



# Hope

We light candles to bring light in darkness. During Advent, we associate light with Hope. Spend some time talking and writing down or drawing things that you are hopeful for in your life and in the world and put them on sticky notes of paper. Take those sticky notes and put them by a light switch in your house.

This week, as you turn on and off the lights, say a prayer about the things you hope for on the notes.

**To the One who gives us Hope,  
Thank you for inviting us to this time of waiting. Help us to  
Open our eyes so we can see your light,  
Open our ears so we can hear your words of hope  
Open our minds so we can understand you,  
Open our hearts so we can receive your love.  
Come, long expected Jesus, we are waiting for you!  
Amen.**



# Peace

In a world full of conflict, God calls us to be peacemakers. One way we can do this is by bringing comfort to others who may be sad, hurting, lonely, or sick. Individually, or as a family, create at least one or more “signs of peace.” Decide who in your life could use a sign of peace this season. Perhaps you write a letter to a family member far away. Another idea is to make a small poster together (with drawings, words, pictures from magazines), frame the poster, and deliver it to the person or people who need this sign of peace (ideas include a daycare, senior center, hospital or homebound friend). Be creative with your signs of comfort and peace.

**God of Comfort and Peace,**

**We come to you this Advent Season with questions.**

**Why is there sadness?**

**Why do scary things happen?**

**Why are people mean to each other?**

**We know we can come to you with these questions.**

**That you hold sadness and pain close to you.**

**Thank you for being a God who can comfort.**

**Help us to bring comfort to your people.**

**Help us to make signs of peace.**

**Teach us to be peacemakers every day.**

**Amen.**

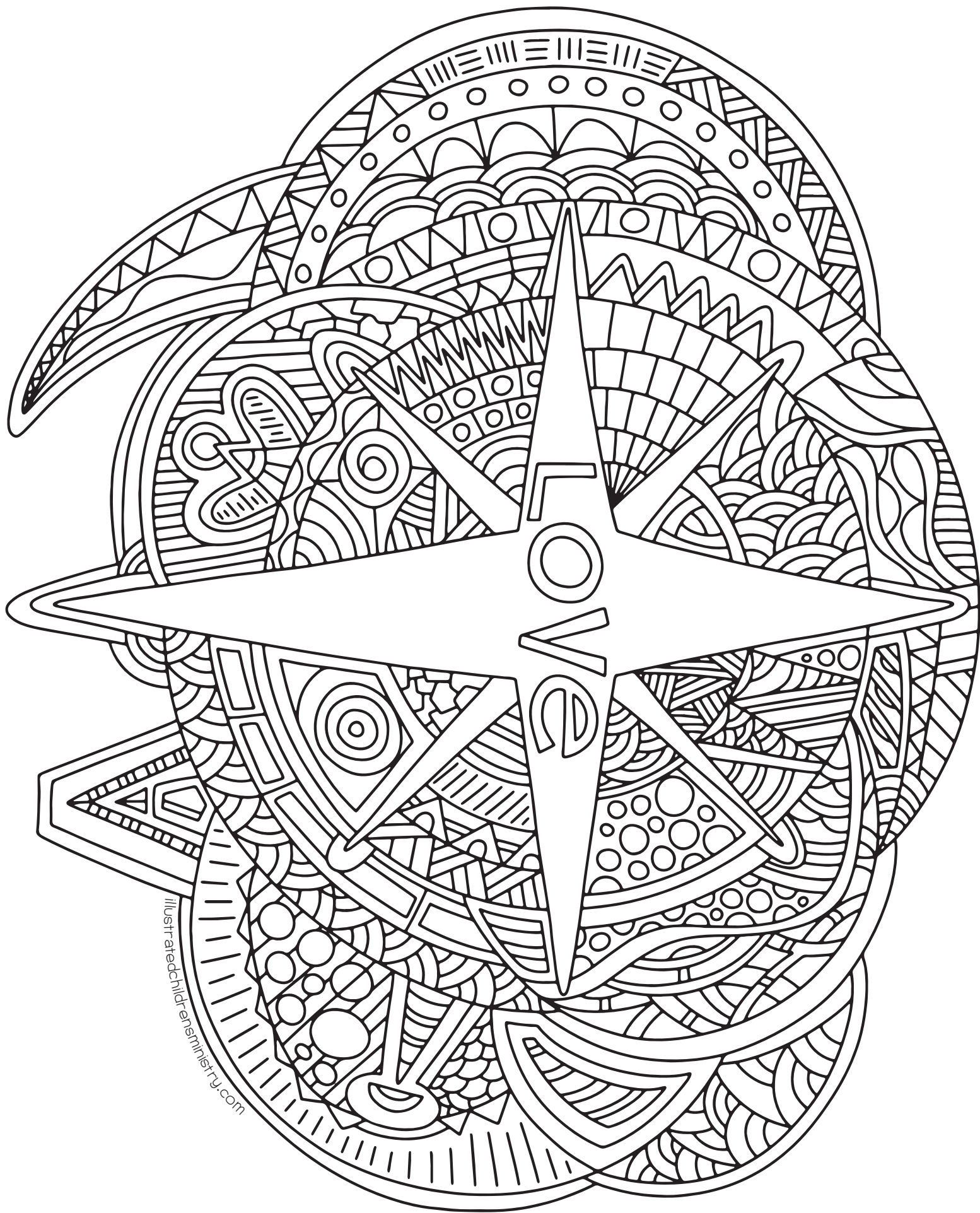






# Joy

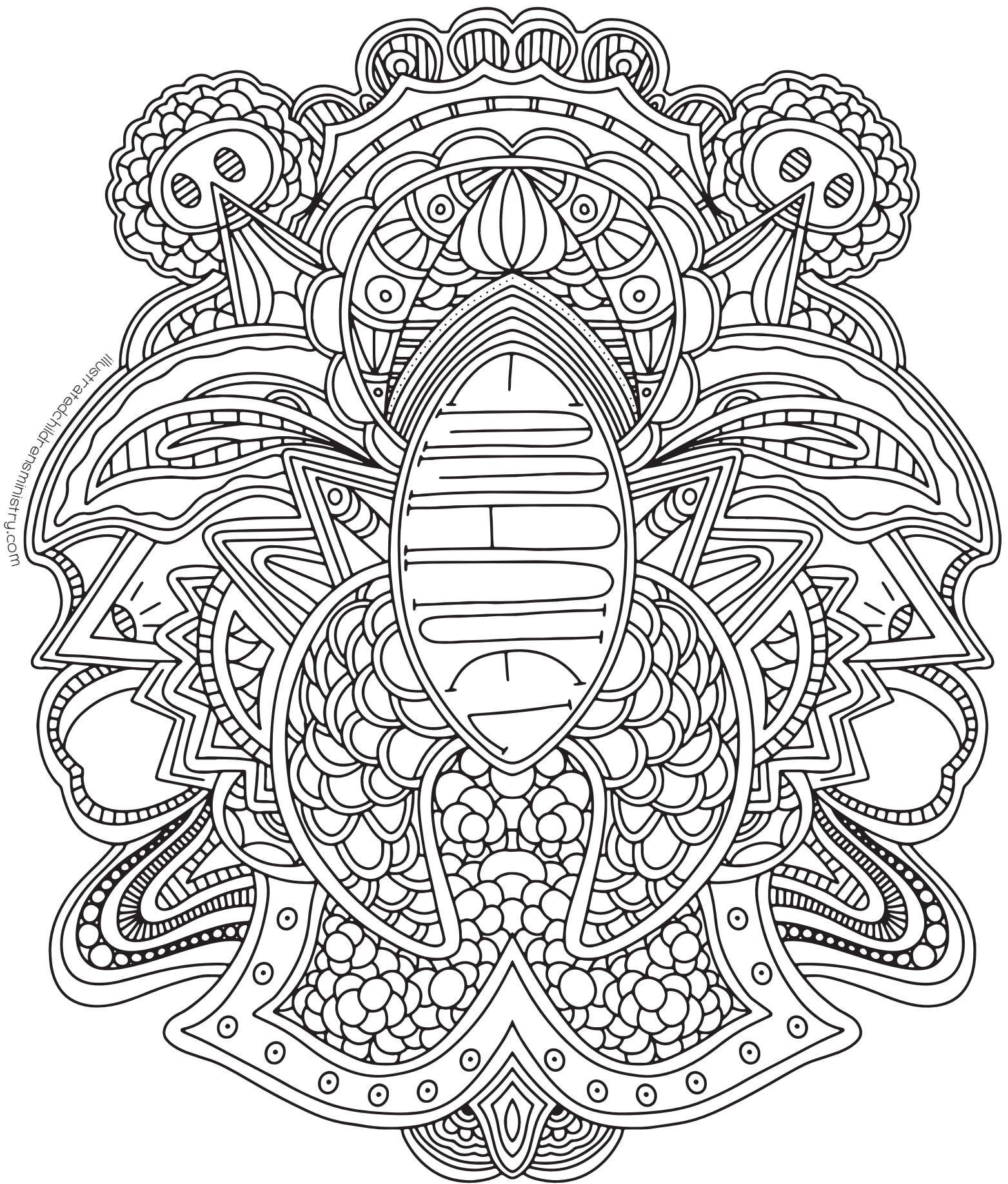
**Creator of Joy,  
As we continue to wait for Jesus,  
Help us to be bearers of joy and love.  
Help us to find life's pleasure,  
Help us embrace our passion  
Help us to know your purpose  
Amen.**



# Love

Dear God,  
As we see familiar sights  
As we smell familiar smells  
As we sing familiar songs,  
We remember that you entered the world  
In unexpected surroundings  
With unexpected parents  
At an unexpected time.  
Help us to expect you in the unexpected  
And to love the world as you do.  
Amen.







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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY