



The Light

Has Come!



ART REFLECTIONS

BY NEWGEN CHILDREN, PRETEENS, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

(See I am doing) A New Thing

by Caleb Berberich

When Moses saw the burning bush I am sure.¹
Sure as I am that I – not being a man of great courage
– that he was afraid before he was curious or compelled.
When the Lord called Abraham, he encouraged courage,
“Do not be afraid,” for we are a fearful people.²
Even as I know that I am a fear filled man,
even as Isaiah confessed his fear rapt with glory!³
Isaiah’s lips, Moses’ voice, Abraham’s age; my people.

When we see the light in our darkness we withdraw.
Too great is that word unheard, “Let there be light,”⁴
I know now because I withdrew, stumbled on the slope.
How long had I laid beneath a confused sky?
The full moon in a tangle, taking? Or partaking
with the little star light left unclouded in the dark.
We had watched Sabbath recede with heavy hearts,
and with it went the sun’s coveted winter warmth.

We, shepherds, like watchmen wait the long night.⁵
I watched and I waited and in my heart of hearts I wept.⁶
They were timid tears, frigid with the silent flock, when?

it happened. The moon dissipated with a rapture!
Light, light unseen! what but glory filled the pasture
and with it fear, I was afraid– beneath a burning night.⁷
Woe were we, unclean shepherds in this weighty light!
These words returned, a dawn untouched by the sun;
*For to us a child is born, in the city of David a Savior*⁸
What salvation we would see that night in Bethlehem.
The tender courage of a timid candle cradled, unheard
Word in the infancy of the morning's gentle daylight.⁹

¹ Ex.3

² Gen.15:1

³ Is.6

⁴ Gen. 1:3

⁵ Ps.130

⁶ Is.40:31

⁷ Luke 2

⁸ Is.9:6; Luke 2:10

⁹ Luke 2:15-10

Isaiah 11:1-9

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

⁷ The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,

for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.



Andres Nacho

The Stump of Jesse



Clara Plangg

The Wolf and the Lamb

When I read about the wolf living with the
lamb in the Bible, I think about peace.



Christine Xie

The Lion of Judah and the Lamb of God

I was inspired by Isaiah 11:6a, John 1:29, and Revelation 5:5. Jesus is both the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us and the Lion of Judah, the Bridegroom, who will come back for His bride.

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

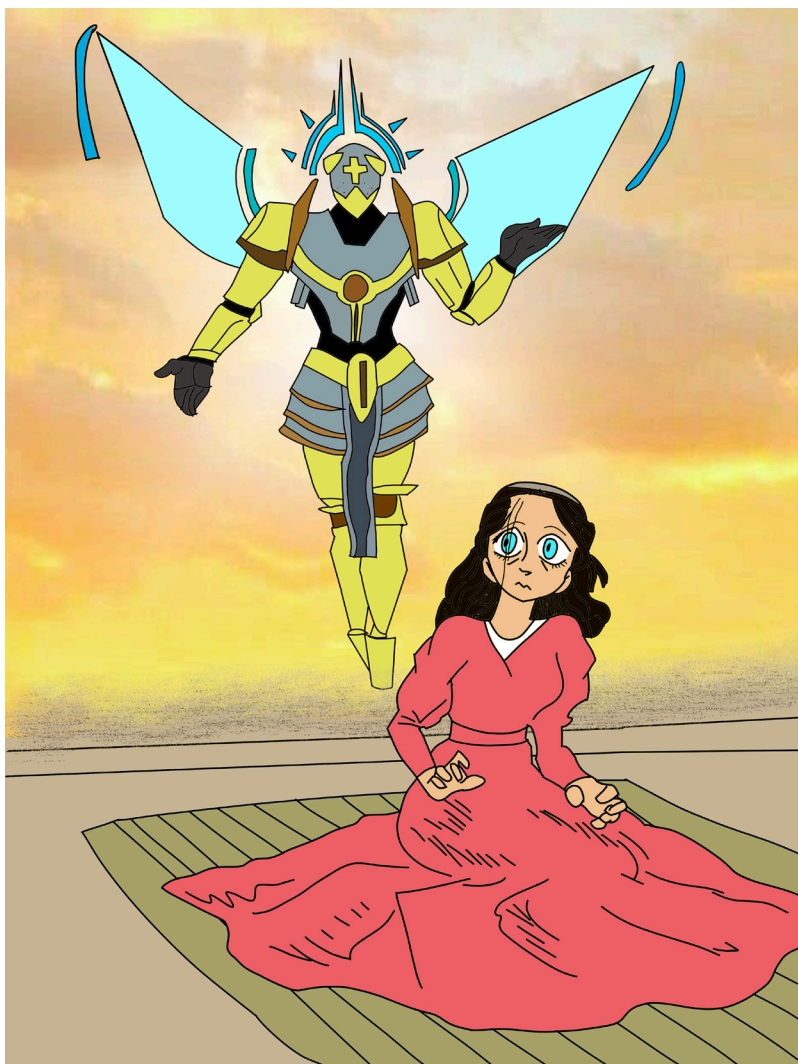
³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.



Sofia Nacho

Blessed

This is the first time that I've attempted to do an impressionist painting without help from a reference. I did this because I wanted to be guided by my own imagination on how this could have looked since we really don't know.



Marc Capuyan

A Bright Light Appears



Adelyn Kim

Mary Meets Gabriel



Christine Xie

From Womb to Tomb

It was inspired by Christian Digital Artwork on Facebook. When Mary said "Let it be to me according to your word", she embraced her purpose that her baby is born to die.



Peter Findlay

Do Not Be Afraid

Luke 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, 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.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



Anna Laura Nacho

God's Message

I did this painting because I thought that this specific part of the story was also a very important part because it was spreading the word of God.



Lillian Plangg

Shepherd in the Field

This passage reminds me that God cares about everyone, not just those who have wealth and status.



Lily Arndt

Away in a Manger

I love to work with my hands to create a place. I chose to focus on the structure chosen to bring our Lord and Saviour into this broken world. Structures and how they present, really speak to me and this choice of birthplace intrigued me.

Matthew 2:1-15

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”



Rohan Jacob

Shadows of the Magi

This is a painting in only two colours - black and yellow - showing the magi visiting Jesus.



Grayson Arndt

The Three Wise Men

I have recently begun exploring different mediums and I am drawn to how unpredictable watercolour can be. I chose to present an image of the three wise men coming to see the Christ child and how upon seeing him, they decided to risk angering Herod and not reporting back to him. The star is in gold to represent the royal birth of a king, which is echoed in the crowns of the wise men.

The Light Has Come!

"Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you."
Isaiah 60:1

This Christmas we rejoice that the light of the whole world came one dark night in Bethlehem. Christ our King, forever transforming the world by His light. A light which will one day dawn in full glory over all the earth. As a community we celebrate God's in-breaking light in our lives, families, community, city and world. Tonight we receive His light with love and gratitude.

The children, preteens, youth and young adults of FBC have meditated on our Christmas readings and are sharing their images of hope and light at Christmas. Please read the Scripture and take time to enjoy their creative responses. Pay attention to the light in each image, at times it is extravagant and at others inconspicuous. May this same light be your hope all through the year.

Merry Christmas!

Suzannah Nacho
Director of Children's Ministry

