

ADVENT devotional

Elaine D Elliott

December 2018

These selections, based on the Jesse Tree tradition, show how various Old Testament events and ancestors prepared for the coming of Christ. Jesse Trees were made in medieval times as tapestry or stained glass to show the ancestry of Christ.

The Advent devotional is from a larger trilogy.

- 1 • ***Christ Foreshadowed*** 365 days connecting each Old Testament story to the gospels.
- 2 • ***Christ with us*** takes a year to go through the four gospels.
- 3 • ***Christ's Kingdom grows*** is a year of readings from Acts to Revelation.

Advent devotional

two weeks of Advent readings selected from the Old Testament beginning on December 2.

ADVENT devotional 2 • Luke ➡

the Gospel of Luke beginning on December 15, to the Christmas story on December 25.

Luke

will continue to a few days beyond Easter, ending on April 25, 2019.

For each reading for Advent and the Gospel of Luke

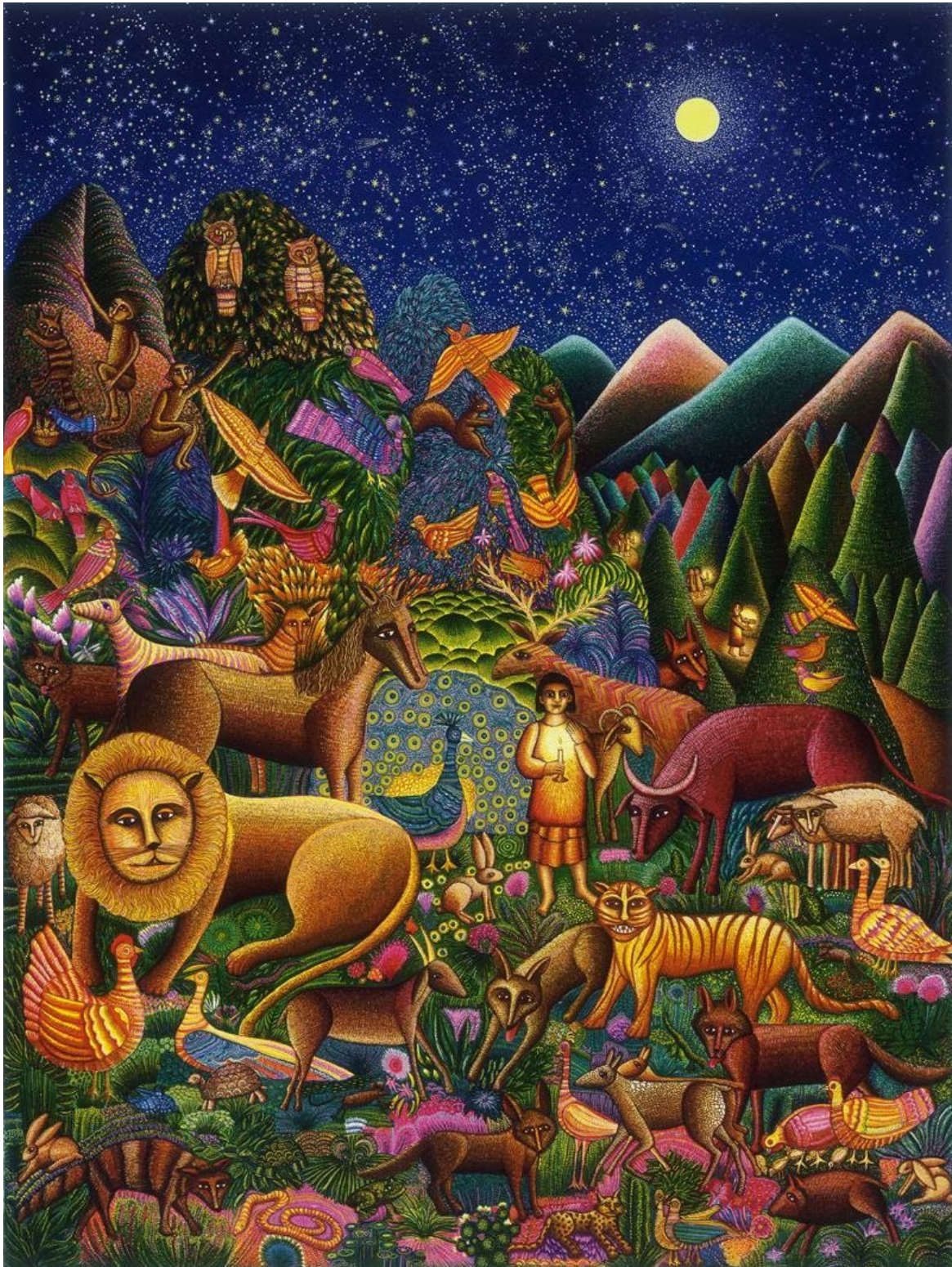
- a painting I selected from contemporary Christian artists;
- music from a contemporary artist;
- questions for personal application.

The intention is for the reflection, art, music, and questions to accompany meditation on the scripture reading.

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- ✔ [Dec 2](#) • Creation - Genesis 1-2
- ✔ [Dec 3](#) • Leaving Paradise - Genesis 3
- ✔ [Dec 4](#) • The Flood - Genesis 8
- ✔ [Dec 5](#) • Abraham - Genesis 15
- ✔ [Dec 6](#) • Promise of Isaac - Genesis 18
- ✔ [Dec 7](#) • Isaac's life preserved - Genesis 22
- ✔ [Dec 8](#) • Jacob's Ladder - Genesis 28
- ✔ [Dec 9](#) • Joseph - Genesis 41
- ✔ [Dec 10](#) • Moses - Exodus 1
- ✔ [Dec 11](#) • Rahab - Joshua 6
- ✔ [Dec 12](#) • Ruth 4
- ✔ [Dec 13](#) • King David - II Samuel 7
- ✔ [Dec 14](#) • The Jesse Tree - Isaiah 11

➡ ADVENT devotional 2 • Luke



Peaceable Kingdom • John August Swanson

Every passage in the Old Testament contains intimations of Christ's coming, and some stories are particularly clear in their foreshadowing. It is a series of these stories that became part of the Jesse Tree tradition where one can read a scripture and hang an ornament from the first day of advent until Christmas day.

Creation obviously foreshadows Christ as the one who brings a new creation. But the gospel of John tells us that Christ was present as the creator, and his word gave life and light. John united the man Christ with the maker of the splendors of the outdoors, the complexity of our bodies, and the subtlety of our minds that can create art, technology, literature, and community. God, the artist, paints and sculpts and writes and composes in the natural world.

Scripture uses nature as a source of metaphors, comparing Christ to things from each day of the creation poem: light, water, rock, vines, a morning star, lamb, lion and many others. The environment is made on the first three days, and what moves within each environment is paralleled in the next three days.

The first poem ends in the first few verses of chapter 2 and announces God's rest on the seventh day. It then goes on to describe how God gave mankind everything needed: life, a place to live, beauty, fruit, water, limits, knowledge, work, companionship, marriage, language, and connection to the creatures of the world. The invitation to relationship sets up the whole subsequent story of God caring about us, carrying on conversations, leading us, quarreling with us, and passionately loving us.

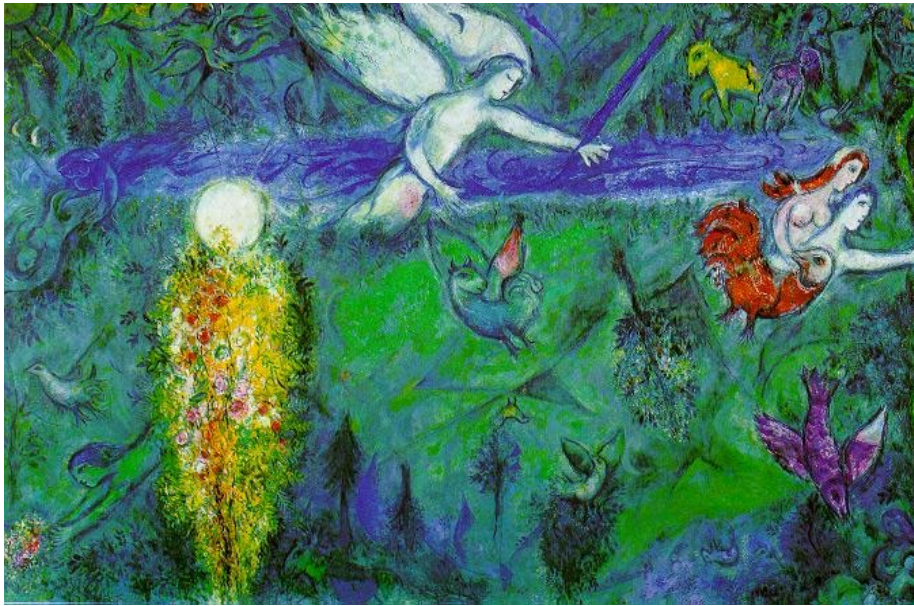
The forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil is juxtaposed with the mysterious tree of life. These are the first symbolic trees of scripture, and these and many more will point to Christ's tree, the literal wooden cross that solves the problem of good and evil and gives life that does not end.

- *Do I celebrate Christ as the creator?*
- *Do I see his lavish provision of beauty in our world today?*
- *Do I see how these early stories prepare us*
to see the one who comes to start the new creation?



[U25 Morning has broken](#)

December 3 • Leaving Paradise - Genesis 3



Adam and Eve expelled from paradise • Marc Chagall

Christ was perfectly obedient and led others to life, unlike disobedient Adam and Eve who led others to death. In a parable Christ said the devil introduced evil into the world just as this mysterious story says evil came through a talking snake.

We are introduced to something that becomes a backdrop to many stories: suffering and death are consequences of disobedience to God, yet there is always a loving and merciful call to return. In this story we see how God told them not to hide from him and covered their shame. We learn that it is safe to be vulnerable with our creator.

The promise of a descendant who will crush the serpent's head prefigures Christ, showing us that God chose to be with us, leaving paradise and joining us in our exile. Sacrifice as the means of transformation is also introduced, something that will be elaborated and will culminate in the cross. Later Paul will explain that death came through Adam, but resurrection came through Christ and through him we are given new life.

Angels stood with swords of light to keep mankind out, separating sin and holiness. As God showed mercy, angels no longer kept mankind away from him, but welcomed us: angels were part of the tabernacle and temple, they spoke at the empty tomb, and they spoke at Christ's ascension. In the parable, Christ spoke of the end time work of the angels in judgment and mercy, rejection and welcome.

Christ's invitation is to turn from our sin, and to live our daily lives in the preview of paradise. To do this requires recognizing the separation from him and asking for the gift of salvation in Christ. In addition to doing this for the first time, it is good to examine ourselves with God's help on a daily basis. The fundamental message is that God loves us no matter what and will forgive our sins if we but ask.

• *Do I recognize my own disobedience and turn daily to God for forgiveness?*



U2b [Good \(Adam and Eve\)](#)



Building the ark • John August Swanson

Noah is an archetype of an obedient, righteous person who is the means of salvation for those willing to listen. In this sense he is like Christ who in perfect obedience provides salvation for the whole world. We see that God is a rescuer, a first-responder.

The ark Noah built has multiple imagery: the church, a place of safety and salvation, and Christ who shelters us from judgment. The wood of the ark reminds us of the wood of the cross. The waters serve as imagery of the symbolic death of baptism and subsequent resurrection.

Peter made the connection for us between Noah's flood and the waters of baptism that Christ called us to experience as a sign of his taking us from death to life. It symbolizes God's loving rescue from destruction of those who turn to him. God's post-flood promise emphasized his love for every creature he has made.

The dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit and of peace, reveals that judgment has passed. The rainbow reminds us of the glory of God. Thus we see the Trinity: Christ as ark; the dove as Spirit; and the rainbow as the Father on the throne. Noah's sacrifice points toward Christ's

sacrifice. After the flood a covenant with and promise to Noah included all living creatures. The covenant with all of creation is repeated seven times, emphasizing that God has a covenant with all his creatures and motivating what today we are calling “creation care,” recognizing the extent of humankind’s failure to honor this.

The promise of rescue and restoration from the disasters of our lives often include small hopeful signs. Like the olive leaf in the dove’s beak, we also receive tiny signs. Despite the hopeless situation we see, there are signs the change is coming. At a time when I was wondering about unfulfilled hopes, I saw a beautiful rainbow in the sky that reminded me of Noah’s hope.

- *Do I see that Christ is the means for anyone
to escape the death and destruction that is part of our world?*



[!\[\]\(0f848bbd71cef6b345273b16f905912a_img.jpg\) It's gonna rain](#)



Abraham • Sieger Köder

Christ's incarnation is prefigured in Abram, who left his home and became a pilgrim. Abram's journey, symbolized by the tent in which he lived, parallels God's journey among the people of Israel in a tent, and parallels Christ living among us. Christ did not cling to his position but became a pilgrim, born as mortal man.

As the father of faith, Abram's story raises questions for us. How could he be sure he was hearing from God? We have not only scripture stories of promise and fulfillment, we have centuries of people who say they heard from God and what he said happened. We even have plenty of living testimonies. His example of faith challenges us to listen.

Abram was promised many descendants when he did not even have one child, and he believed God and God honored his faith. His greatest descendant, Christ, was the ultimate fulfillment of the promise of blessing the whole earth through his descendants.

Very humanly, Abram asked, "How can I be sure?" God made the promise a binding contract, or covenant. In our time, paper, lawyers, and notarized signatures would be the method; in that time, it involved a ceremony with sacrifices. The sacrifice reminds us of the cross, the darkness that unnaturally occurred from noon to three p.m. during the crucifixion. God appeared as a flaming torch going through the sacrifices, something we can compare to Christ as the light shining in the dark. Abram was warned of the oppression his descendants would experience, but was promised they would return after 400 years and would own the land.

God told Abram to look at the stars. He could see perhaps half of the 9,000 stars visible to the naked eye, and had no idea that eventually with a telescope we would be able to see 200,000. Today the Hubble Space telescope allows scientists to estimate there are 100-170 billion galaxies in the observable universe, and that we may eventually be able to see farther to see

more. They estimate a total of a septillion stars (7×10 with 24 zeros!), a mind-boggling number. It is an astonishing promise for a man who had no children at all.

His faith challenges me. Am I willing to believe that God will fulfill things that seem difficult or unlikely to me? His patient faith, particularly when he saw nothing concrete makes me want to really measure up to his example.

- *Do I see the humanity of Christ in his very fallible ancestors?*
- *Do I see that he left his heavenly home to become a pilgrim on earth like Abraham?*
- *Am I willing to do the same?*



[**U2b** *Who but you \(Abraham and Sarah\)*](#)



Abraham and the three angels • Marc Chagall

Sarah prefigures Mary, the mother of Christ, in receiving from angels the promise of a child. The mystery of a tiny baby growing in its mother's womb is full of wonder, and because of Sarah's advanced age, and because of Mary's virginity, the mystery was even greater.

The arrival of the three angels to tell Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son has beautiful symbolism. Artists have used this story to illustrate that the three angels represented the Trinity, the tree under which they sat reminds us of the cross, and the shared meal parallels the Eucharist. The angels brought a message of judgment (Sodom and Gomorrah would be destroyed), and a message of hope (Isaac would be born). The hope, though they could not fully understand it, was also a message of mercy that Christ would come to save from judgment those who responded to him. As Abraham pled for mercy, he also prefigured Christ.

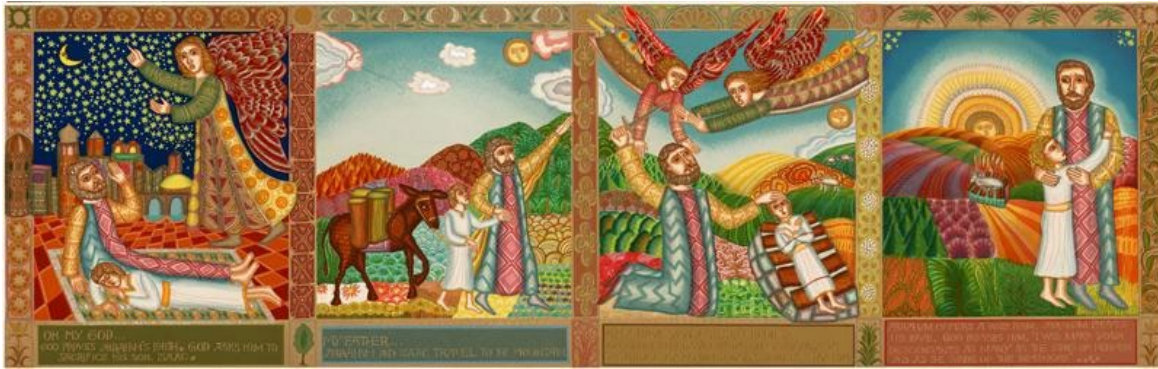
Mary did not react with skeptical laughter and disbelief to the angel's announcement as did Sarah, but with curiosity about the impossibility of bearing a child as a virgin. The joy of receiving a miracle child was true for each of them. The promise seemed hilariously unlikely to Sarah, and surely most of us can identify with her cheerful skepticism. But God's response to Sarah encourages us: "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" as does his response to Mary: "For nothing is impossible with God."

- *Do I trust that God can do impossible things in my life and those I care for?*
- *Do I see how graciously God foreshadowed what would happen for Christ in these stories of his ancestors?*



U2b [*What child is this?*](#)

December 7 • Isaac's life preserved - Genesis 22



Abraham and Isaac • John August Swanson

Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac reflects God the Father's sacrifice of his son, Christ. Twice God referred to Isaac as Abraham's beloved son, a term that God would use for Christ at his baptism. This is also the first time the word love is used in scripture, as God acknowledged that Abraham loved Isaac so much.

This is a difficult story: 1) why God would command human sacrifice, 2) why would Abraham consent, 3) and why would Isaac cooperate? In pagan cultures human sacrifice was common, so why not stand clearly against it? The story ends with God himself taking that stand, and the substitution of a ram for Isaac makes a very clear analogy to the substitution of Christ for us. God will suffer and die in our place.

Hebrews 11 tells us Abraham had faith in God's promise, and a hope of resurrection. Isaac, in his obedient walk up the hill, carrying the wood for the sacrifice, is a poignant parallel to Christ carrying his wooden cross without any resistance to the death and suffering coming to him. As the story begins, God calls Abraham to go to a mountain in the land of Moriah, the place the Jerusalem temple will be built, intensifying the symbolic importance of this story in light of Christ's sacrifice. That Isaac did not die in this story but lived on to old age prefigured Christ's resurrection.

This story meant a great deal to me at a moment in my life where I felt I had to let go of something, and yet that letting go felt like the most horrible sacrifice imaginable. The story helped me believe that if I let go, my sacrifice could come back to me in a resurrected form. Soren Kierkegaard used this story as an example of how we are called to a leap of faith. Annie Lamont credits her conversion to reading Kierkegaard's reflection. This difficult story touches something deep within us, even because of our questions. In my case, I received the hoped-for resurrection after many years, and so feel a tender affection for the story and the characters in it.

- *Do I sense the mystery of how Christ removed the death penalty from us?*
- *Have I entered into that mystery?*



[U2b The God of Abraham Praise](#)



Dream of Jacob • John August Swanson

Jacob, though called by God to bless all people, was deceitful, troubled, and skeptical. It took a personal encounter with Christ to change him. When Christ appeared to him in a dream, Jacob did not yet have the faith of his parents or grandparents. Despite his lack of faith, he was promised land, descendants, and the role of blessing all people. Jacob's story encourages us that God does not give up on us when we make mistakes, but he continues to find ways to encounter us and speak to us.

Jacob offered a conditional response, much like so many of us today, thinking we will believe in this God if he does good things for us. When Jacob returned to this same place after many years, God once more met him there, changed his name to Israel, and at that point Jacob came to personal faith. In the New Testament passage it is clear that God had a special calling for him and persisted in pursuing him until he believed.

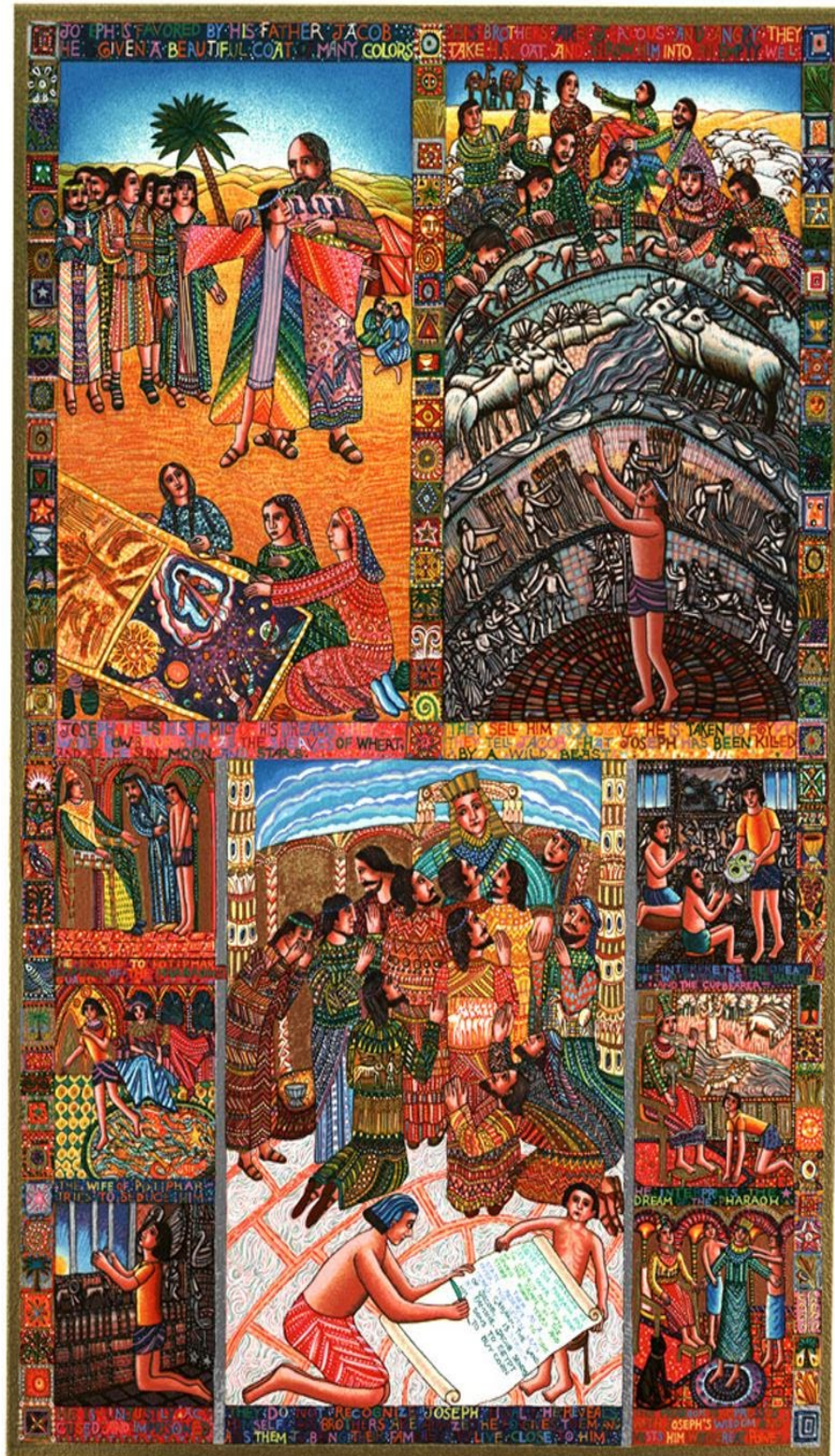
As he left home, fleeing from his angry brother, Jacob camped out and saw a vision of angels ascending and descending on a ladder, something Christ referenced in John 1 as a promise to Nathanael, a potential disciple. After his vision, Jacob named the place Bethel, "house of God" which reminds us that all of creation is God's house, not just our churches. We may encounter the creator as we are camping out as Jacob did. Our experience of awe may not involve a vision, but with Jacob, we may realize we have unexpectedly encountered God.

Jacob went on to have the twelve sons who became the ancestors of the twelve tribes of Israel. His was a very troubled family with a lot of crises and infighting, a sign that dysfunctional families are not the end of the story. While Israel became a nation, it was through his son Judah that Christ was promised, and the kings of Judah that followed from David continued in an unbroken genealogical line, despite ups and downs, obedience and disobedience, and captivity and return.

- *Have I encountered God for myself, perhaps in a dream, perhaps in nature, perhaps through words spoken?*
- *Is there a way in which this mystery of encounter that threads all through history helps me in my times of doubt or unbelief?*



[!\[\]\(e3f8612927870f2e0f9f5989e6dd3064_img.jpg\) Jacob's ladder](#)



Story of Joseph • John August Swanson

Joseph's life foreshadows Christ's betrayal, death, resurrection, and glory. Both suffered, were imprisoned, and were raised to honor. Both compassionately forgave their brothers and were the means of saving them. Their stories assure us that God is with us in our suffering.

The Psalmist wrote that until the time came to fulfill his dreams, Joseph's character was being tested. Under difficult circumstances as a slave and in prison he worked hard and was promoted to leadership positions. Joseph even endured the disappointment of not having his case taken to Pharaoh by the chief cupbearer. For two more years he simply continued to do his job. At God's providential moment, the door to freedom would open for him.

When Joseph was raised to honor, prefiguring Christ in his resurrection and ascension. Joseph was made second in command, similar to Christ at God's right hand. Joseph prophetically shared God's word, as did Christ. His confidence that he could hear from God was borne out by what followed since what he foretold came about, and Pharaoh recognized his exceptional wisdom. He began his public role at thirty years of age, the same age as Christ, who was also the wisest man in the land. When the seven years of abundance ended and famine began, Joseph was in a position to provide bread for the hungry, one of Christ's roles as well.

In Stephen's masterful summary of history from Abraham to Solomon, he said that God gave Joseph unusual wisdom. Even Pharaoh recognized that he was filled with God's Spirit. This is the first use of this important idea which eventually becomes available to every believer in the New Testament.

Joseph foreshadowed Christ in his position as the favorite son, in his suffering and humiliation, in his resurrection and ascension, his wisdom, his gifts to his brothers, and his complete forgiveness of their betrayal. His life shows a conformity to Christ which can inspire us as well.

- *Do I celebrate the parallels between Joseph and Jesus?*
- *Do I see how their examples are meant for me today as well?*



U2b [What wondrous love is this?](#)



Moses • John August Swanson

Here we are introduced to the towering figure of Moses. He foreshadows Christ in almost every aspect of His life.

Nativity: Moses' birth bears a direct parallel to that of Jesus. Their lives were in danger from tyrannical political leaders, and God sovereignly engineered an escape.

Temptation: Moses spent 40 years in the desert after leaving Pharaoh's court, paralleling Jesus' 40 days in the desert.

Passion: Moses underwent suffering as Pharaoh refused to let Israel leave Egypt, which corresponds with Christ's suffering from the rulers of his time. The climactic moment of Passover is a direct analogy to Christ's death.

Resurrection: Moses led the people across the Red Sea, escaping from Pharaoh's army to freedom, and the New Testament tells us this is imagery of Christ leading his people to freedom from death.

Teaching: Moses presented the Law, a Covenant, to the people, which corresponds with Jesus giving us the teaching of the New Covenant. Both were prophets, bringing God's word, and Moses said a prophet like him would be raised to lead the people.

Leading us through life: Moses led the people through the wilderness for 40 years and led them to the Promised Land, just as Christ leads us.

Moses as the towering figure who formed the culture and worship practices for the people of Israel, foreshadowed Christ, who would form the culture and worship of the new people of God, the church. His preeminence and importance was acknowledged by Christ, while simultaneously showing that one even greater had arrived.

- *Do I have the high esteem for Moses and his life and writings that Christ showed?*
- *Do I celebrate that though not an ancestor of Christ, he created the culture in which Christ presented himself?*



U2b [*It must be you \(Moses\)*](#)



Book of Joshua Mosaics • Santa Maria Maggiore, Rome

Rahab's scarlet thread has been seen as representing the blood of Christ. In the New Testament we are told her friendly welcome to the spies showed faith, whereas others refused to obey God. Her reward is that she became an ancestress of Christ, redeemed from death, and became an archetype of church, the forgiven people of God.

Rahab's status as transformed prostitute recalls women in Jesus' ministry: the woman caught in adultery, the Samaritan, and the woman who anointed his feet. The disciples disapproved of his talking to the Samaritan, and the Pharisees were horrified Jesus would let a woman touch him. Mary Magdalene had seven demons, but became a new person and was honored as the first to speak to the risen Christ. The love he showed for marginalized women parallels the kindness and love of Salmon, the Israelite who married Rahab and integrated her into the community.

This first encounter with the Canaanite world started out far more like a demonstration than a military engagement, with Israel walking silently around the city of Jericho for six days. On the seventh day the walls collapsed and they destroyed everyone, young and old, animals, and they burned the town. Only Rahab and her family were saved. Jericho is one of the lowest cities in the world, in the Jordan valley, and it lies along an earthquake faultline.

I cannot forget the refrain: "completely destroyed." "Destroy" is repeated at least 24 times in the first half of Joshua, along with burned cities, and "men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep, donkeys—everything." Wrestling with ethical implications of conquest is important. An

excellent book that analyzes the problem of war in the Hebrew scriptures, particularly the holy wars of this book, is ***Fight: A Christian Case for Non-Violence*** by Preston Sprinkle.

Lest we feel self-righteous and judgmental, we must remember that war is not only an historical reality, but in our time sophisticated weaponry often results in 90% civilian casualties. Today we have international mechanism. to prevent or alleviate war and suffering, and yet continue to struggle with this. In contrast, Jesus, the new Joshua (their names are the same in Hebrew) comes to bring a Kingdom of peace and righteousness.

- *Have I entered into the community of faith as Rahab did, accepting that this comes only through God's mercy?*



[!\[\]\(cbe80b694ebd74fcfe136a095b608235_img.jpg\) *Come ye sinners poor and needy*](#)



Story of Ruth • John August Swanson

Ruth foreshadows Mary as an ancestress of Christ. She is one of four women in Matthew's genealogy of Christ, one of two we are sure were not Jewish, reinforcing that Christ is inclusive, the savior of the whole world.

In Ruth we see a woman humble enough to tolerate being an outsider, to do menial work, and even to make a counter-cultural marriage proposal. In the end we see her reversal of fortune, being raised to honor, even the great honor as the ancestress of an unbroken line of kings from David to Christ.

Ruth serves us well as an example of loyal love. Her declaration of loyalty to Naomi and her God has entered our marriage services as an ideal of committed relationship. Here is relational evangelism at its finest, even though Naomi was herself struggling with her own faith. Ruth is an example of a widow who found new people to love, did not stay stuck in her past life, but moved into a new period of fruitful life. She served as a great example for any of us who have suffered the death of someone we care about, an example that love fills in our loses.

Boaz' romance with Ruth foreshadows Christ's romance with his bride, the church. His kindness as he takes an interest in "that girl over there" and his initiative in welcoming her, affirming her, feeding her, and providing for her are tender signs of love that eventually lead to their engagement and marriage. He welcomed this foreigner into the community and she is changed by this love.

Boaz reflects Christ as redeemer, rescuing from poverty, exclusion, loneliness, and unfruitfulness. As was explained in Deuteronomy, he chose to fulfill the laws regarding caring for the widows of ones' relatives. In the midst of the chaotic period of the Judges, he was an example of an honorable man, obedient to the law. Taking the fact that Ruth was a Gentile coming to Boaz, a redeeming Christ-figure, her humble approach was a request to be part of the family of faith. She asked to be covered and redeemed, something we also ask.

Ruth's story, and the birth of her son who is an ancestor to Christ, took place in Bethlehem where Christ was born. Together Ruth, Boaz and Obed become an image of the Holy Family.

- *Do I entrust the sacred connections of family, marriage and children to God?*
- *Do I understand that he is able to lead and guide people
in these most intimate areas of life?*



U2b *I'm with you*



David and Goliath • John August Swanson

Repeatedly in the gospels, Jesus is identified as the son of David, and his lineage made him heir to the kingship that David began. A great hero, David was full of human mistakes and failings, yet at the same time had a humble and repentant heart, one that led him to write poems that teach us today to love and worship God. God selected him to be the one from whom his promised Messiah would come, and elevated him to kingship from being a common shepherd, just as Jesus, the good shepherd, would be king of kings.

The everlasting throne promised to David is fulfilled in Christ. Having brought the Ark to Jerusalem, it was in this context that David desired to build a temple. At first the prophet Nathan agreed, but returned saying God had never thought it necessary to have a building, a tent was enough. Instead, God wanted to build David a house, to give him an eternal kingly dynasty.

David's prayer of response shows the depths of his faith. We have the benefit of hindsight, knowing that the promise was fulfilled in Christ, his lineage that of kings. Though different in Matthew and Luke (possibly a difference between Joseph and Mary's lineage), both trace back to Zerubbabel, the last named king, and back to David.

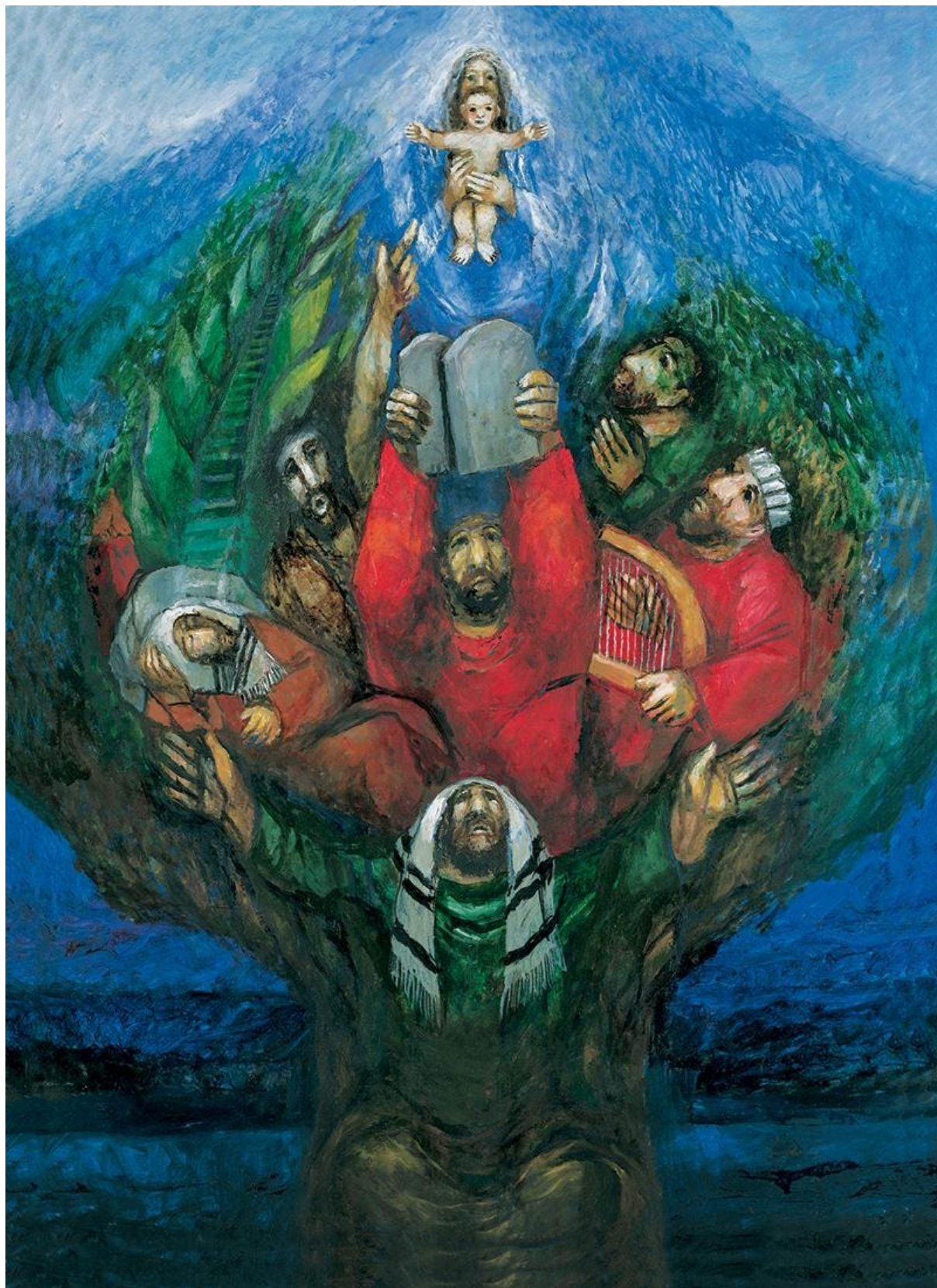
This story is repeated word for word in I Chronicles 17. The everlasting throne with an everlasting king who is David's son is an important prophesy of Christ, and reinforces the kingdom theme. We see this remarkable promise fulfilled in the unbroken line of kings of Judah in contrast to the chaotic and broken line of Israelite kings who ultimately disappeared altogether.

Our royal identity is one we need to hold on to in the rough and tumble and difficulties of our daily lives. Just as David became extraordinary, we too are no longer ordinary. We have an eternal life ahead of us, and that eternal life has entered us and is part of who we are now. We do not just live in God's kingdom, we are part of his royal family.

- *Do I celebrate that Christ was both a divine and human king,
and that he has adopted us into his family?*



U2b *Let all mortal flesh keep silent*



Genealogy of Jesus • Sieger Köder

The Jesse Tree is a tradition of symbols and scripture selections that trace the ancestry and coming of Christ through the Old Testament. Ann Voskamp made both an adult devotional and a children's book that goes through the 25 scriptures, and has beautifully made symbols to hang on the tree that one can purchase or make. I have followed that tradition in all the selections so far. David's father, Jesse, and is the family tree that led to Christ, a genealogy given in the gospels.

At this point, continuing with the Jesse Tree symbols several prophecies are included, for example the promise in Isaiah that Christ is coming as a light, Micah's promise that he would be born in Bethlehem, and a verse in Habakkuk about watching for God. Other biblical characters that foreshadow Christ include Elijah, Jonah and Esther. The Jesse Tree symbols then move to the New Testament and stories that we find in Luke: the promise to Zechariah, the birth of John, the Annunciation to Mary, Mary and Joseph and the birth of Christ. For these devotionals then, we continue the story tomorrow by beginning the book of Luke.

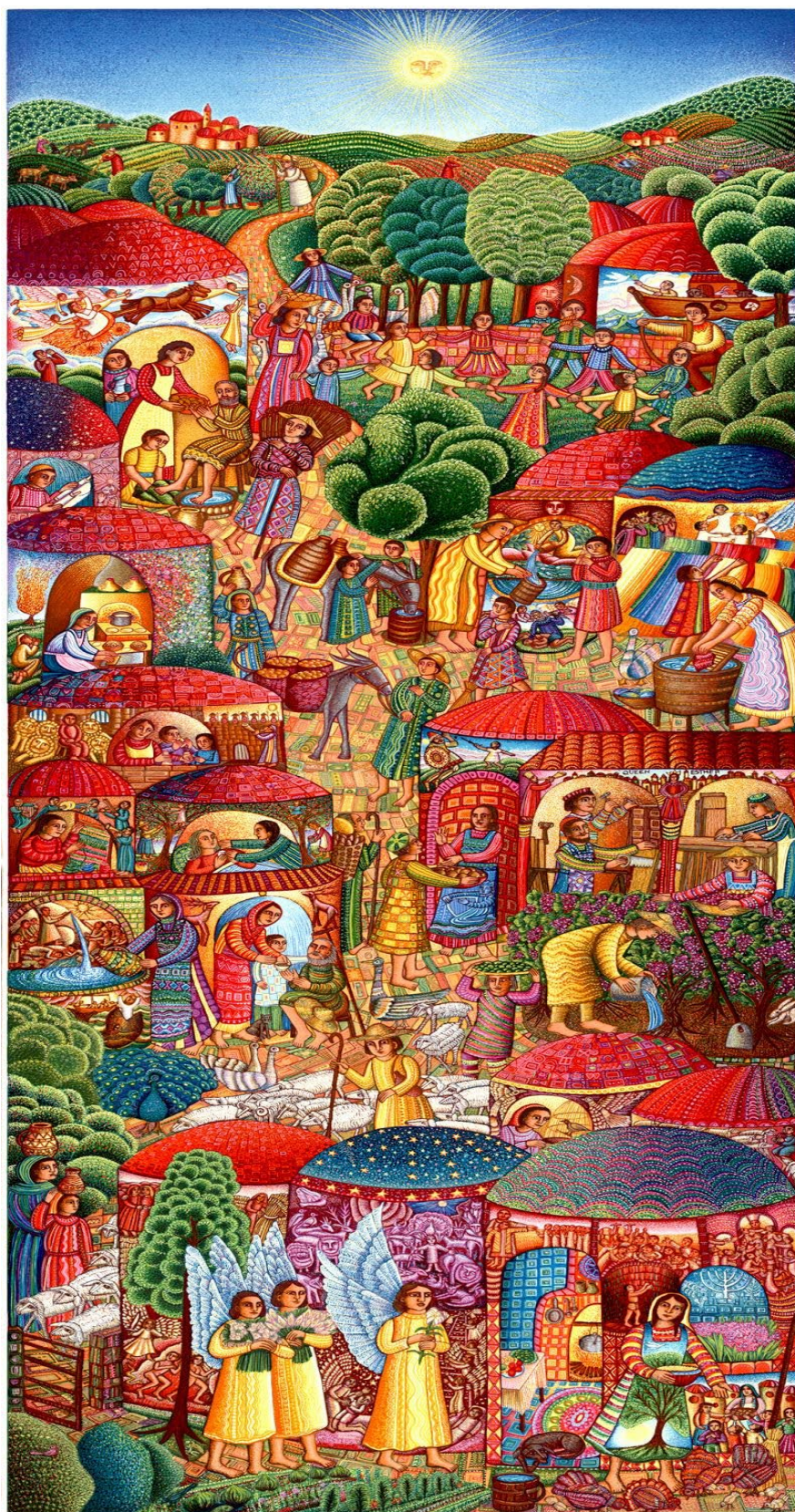
While the Jesse Tree makes rich references to Christ on which we can meditate, what astonished me even more was to discover that Christ is foreshadowed in nearly every Old Testament chapter: characters, stories, symbols, temple worship, ancestry, the land, prophecies, or poetry all point to him.

Each year Advent reminds us that Christ was long prepared for, long expected, and came at precisely the right time. Each year we are encouraged to enter into this time of celebration as a time for him to become ever more deeply present in our lives.

- *Do I delight in the beauty of how centuries of preparation led to Christ?*
- *Am I actively watching for his coming, and asking for him to be present to me now, during this Advent season?*



U2b [Lo, how a rose e'er blooming](#)



A visit • John August Swanson

DRAFT
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& suggestions
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