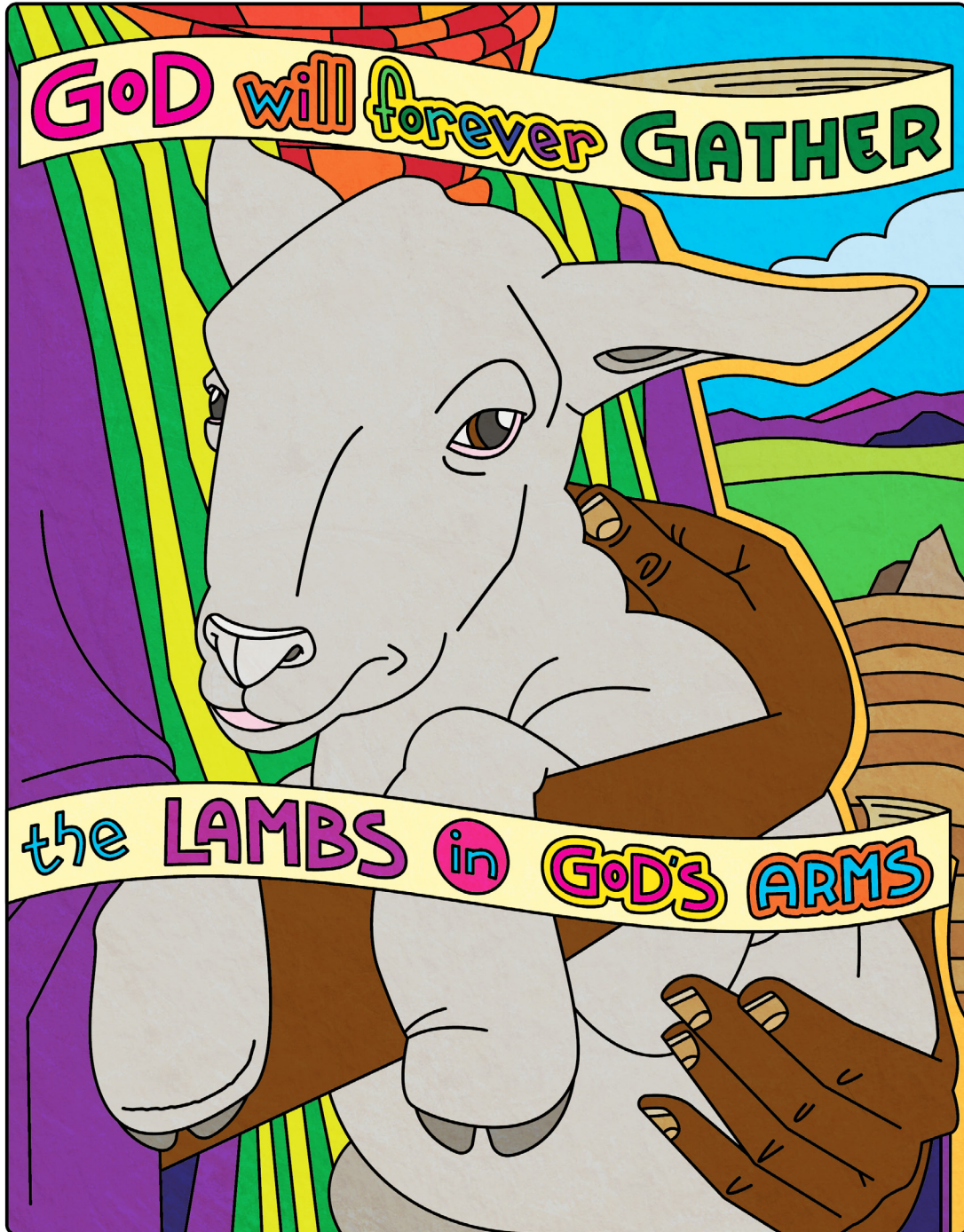


SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 6, 2020

Isaiah 40:1-11



Isaiah 40:1-11 · illustratedministry.com

INTRO

Share a story about when you were sad, scared, or hurt and needed to be comforted, or about a time when you comforted someone else.

QUESTIONS

- When have you needed to be comforted? When have you comforted someone else?
- What makes you feel comforted? (Kind words, a song, a hug, getting help when you need it, etc.)
- How can words or promises be comforting? What comforting words would you say to someone who is upset or worried?

WRAP-UP

Show the children today's illustration and read the words printed there together: "God will gather the lambs in God's arms." Tell the children that these words come from the book of Isaiah. At the beginning of this story, an army attacks the Israelites, defeats them in battle, and takes them away from their home in Jerusalem to live and work in a different place called Babylon. God tells the prophet, Isaiah, to comfort the Israelites because they are homesick and sad. The people are so unhappy that they even wonder whether God still loves them. Explain to the children how Isaiah promises the people God loves them. God will take care of them just as a shepherd takes care of a lamb by feeding it nourishing food and holding it close to keep it safe. Isaiah also comforts the people by reminding them that God's promises last forever—far longer than the times when they are sad, afraid, or worried. Share with the children that we read this scripture during the season of Advent because this is a time of waiting and preparing. Sometimes this season of waiting for Christmas feels joyful and exciting. Other times, especially if we have experienced a big change in our lives, such as a move or the loss of a loved one, this season can bring sadness and loneliness. Share how important it is to remember that it is okay to feel sad. God honors our sadness and comforts us when we need it. As we wait for Jesus to be born, we also remember that God's promise to love and care for us lasts forever.

PRAYER

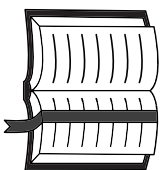
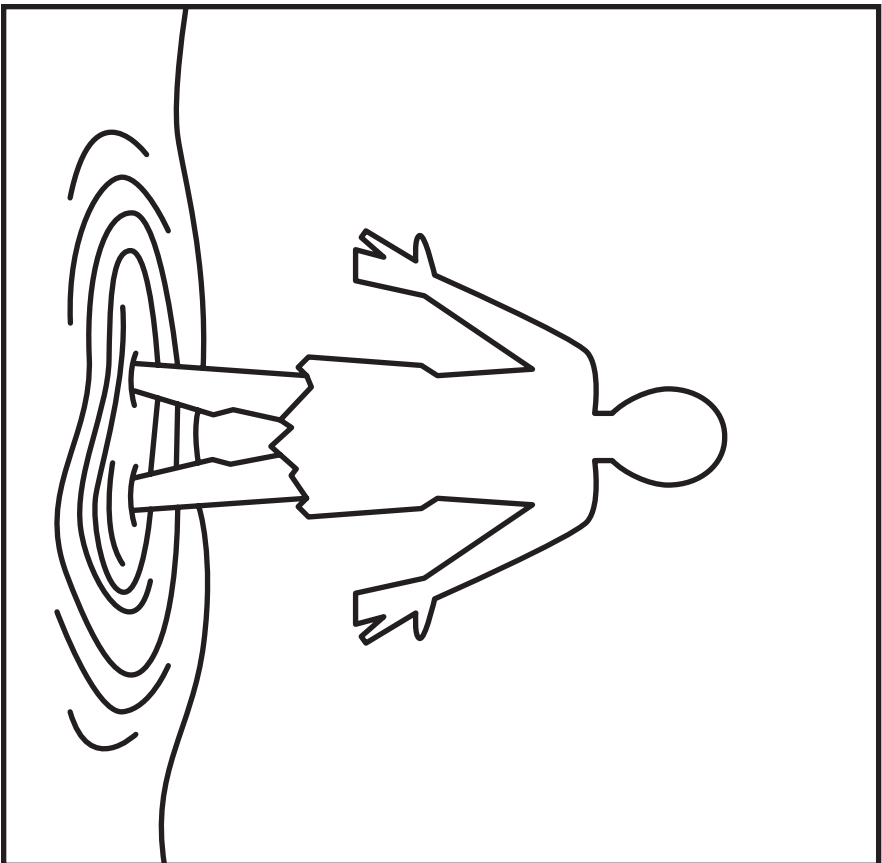
Dear God, thank you for taking care of us like a shepherd takes care of their sheep. When we feel afraid, sad, or worried, help us remember your promises last forever. Teach us to comfort one another. **Amen.**

God will forever GATHER

the LAMBS in God's ARMS

FINISH **the** DRAWING

In Mark 1, we meet John the Baptist who prepares the way for Jesus' coming. He lived in the wilderness, wore camel's hair, and ate bugs and honey! Finish the drawing of John and how you picture him.

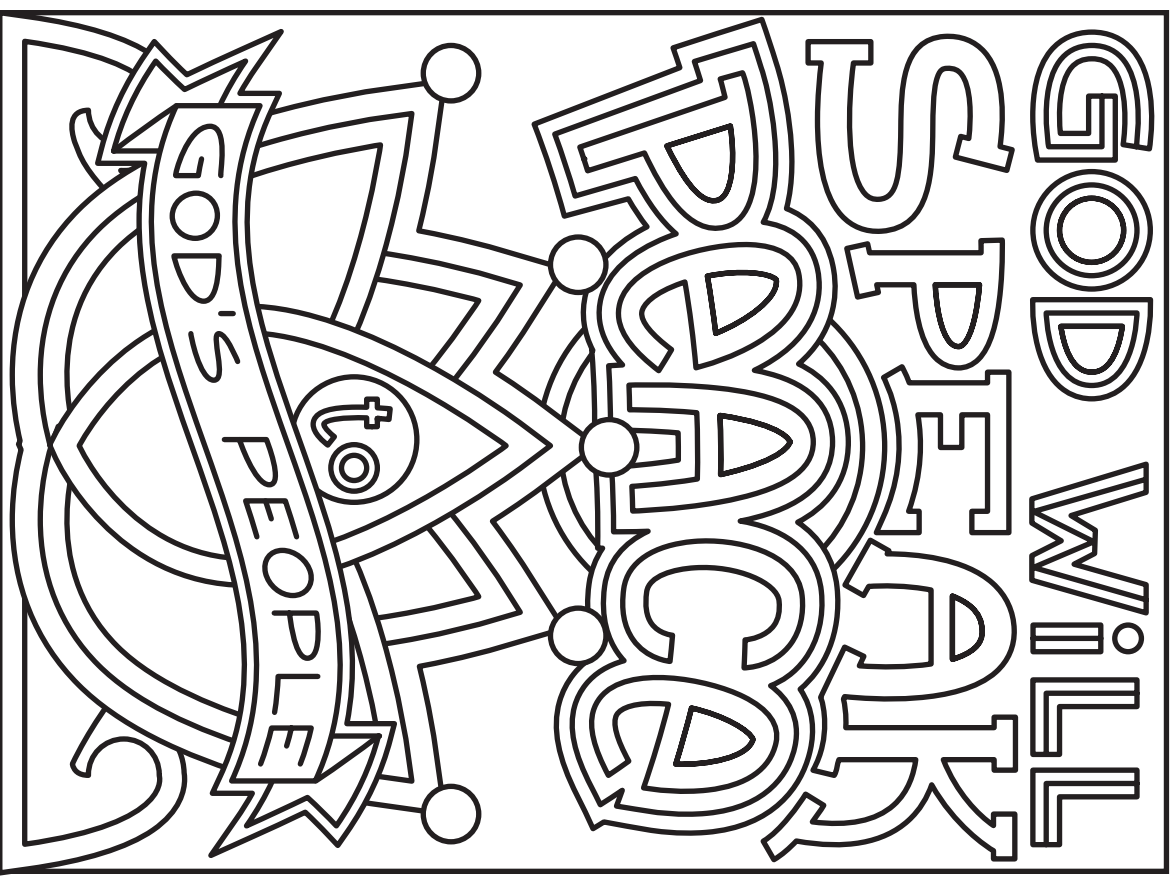


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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, Mark 1:18.





DRAW IT

Isaiah 40 gives us a beautiful vision of the earth and all people coming together in justice and equality. "Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low..." Justice is part of Jesus' coming. Draw what you think of when you think of justice.

