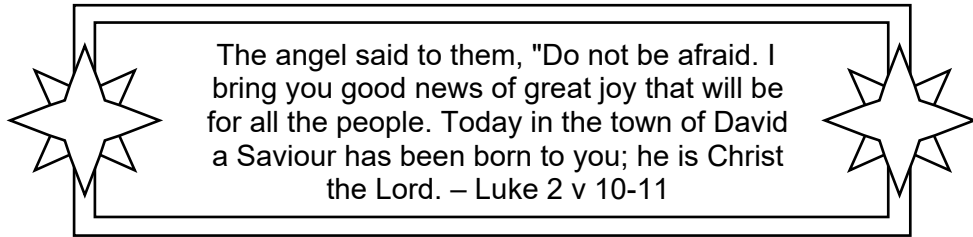
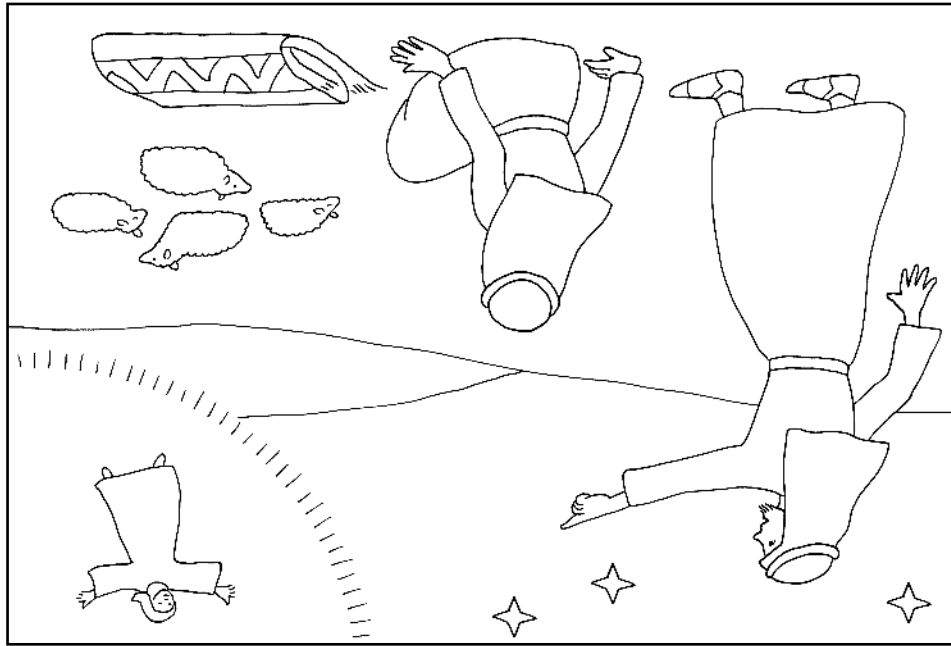
She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn - Luke 2 v 7

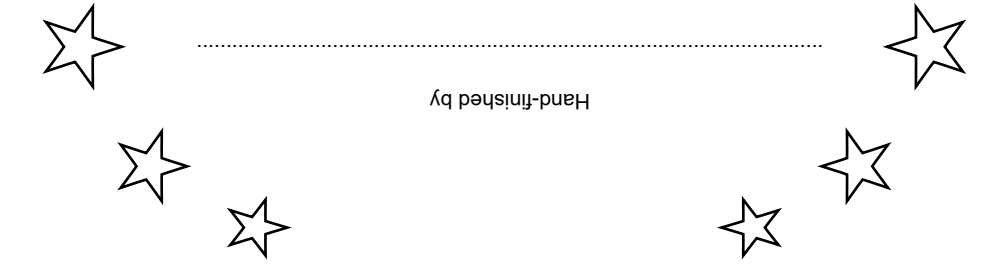
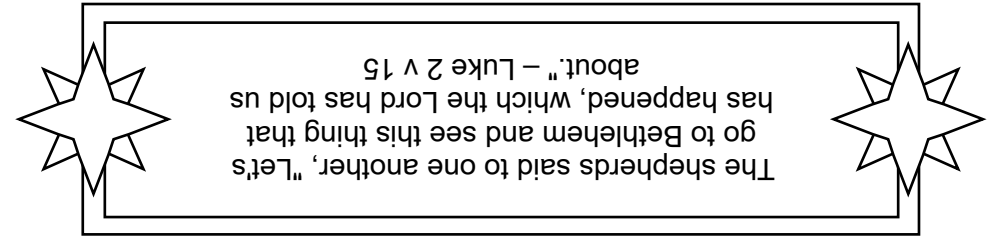
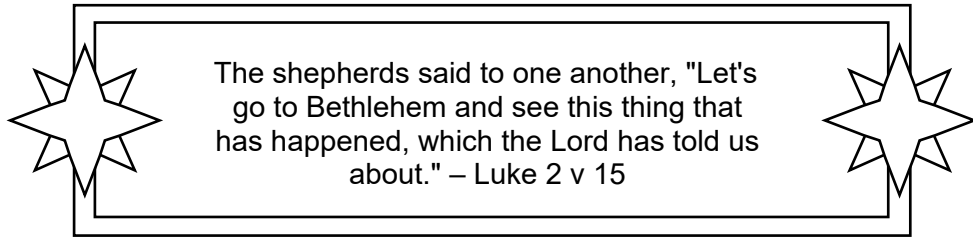
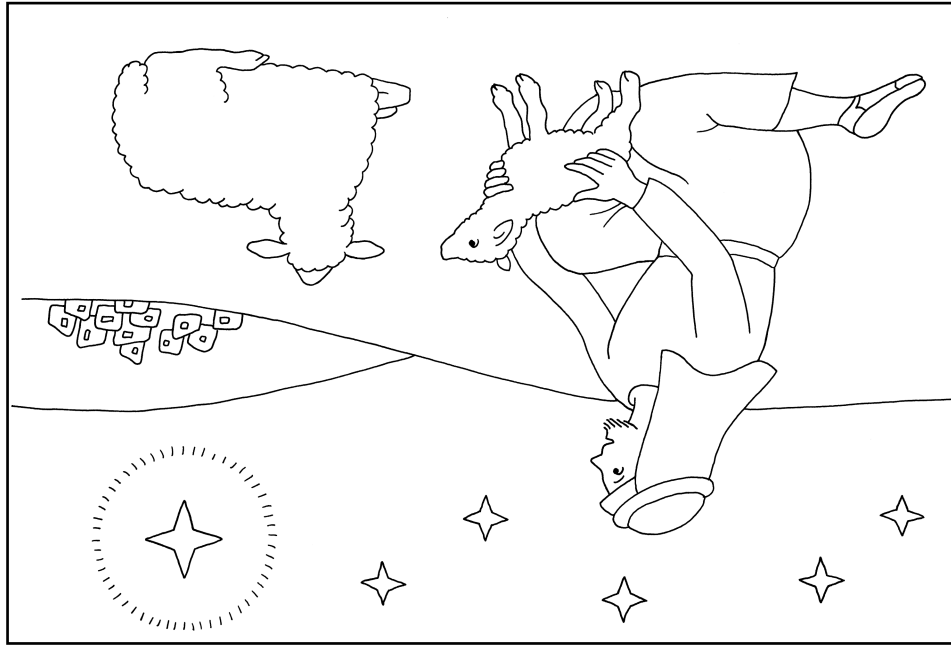


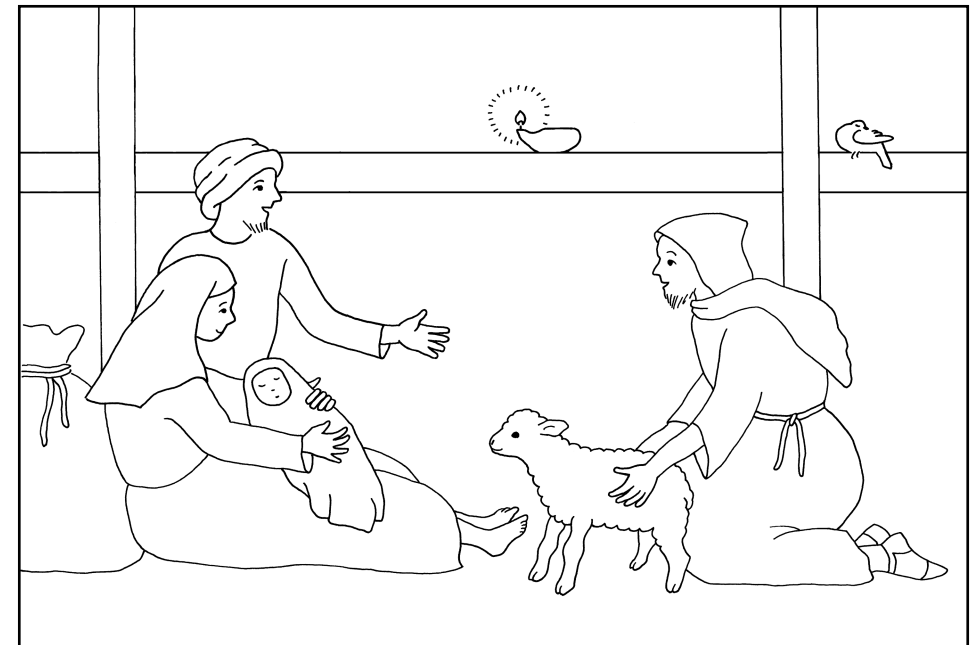
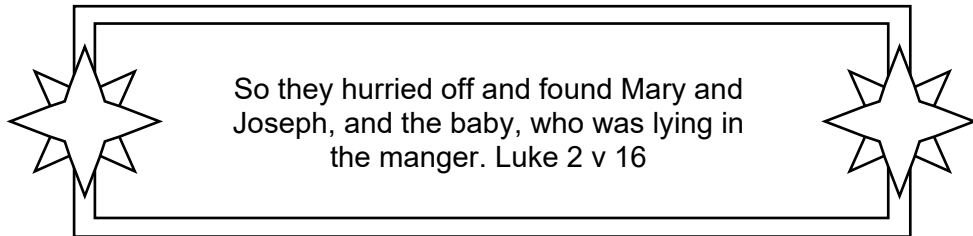
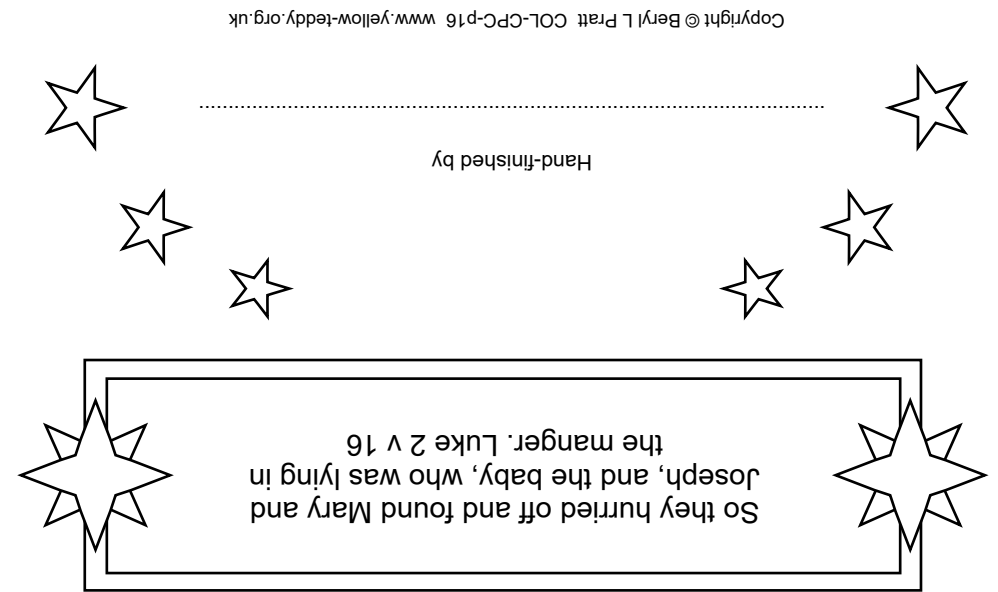
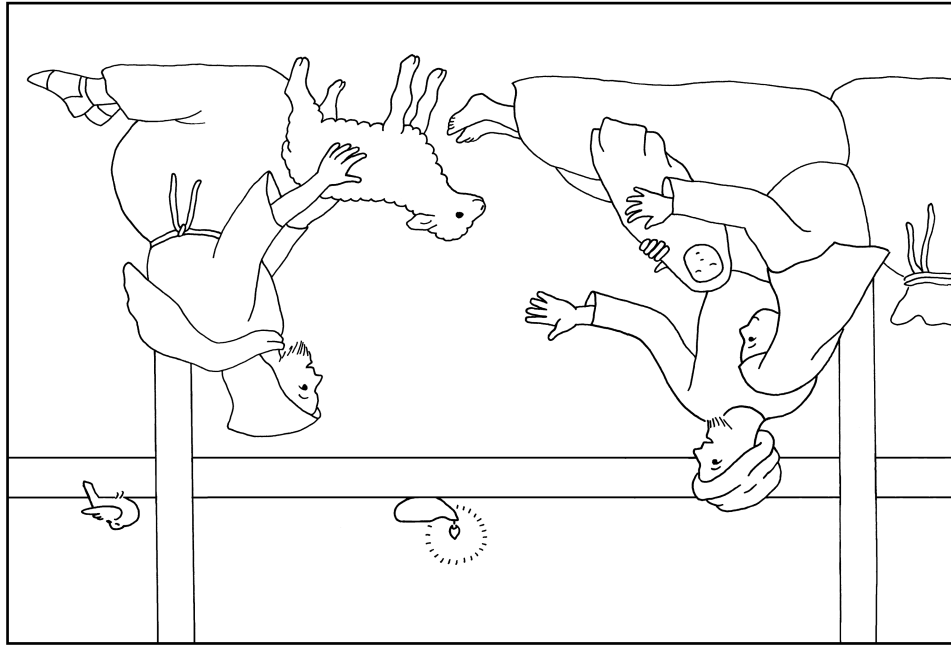
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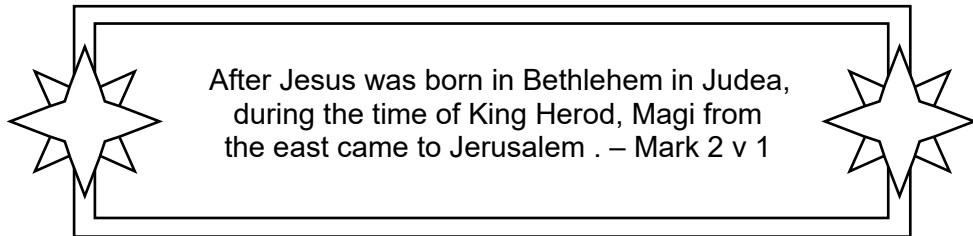
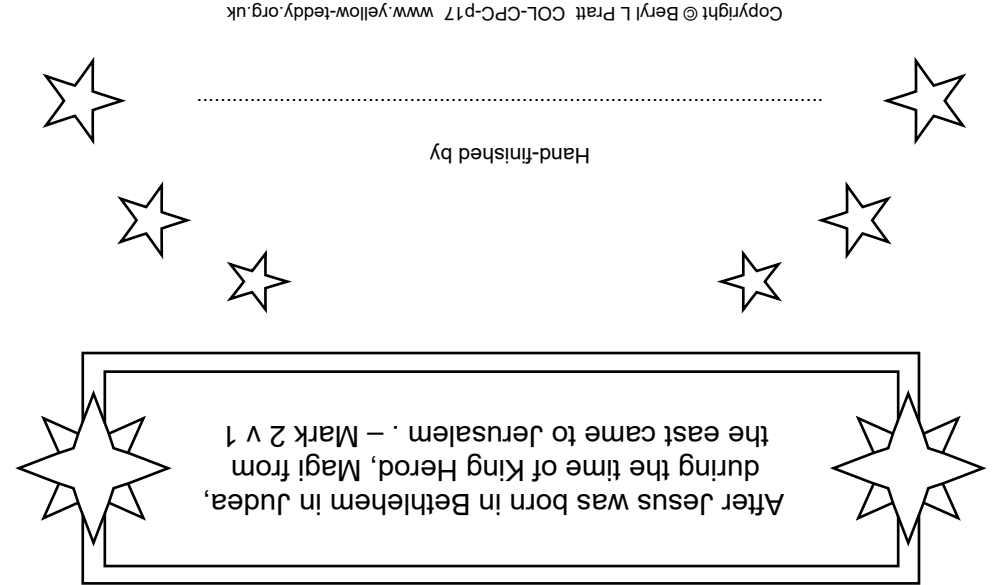
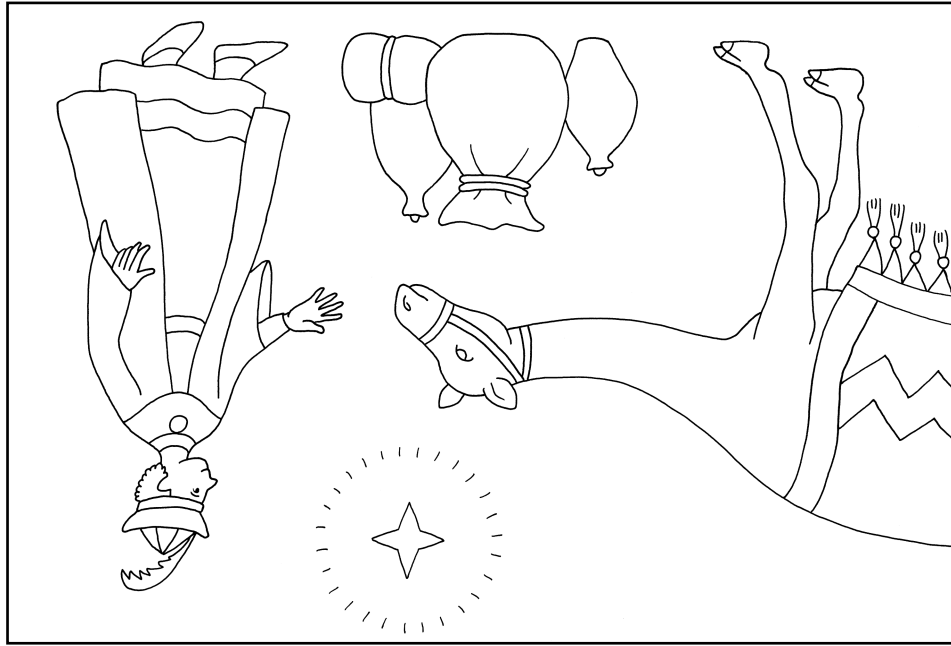
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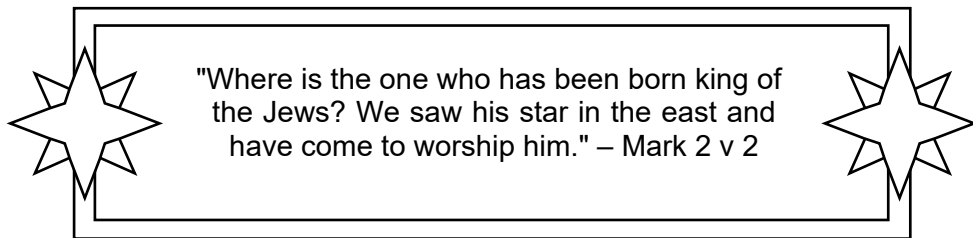
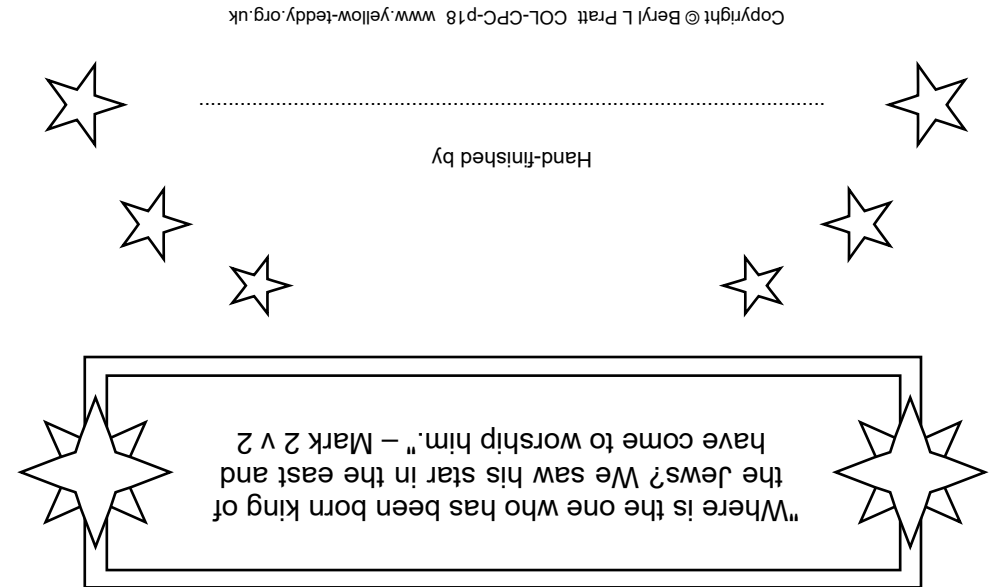
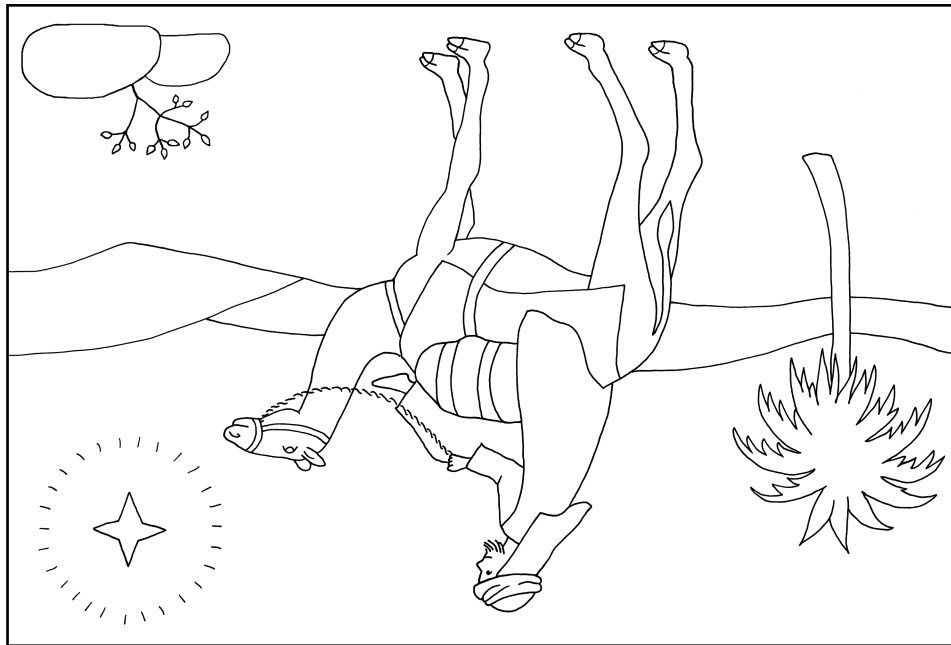




After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea,
during the time of King Herod, Magi from
the east came to Jerusalem . – Mark 2 v 1

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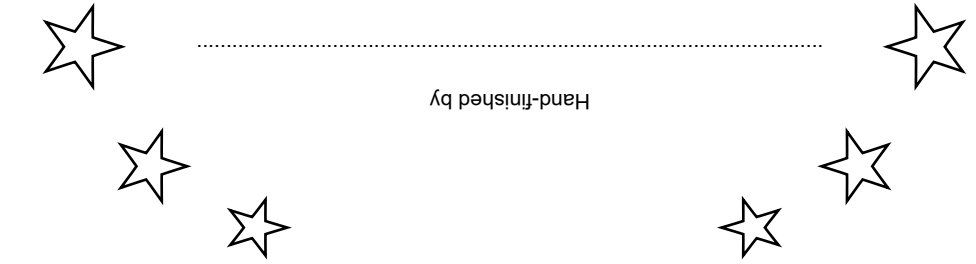
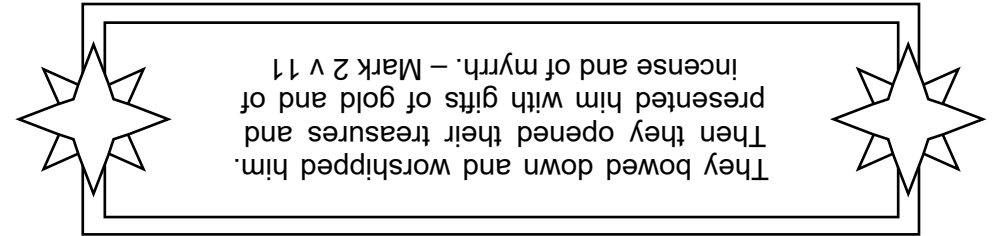
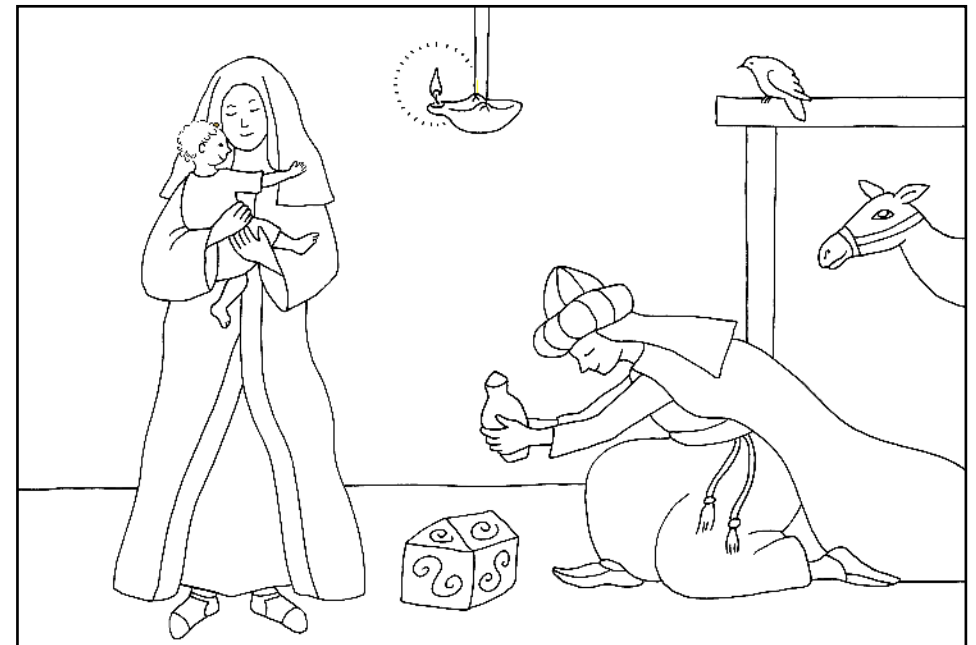
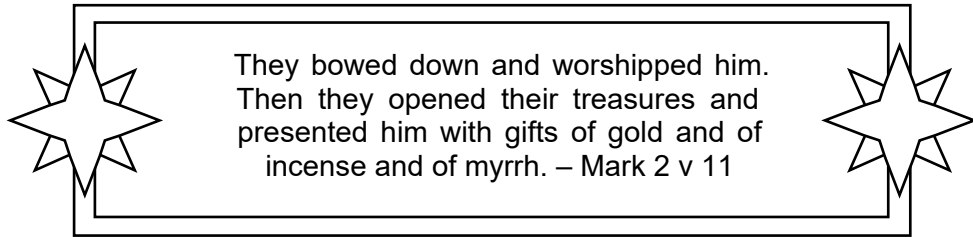
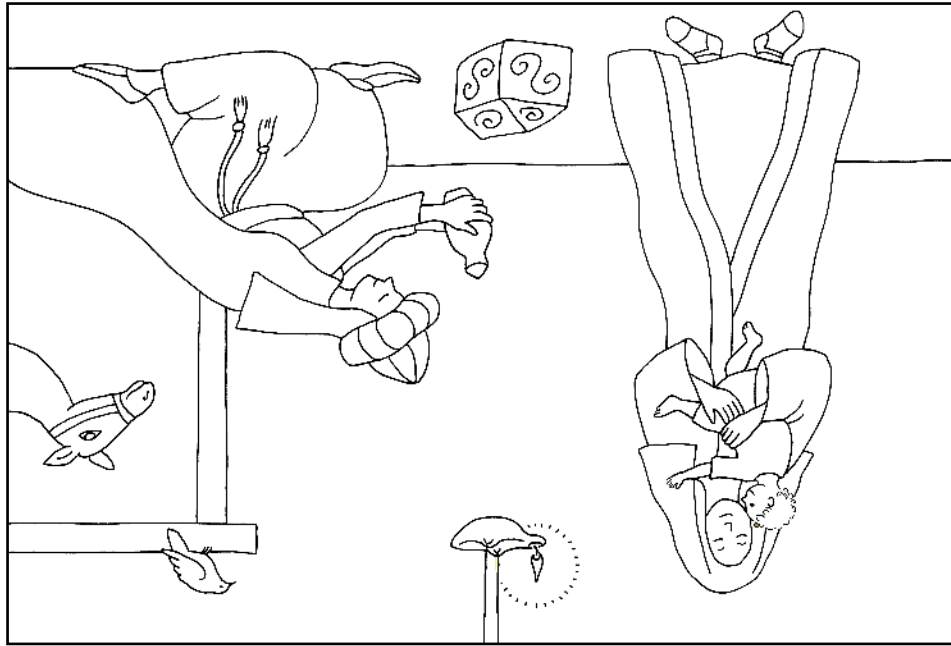
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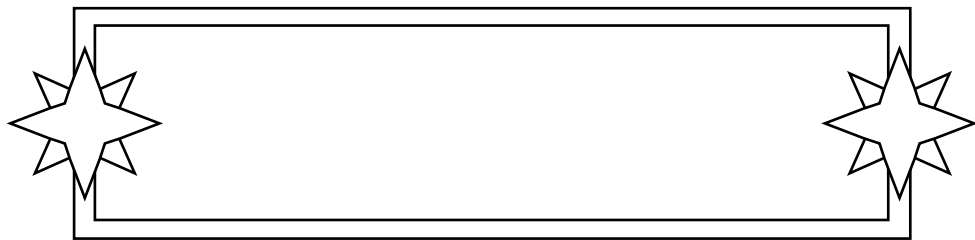


"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." – Mark 2 v 2

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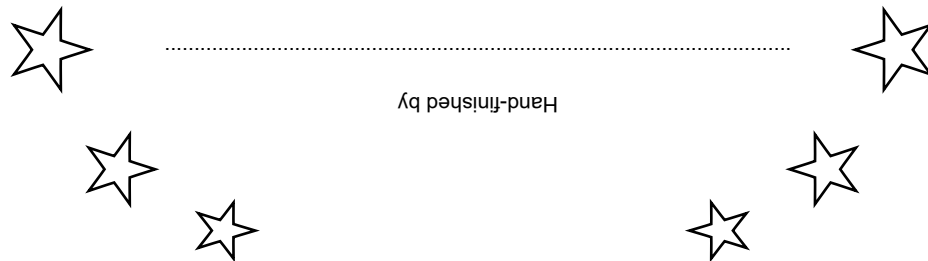
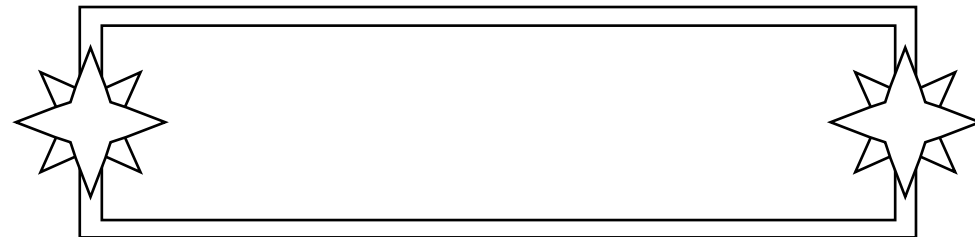
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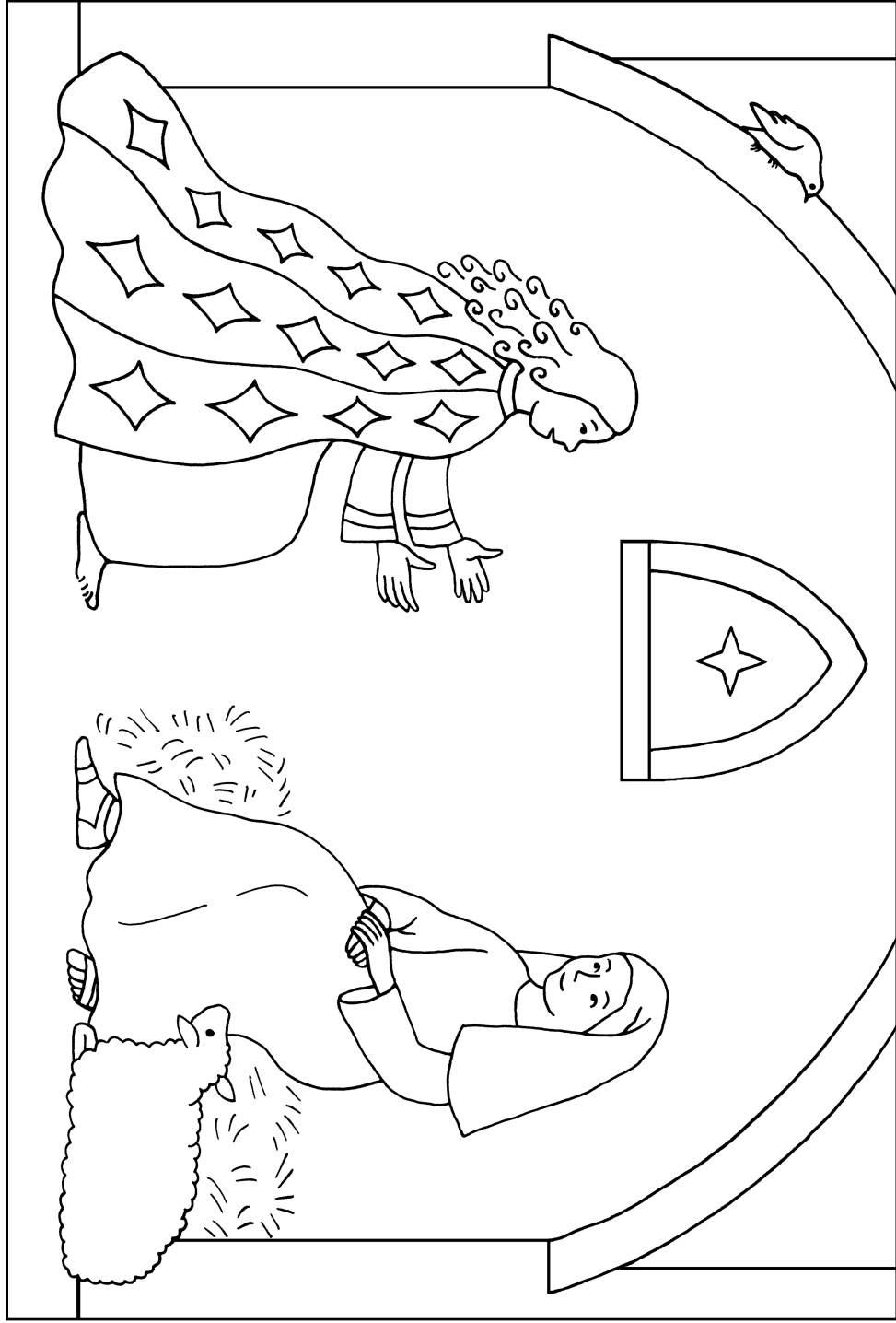
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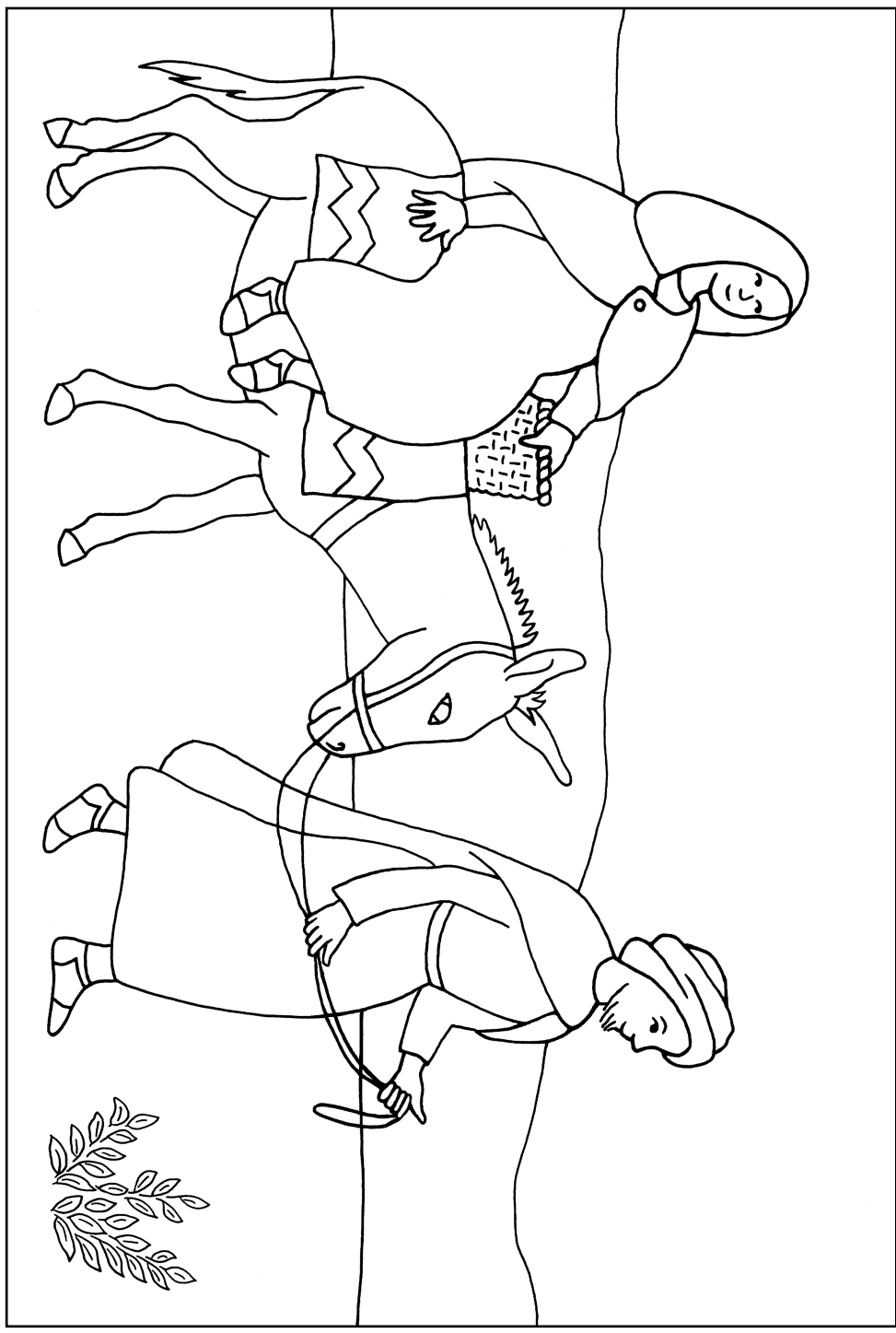
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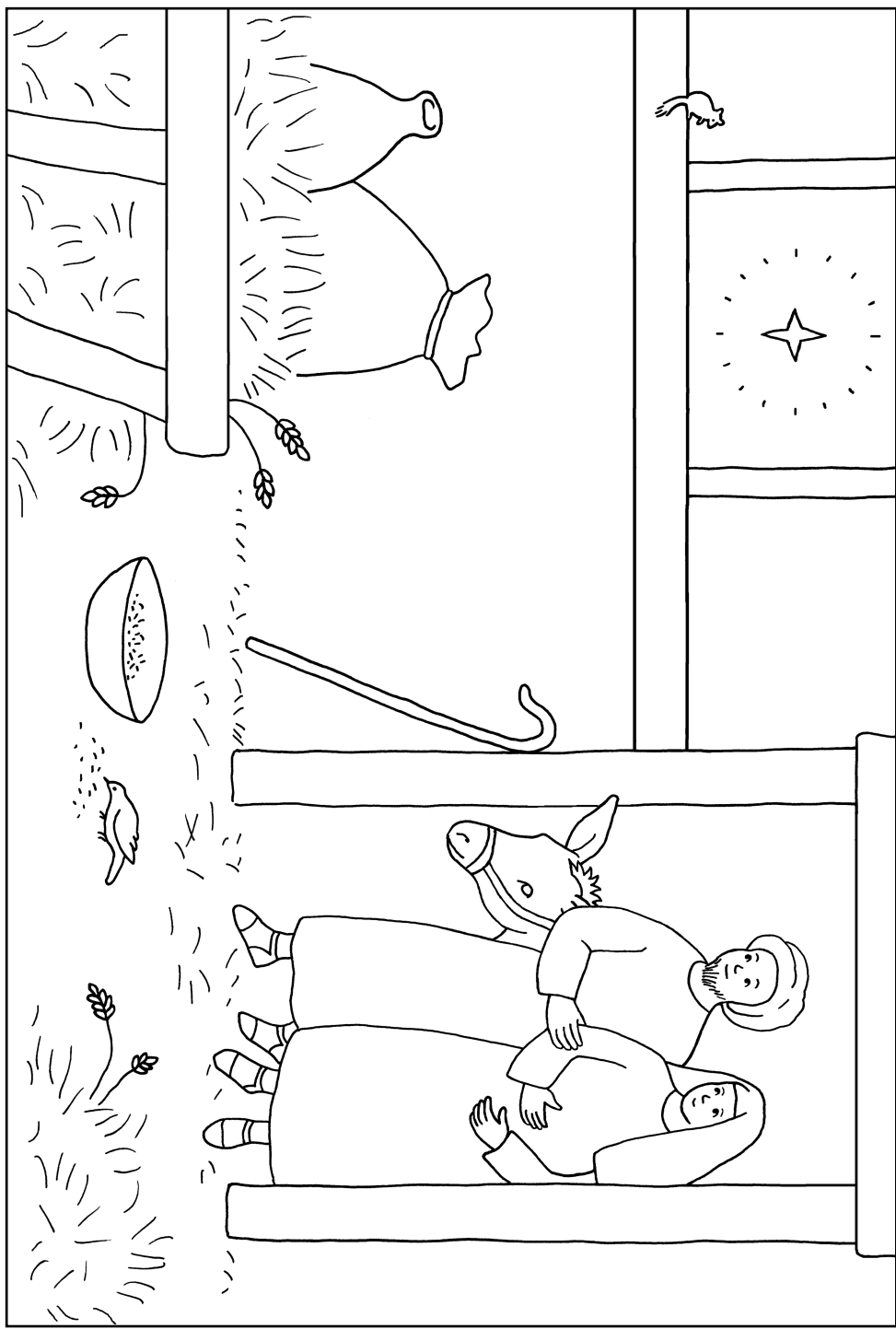
The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary,
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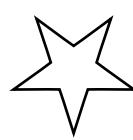
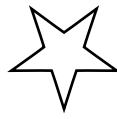
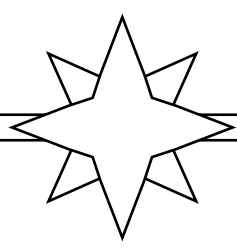
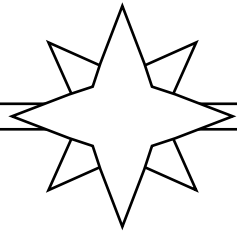


Joseph also went up from the town of
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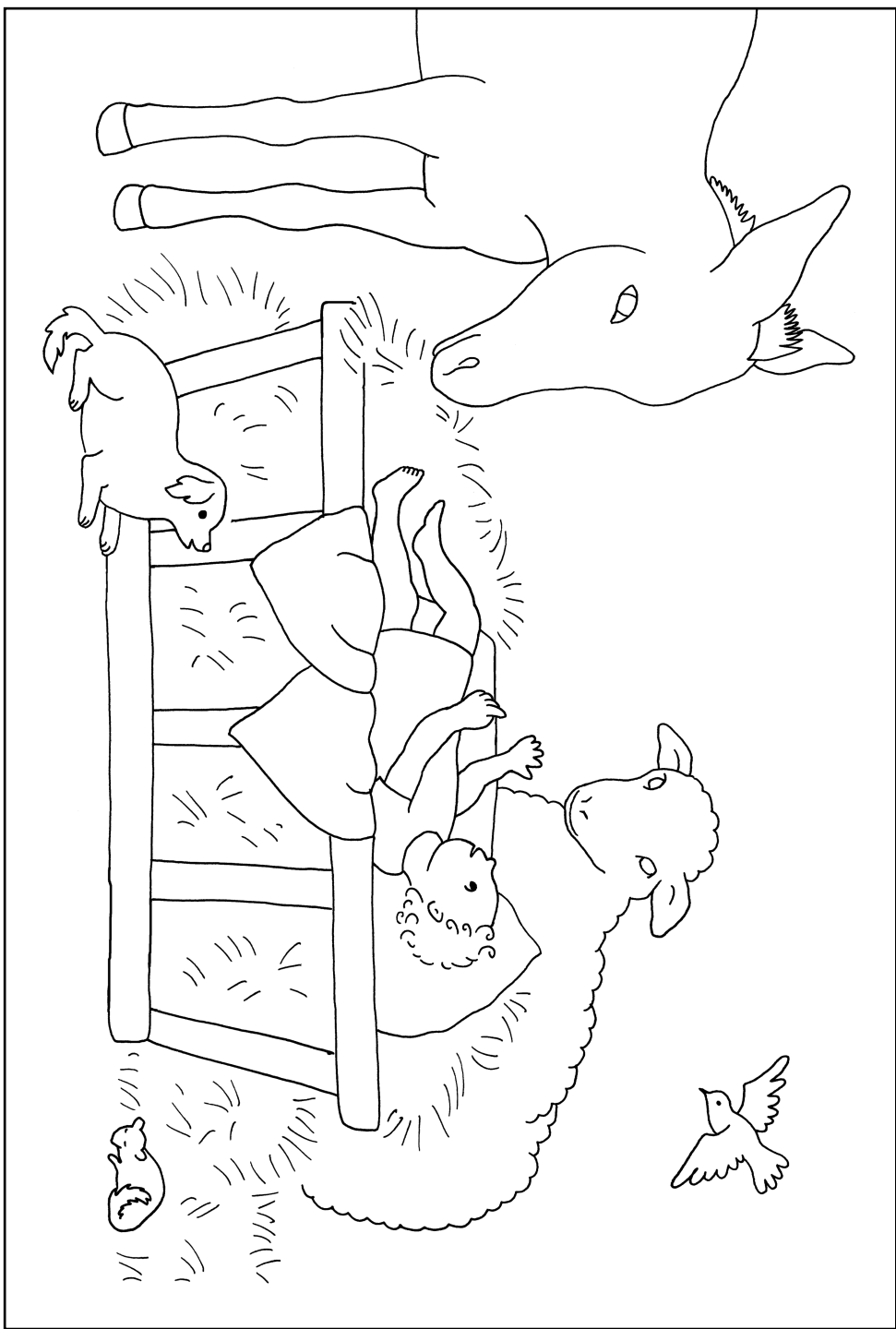


She gave birth to her firstborn, a son.
She wrapped him in cloths and placed
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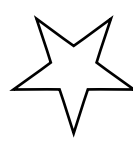
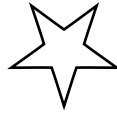
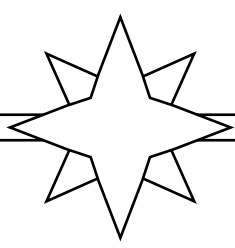
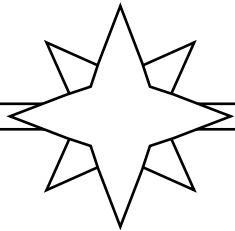


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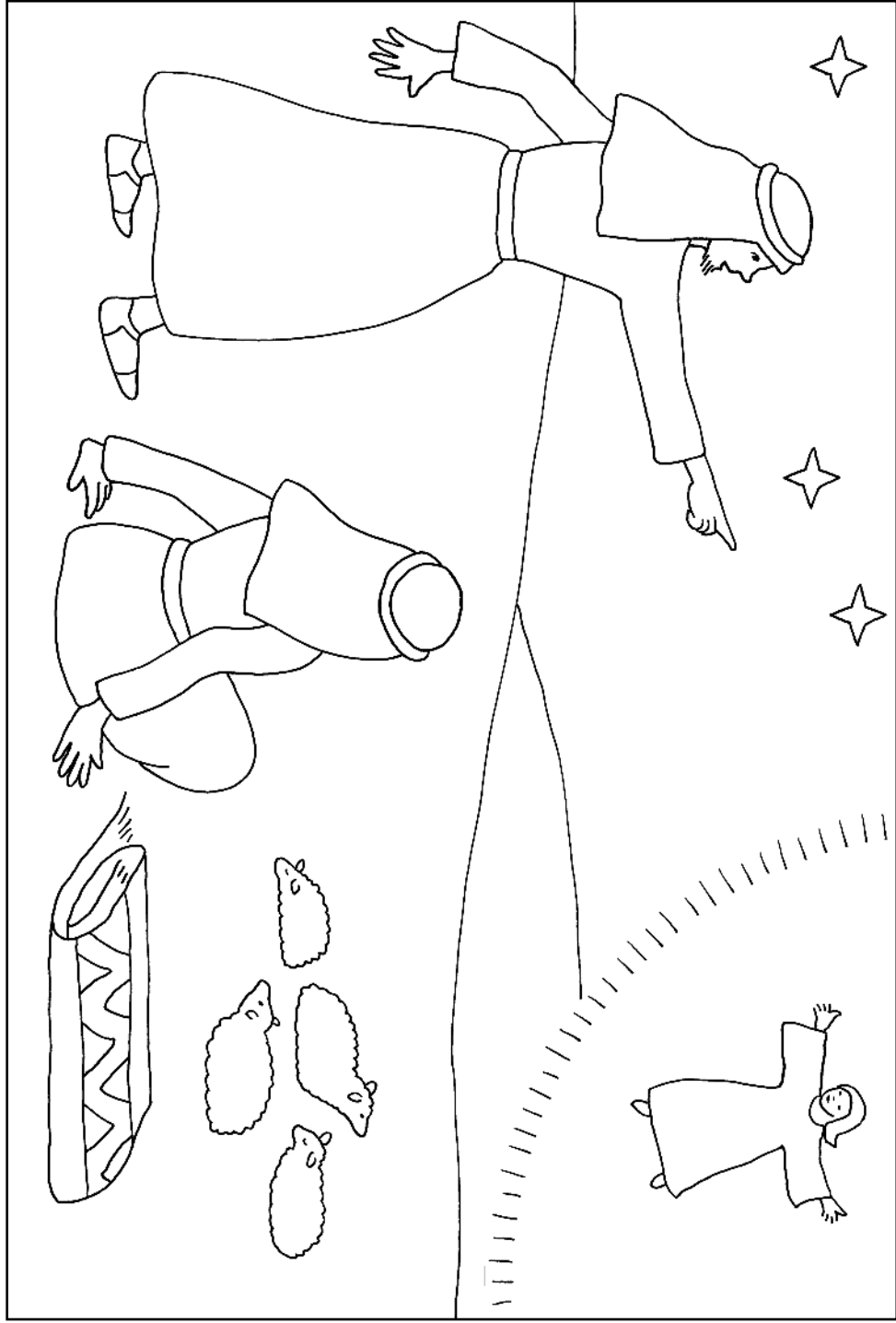
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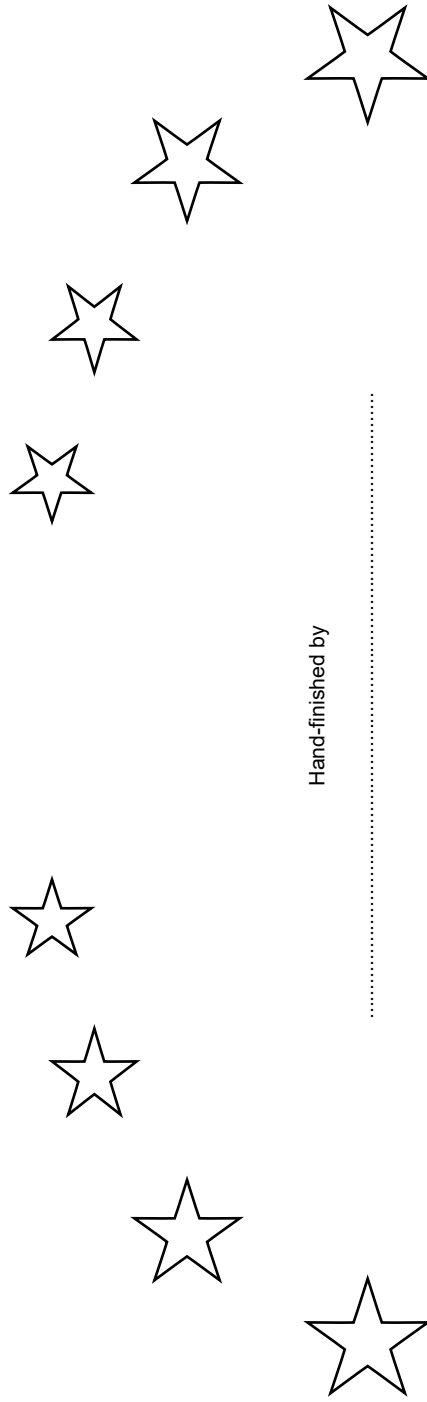
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The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you
good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born
to you; he is Christ the Lord. – Luke 2 v 10-11

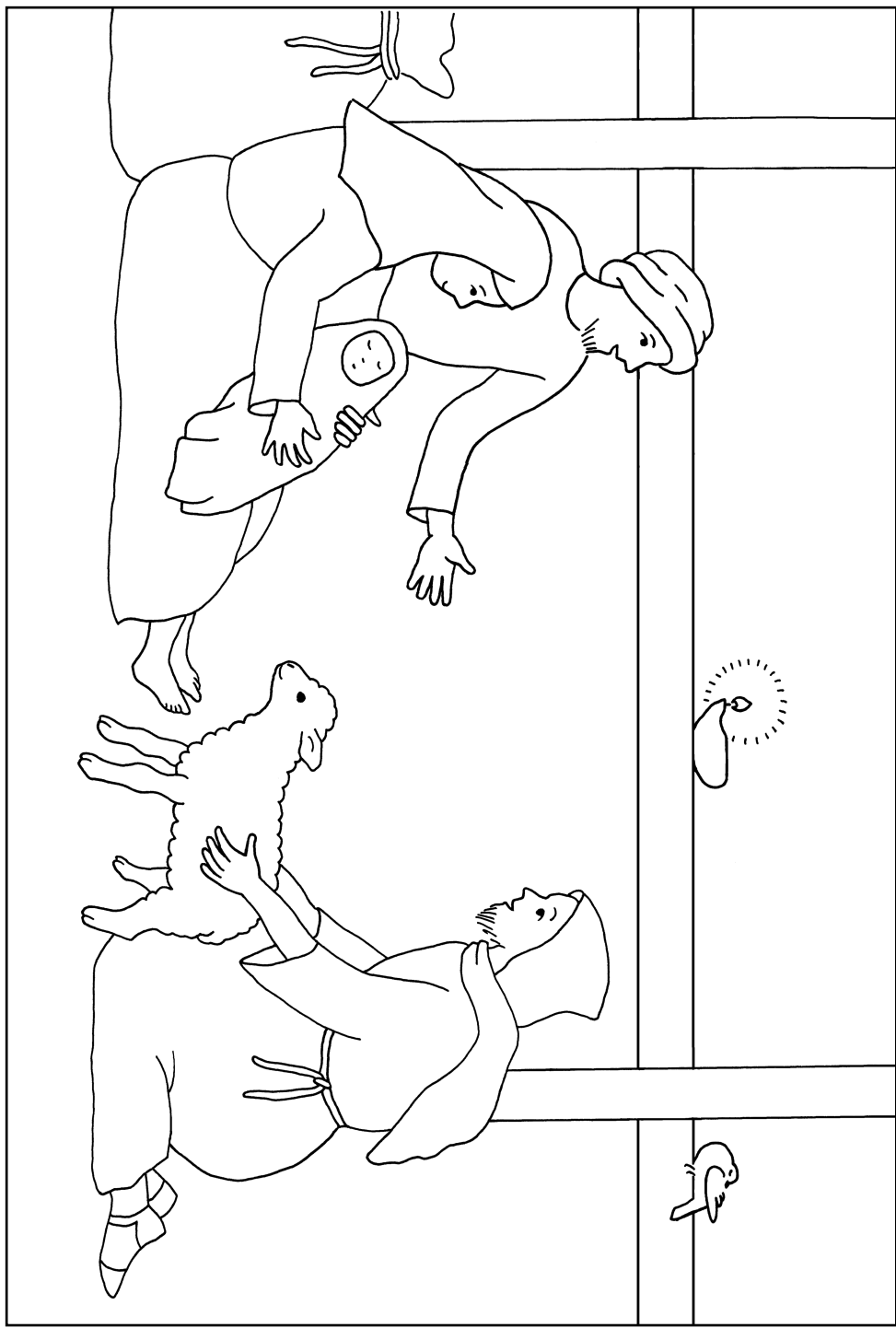


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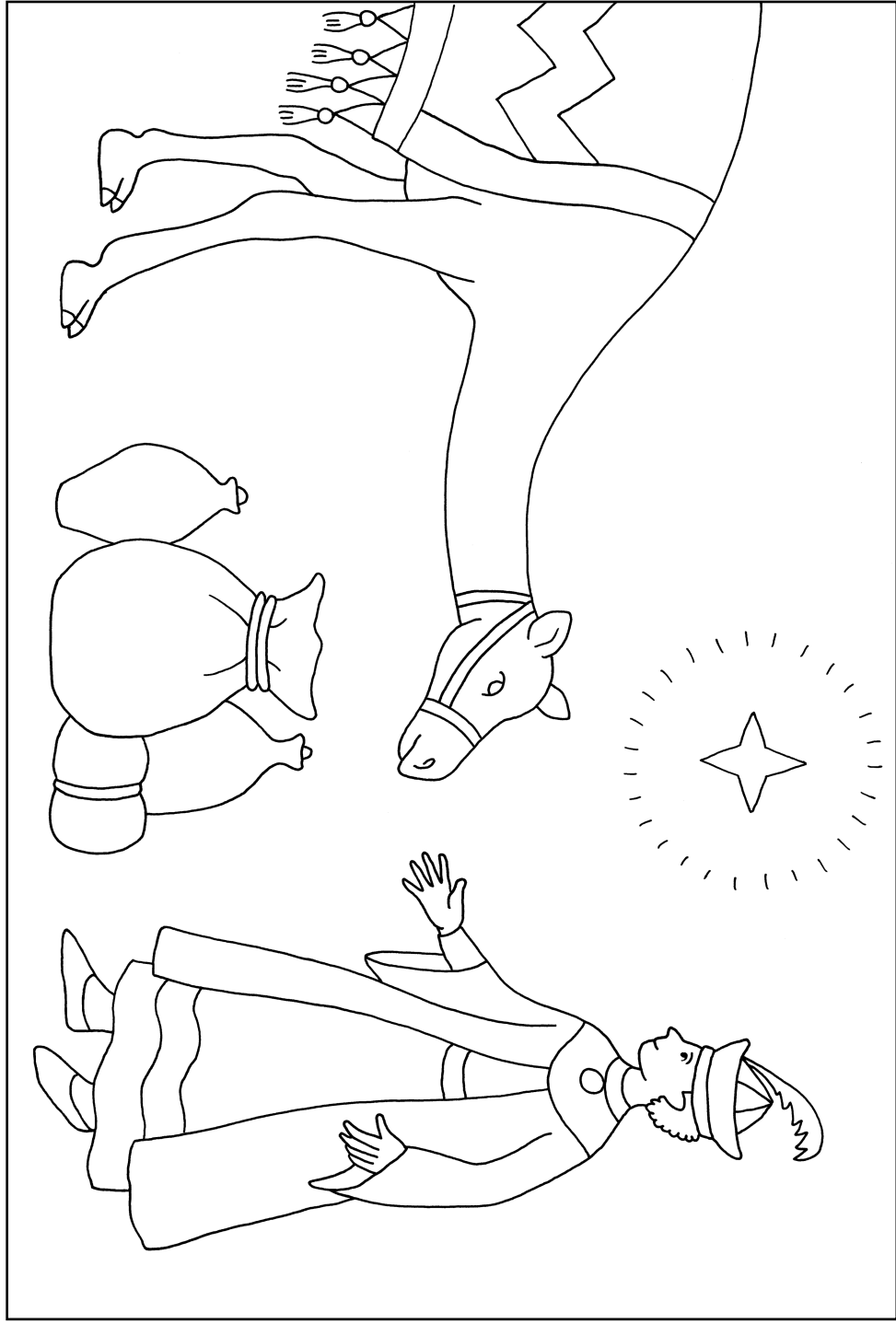
The shepherds said to one another,
"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing
that has happened, which the Lord has
told us about." – Luke 2 v 15

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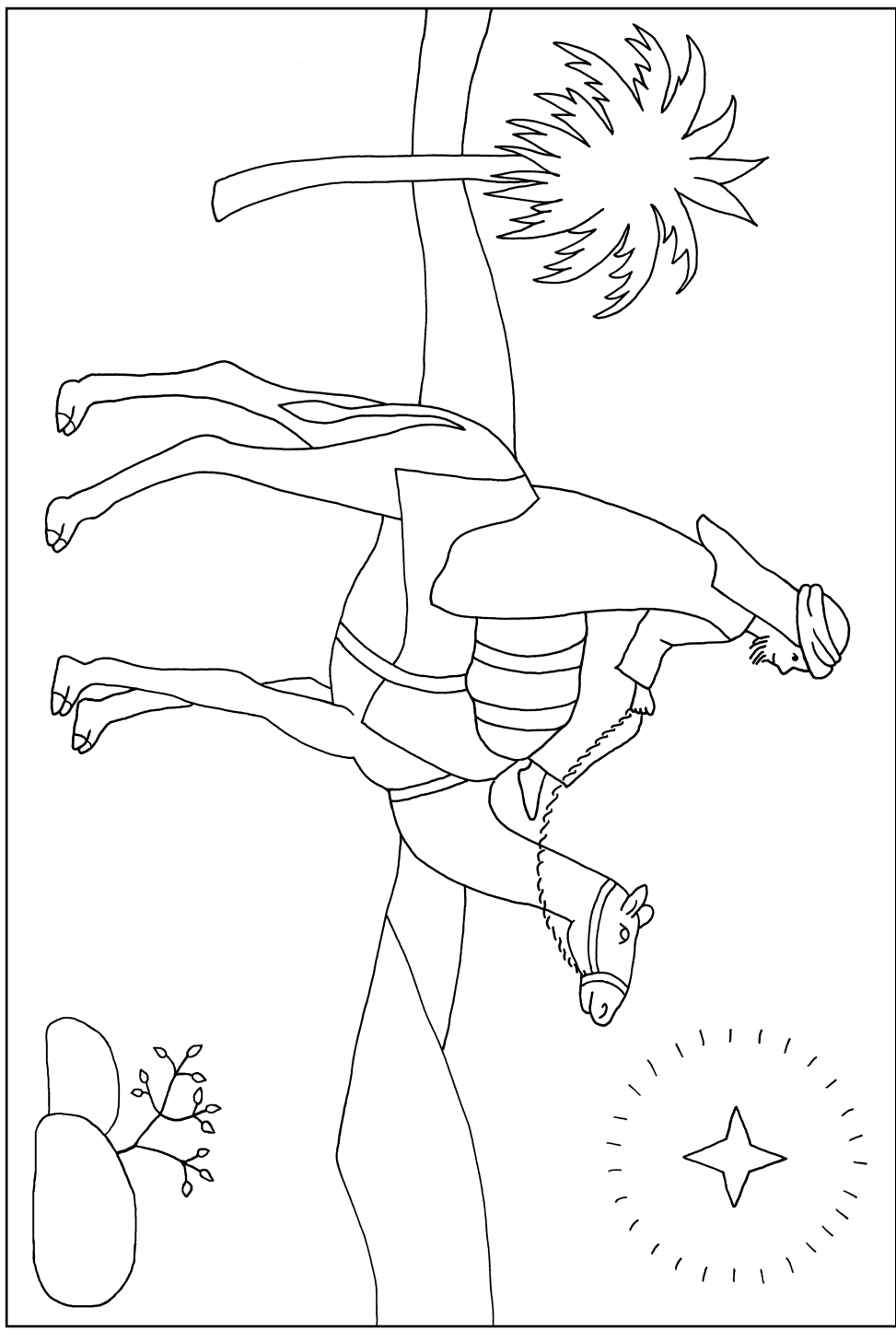
So they hurried off and found Mary
and Joseph, and the baby, who was
lying in the manger. Luke 2 v 16

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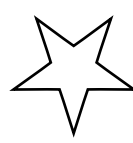
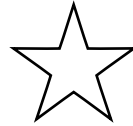
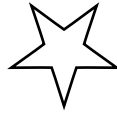
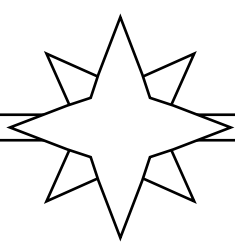
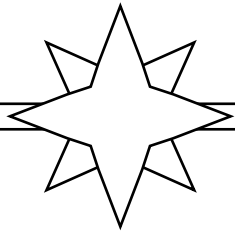


After Jesus was born in Bethlehem
in Judea, during the time of King
Herod, Magi from the east came to
Jerusalem. – Mark 2 v 1

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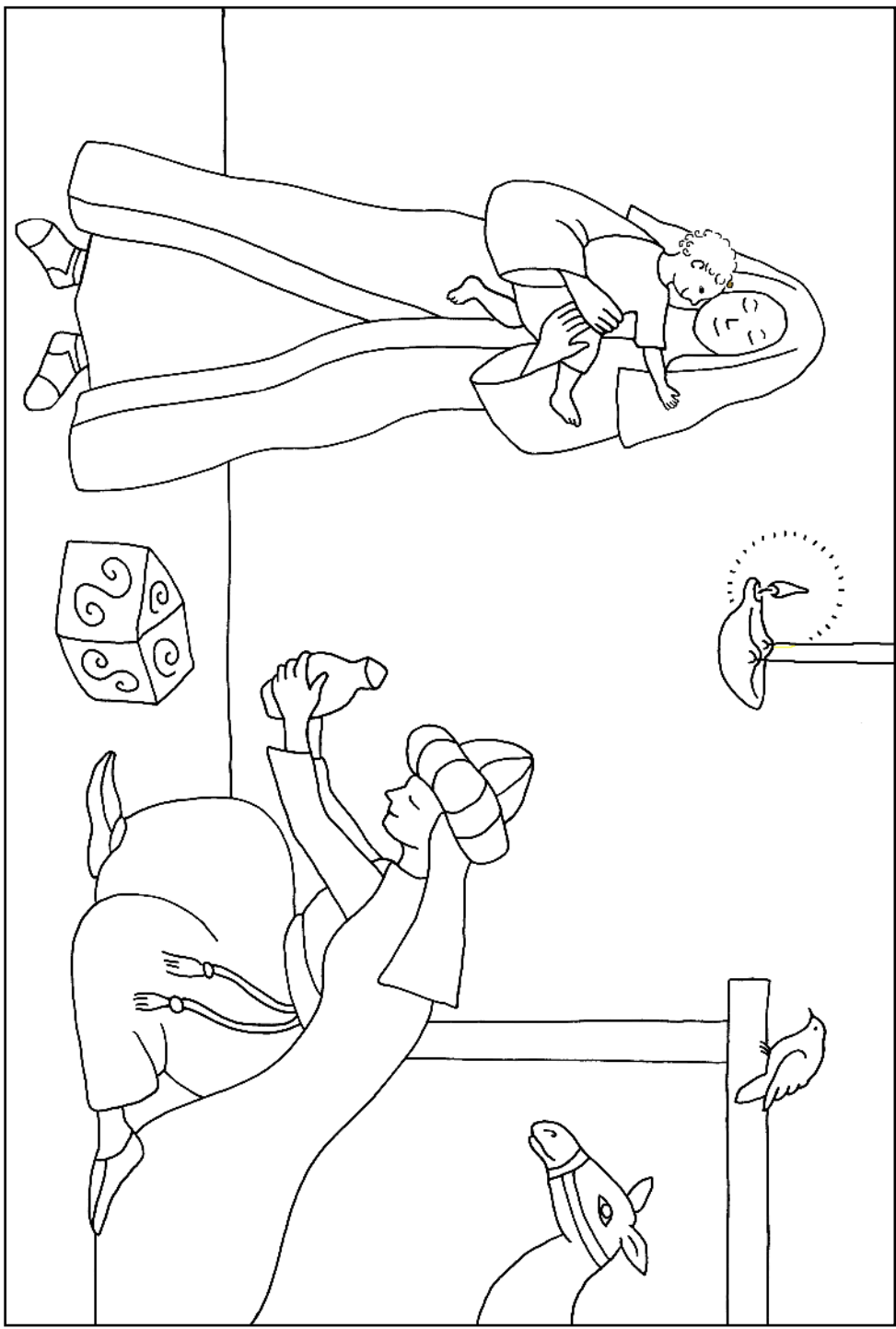


"Where is the one who has been born king of
the Jews? We saw his star in the east and
have come to worship him." – Mark 2 v 2



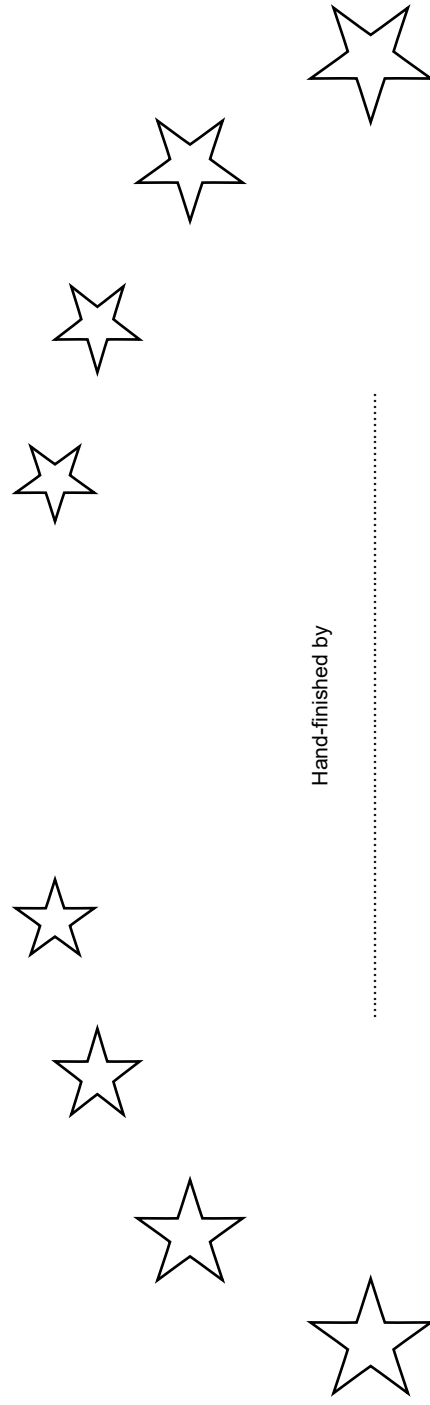
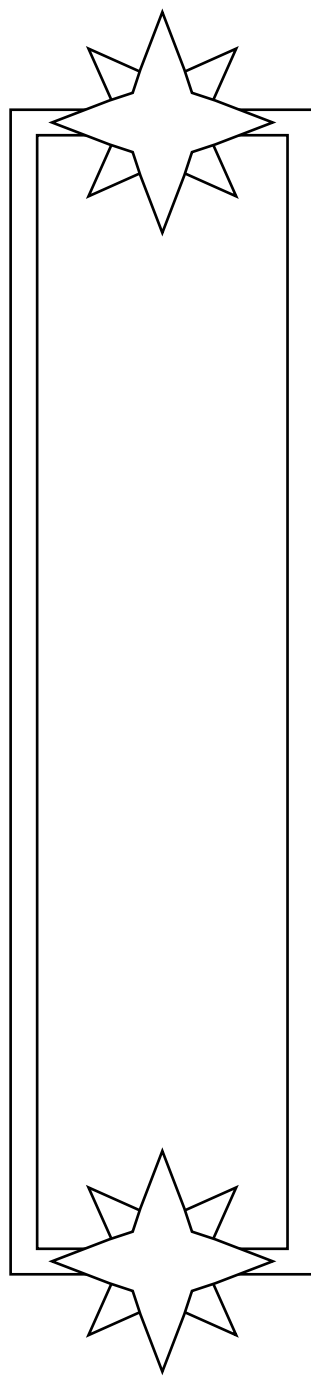
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They bowed down and worshipped him.
Then they opened their treasures and
presented him with gifts of gold and of
incense and of myrrh. – Mark 2 v 11

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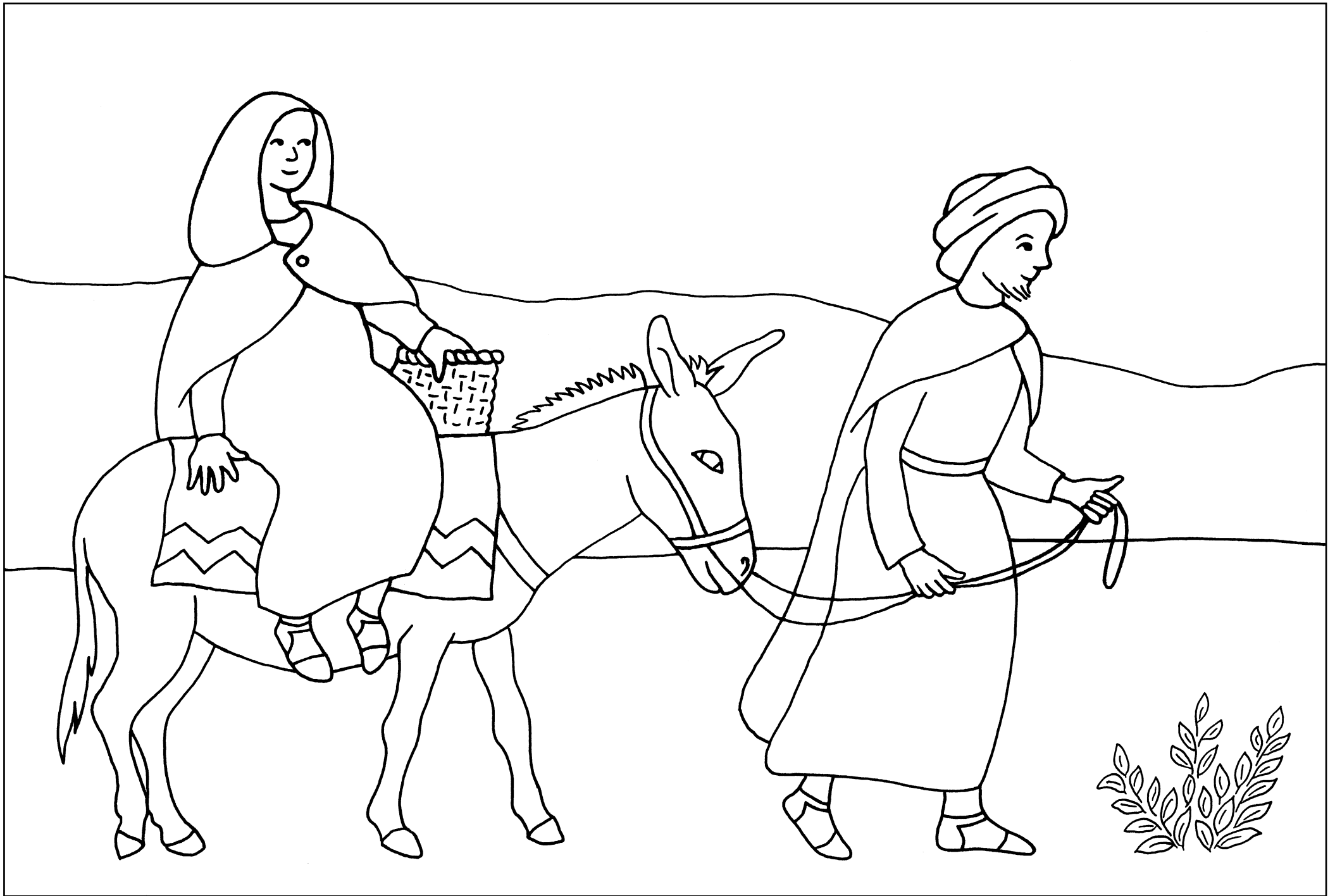


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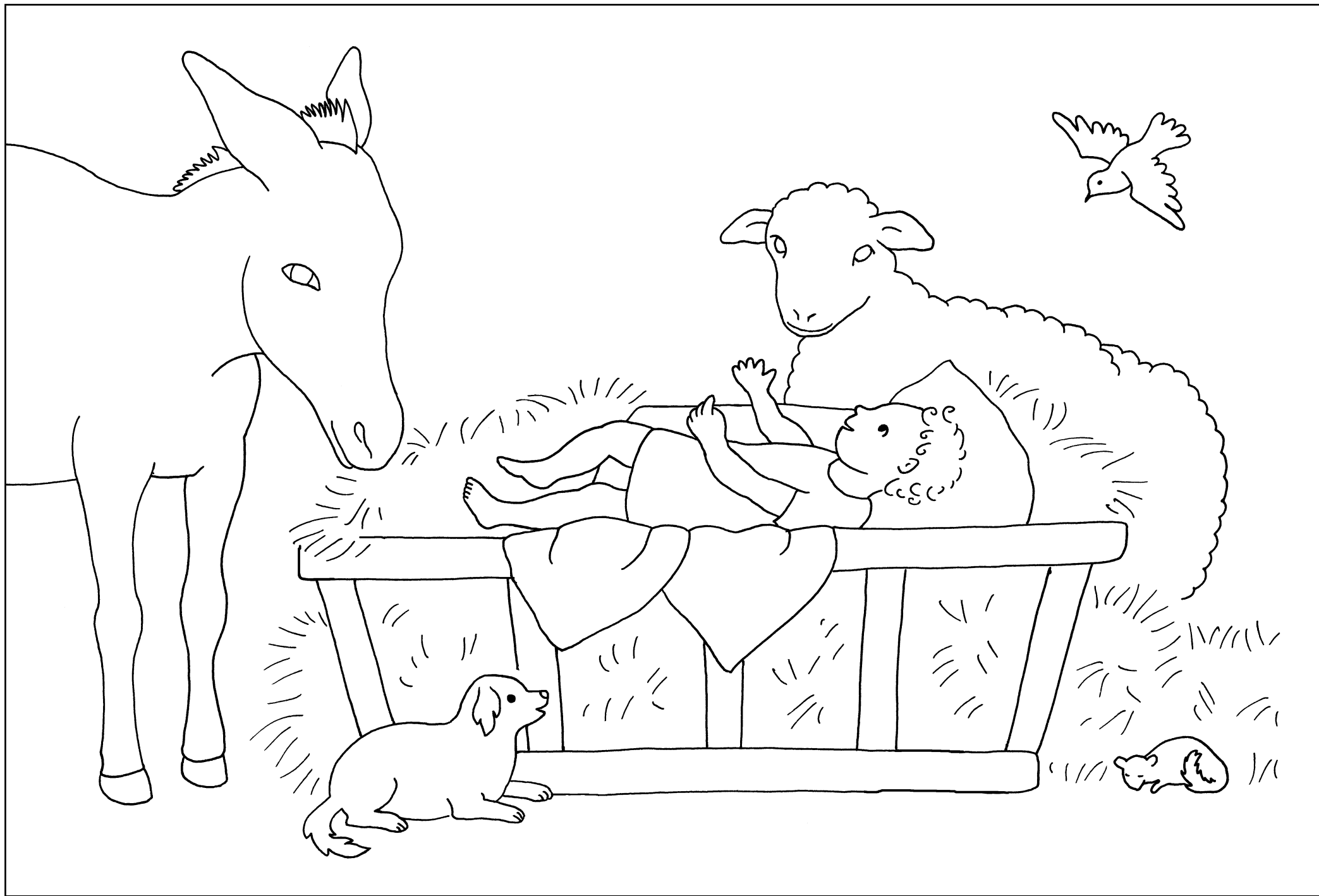
The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus" – Luke 1 v 30-31



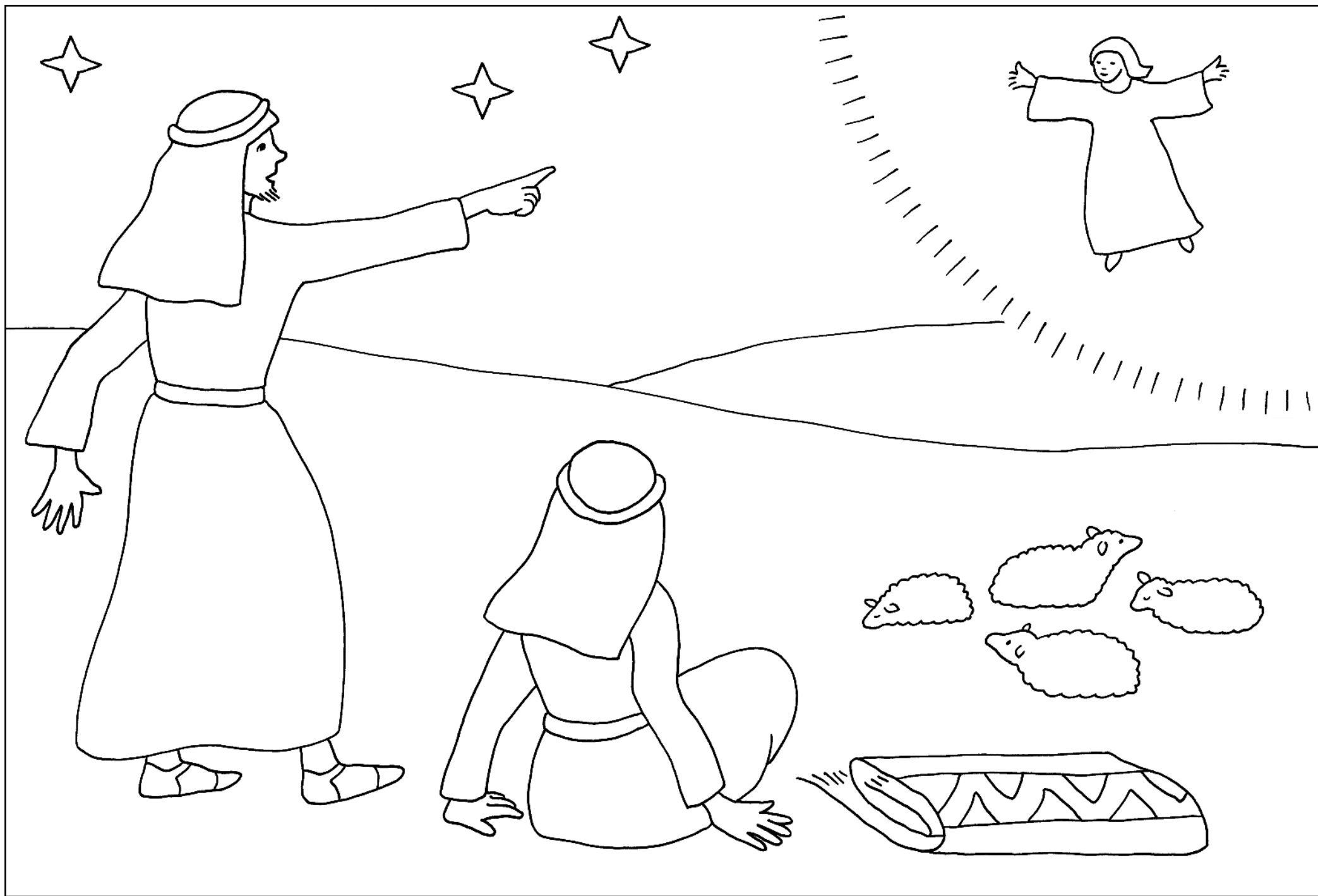
Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem
the town of David ... He went there to register with Mary ... – Luke 2 v 3-5



She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn - Luke 2 v 7



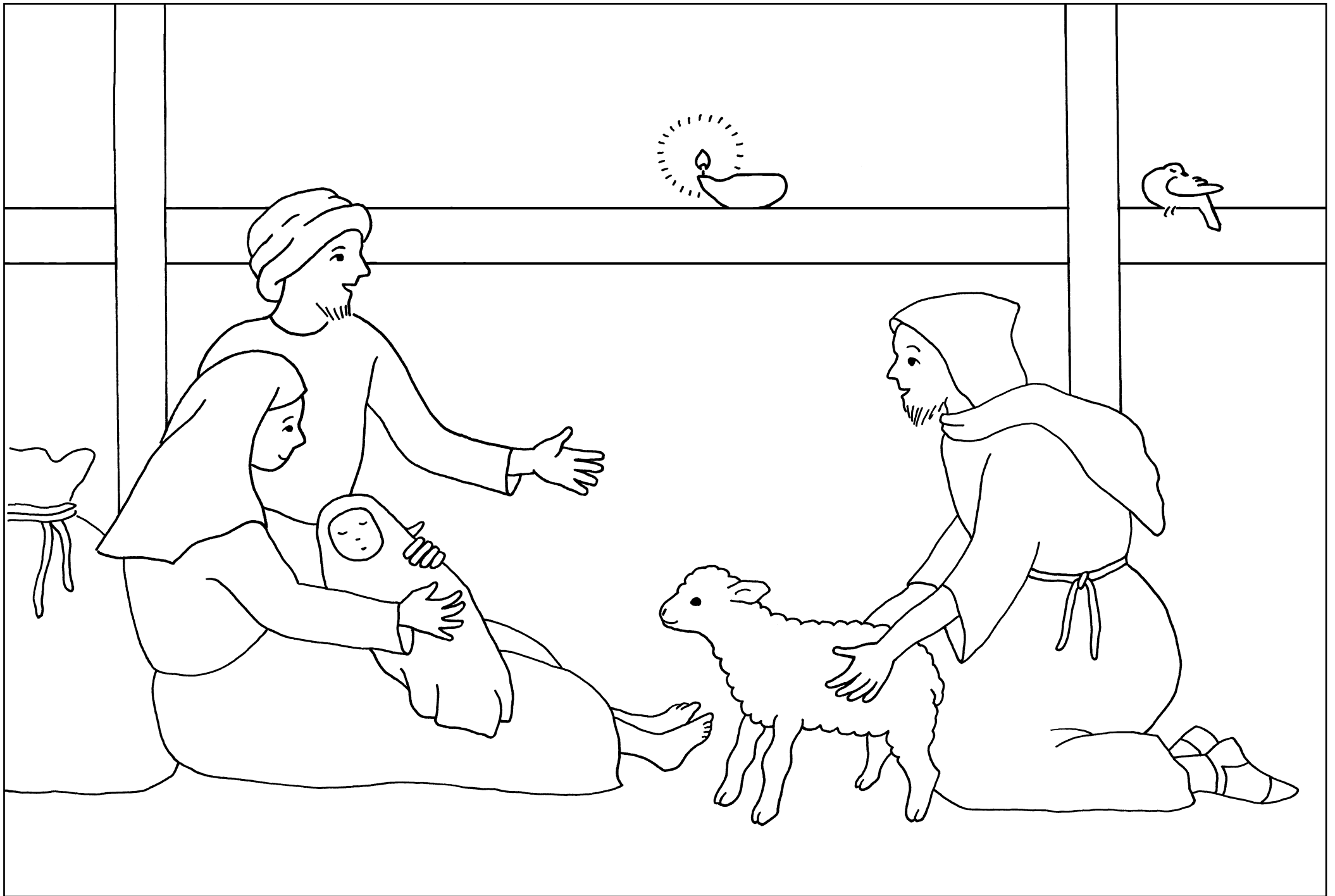
She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him
in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn - Luke 2 v 7



The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. – Luke 2 v 10-11



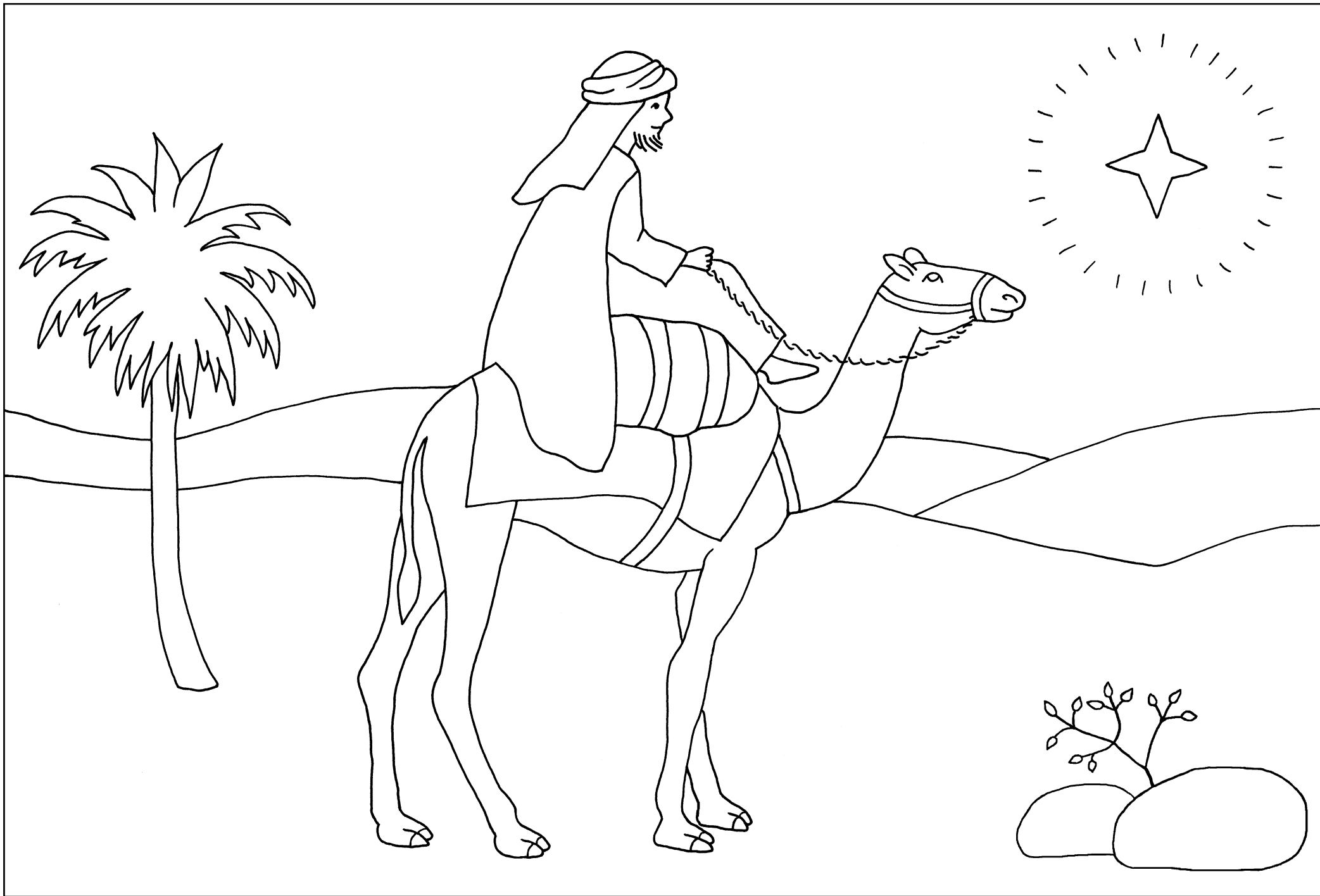
The shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing
that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." – Luke 2 v 15



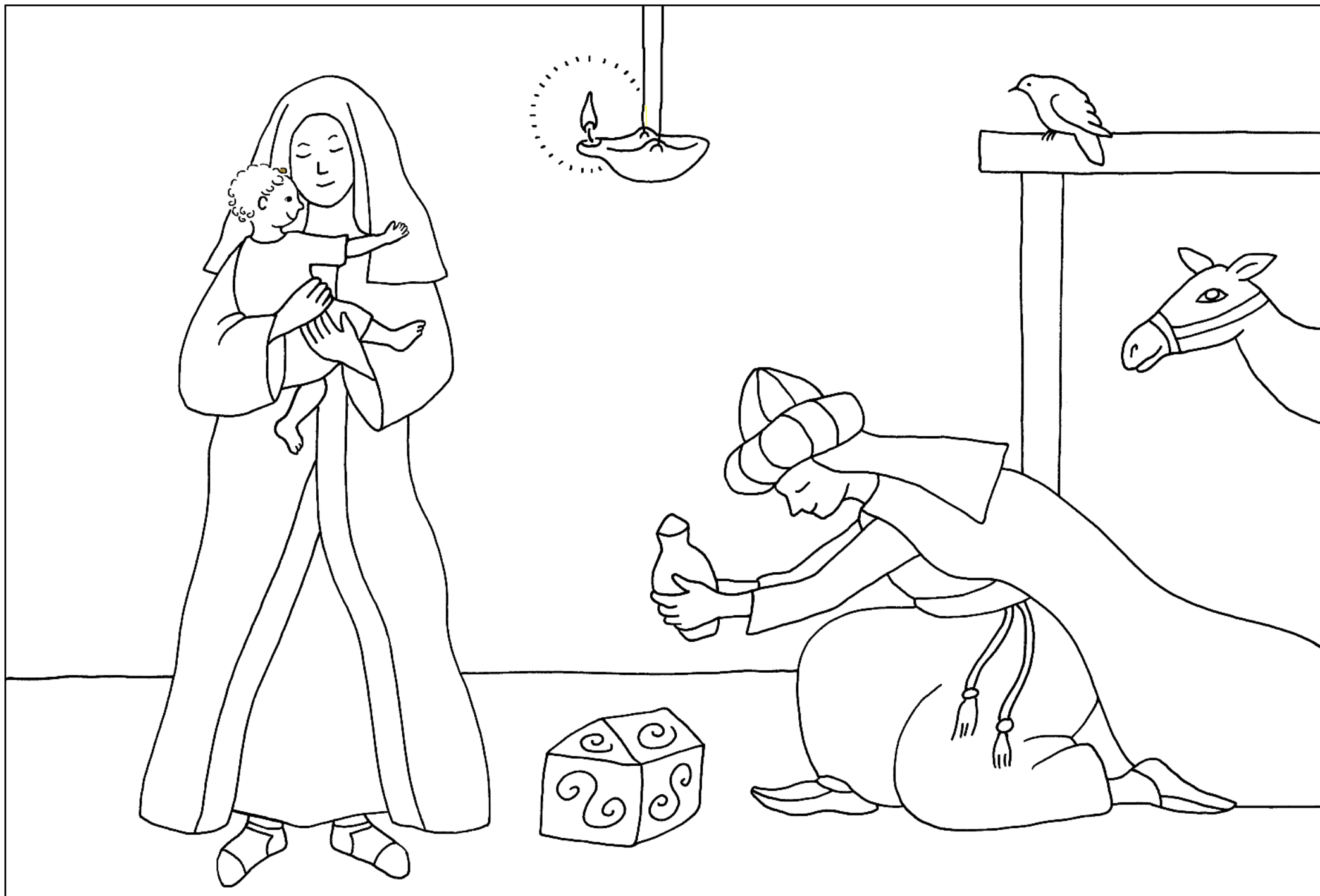
So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child. – Luke 2 v 15-16



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod,
Magi from the east came to Jerusalem . – Mark 2 v 1



"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." – Mark 2 v 2



They bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. – Mark 2 v 11