

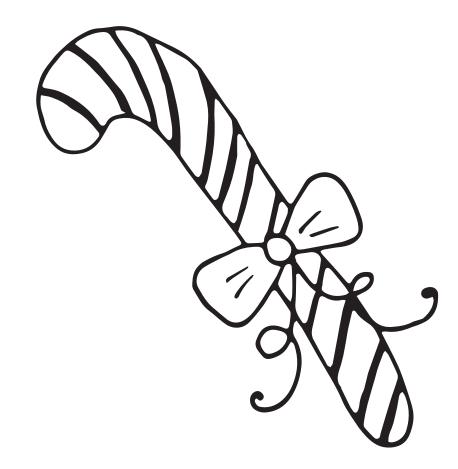
Christmas is a time of happy celebration and presents for us.





Sometimes, we celebrate with Christmas parties and yummy food.

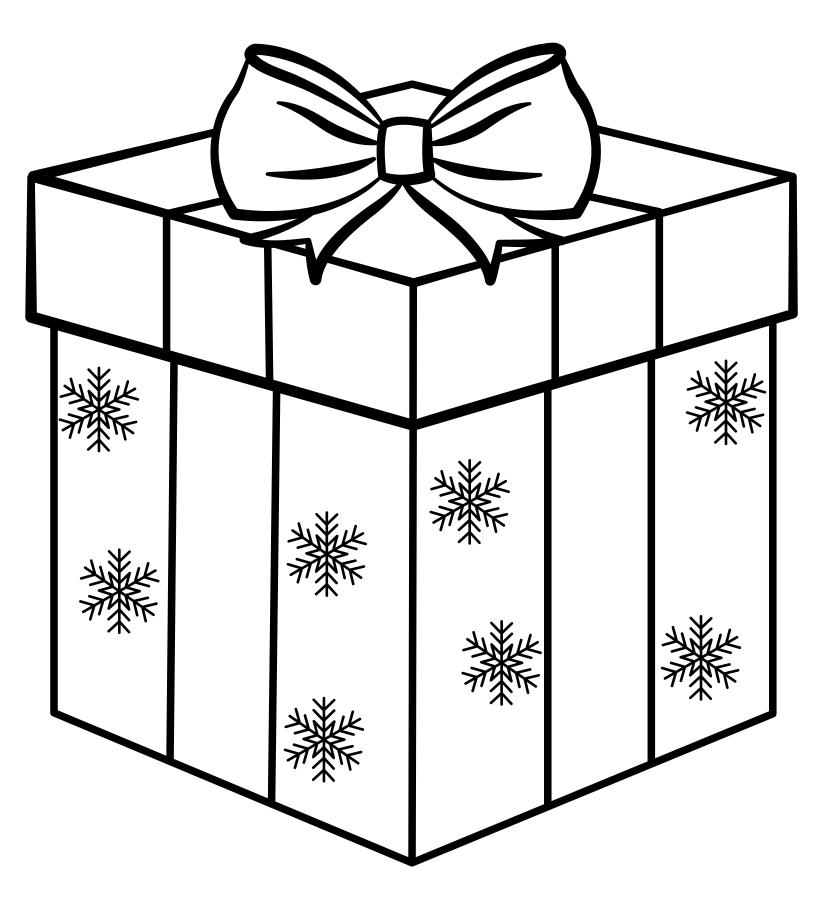
What's something you like to eat at Chrstimas?





Is there a present you hope to get on Christmas Day?

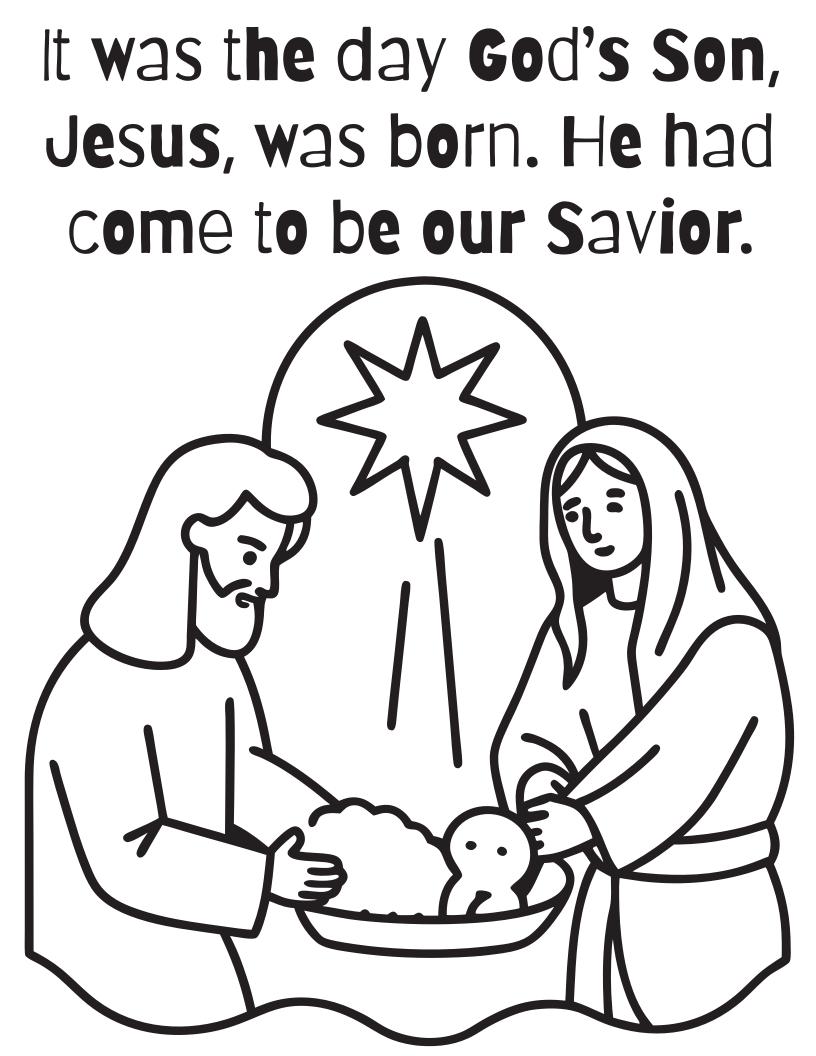




There was so much to celebrate on the first Christmas, too.

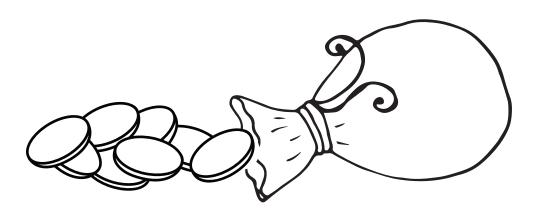
That's what the word, "mirth" means: a happy, joyful time together.





And there were presents given, too, from the Magi (wisemen) to baby Jesus.

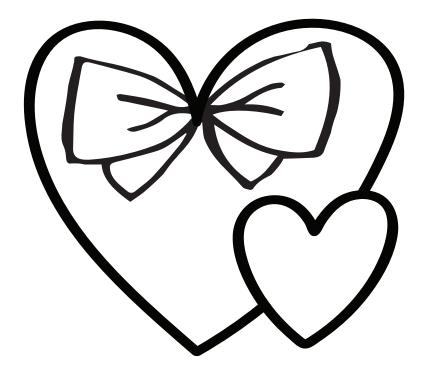
The Magi gave Him gold, frankincense, and myrrh --three, very expensive gifts that few people had enough money to buy.

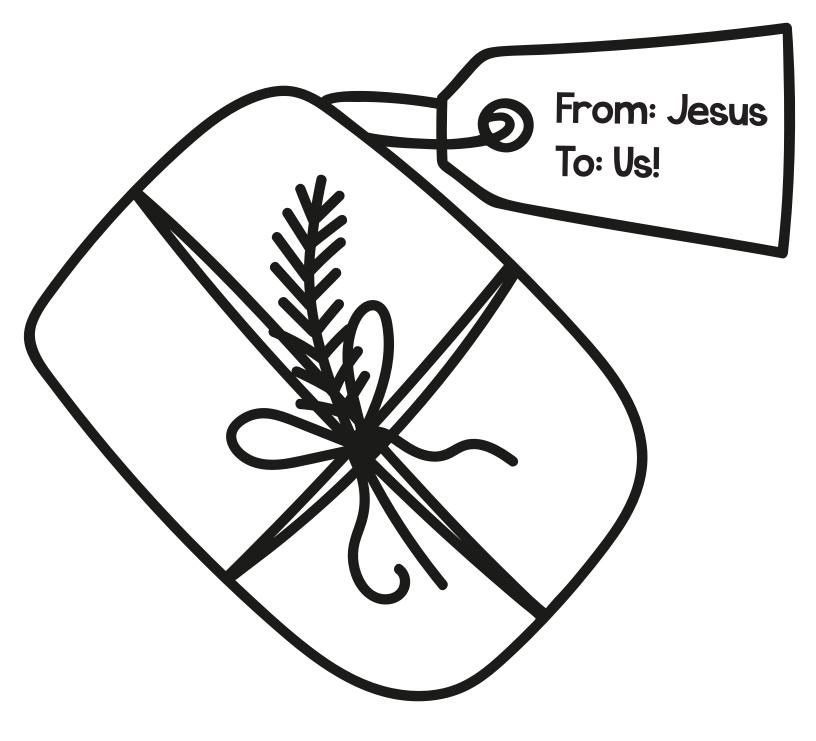




But did you know that the Magi's presents also remind us of some things about Jesus and the very special gift He came to give US?

Let's take a look.



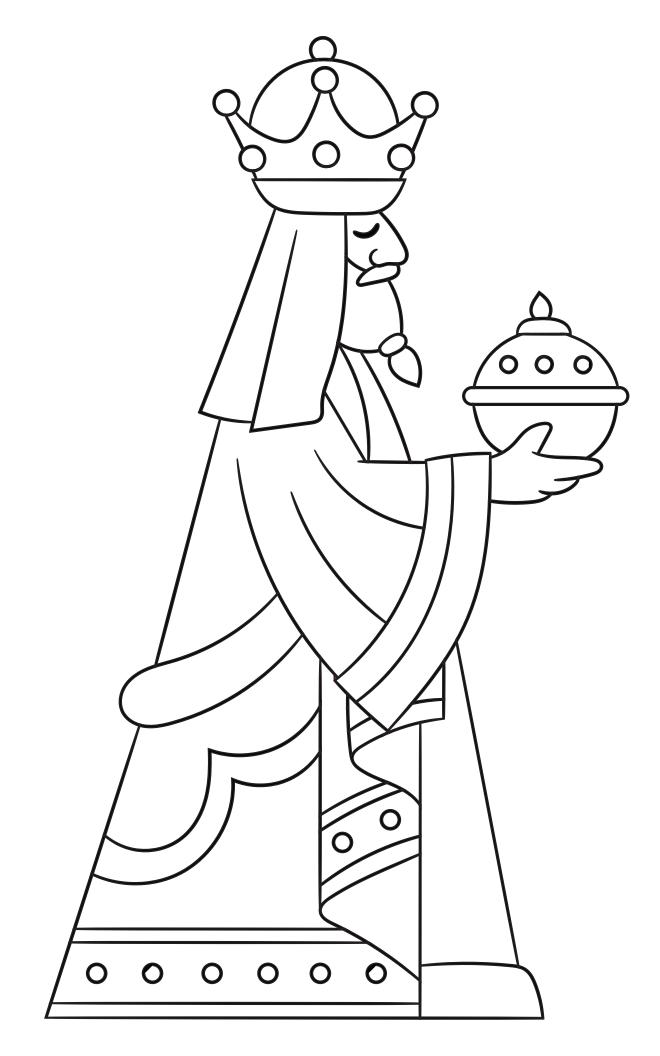


Gold: A gift for kings, given to little Jesus, who came to be the king of kings.





Frankincense: A tree sap that smells nice when you burn it, used long ago when worshiping. Given to little Jesus, who is Immanuel, God with us.



Myrrh: A gift of perfume, used when burying a dead body.

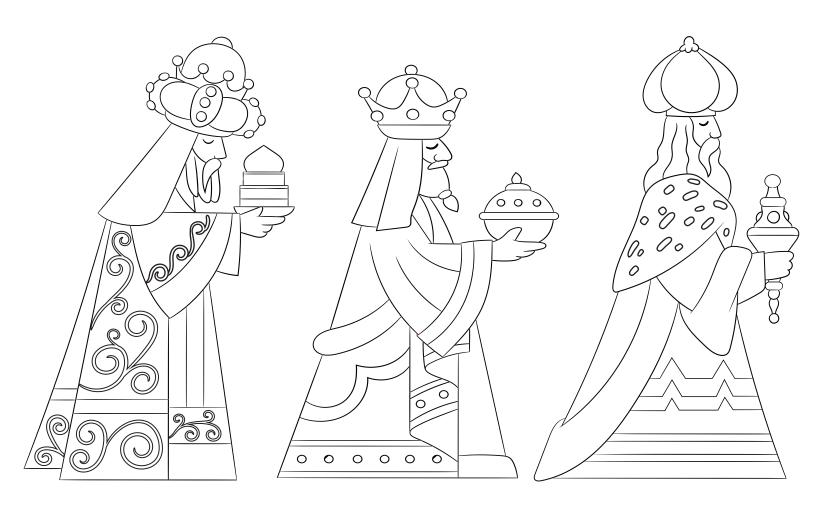


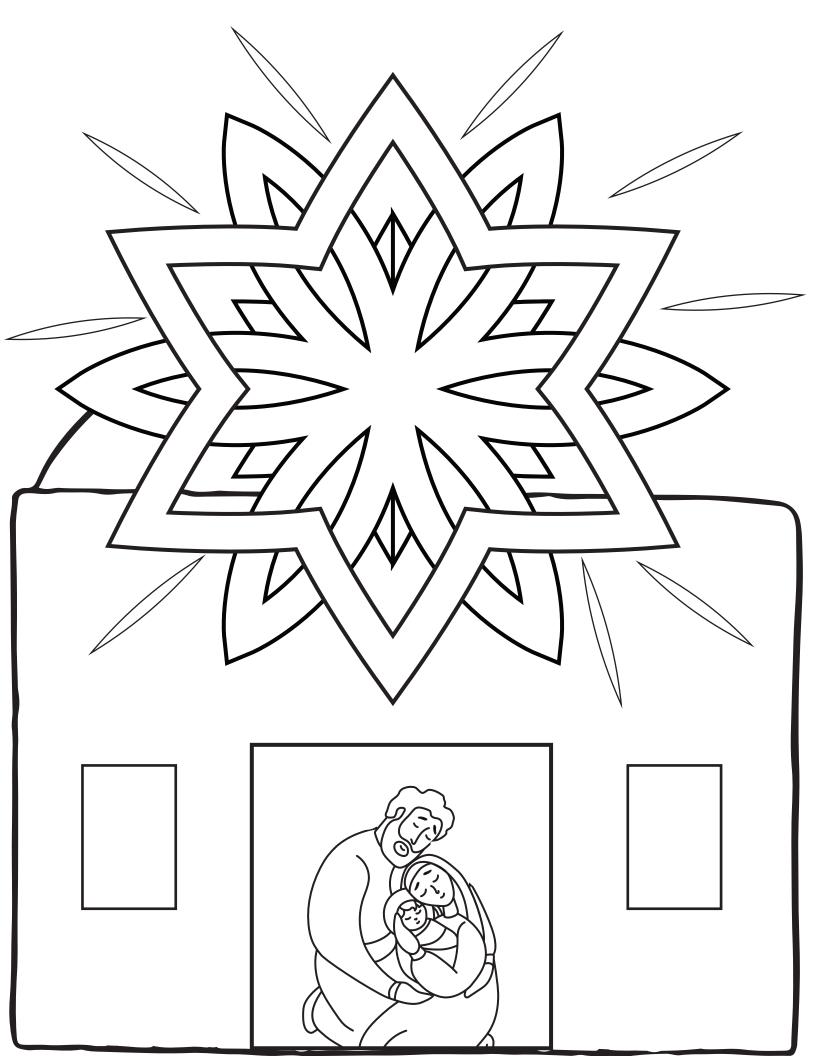
Jesus would suffer and die on the cross for the sins of all who would ever put their trust in Him.

"Jesus" means "God saves". This is how God would save His people.

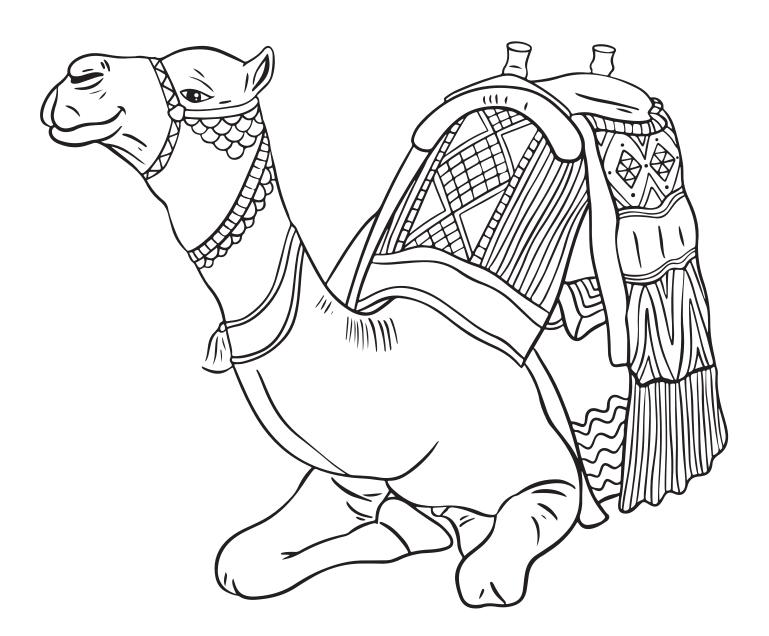


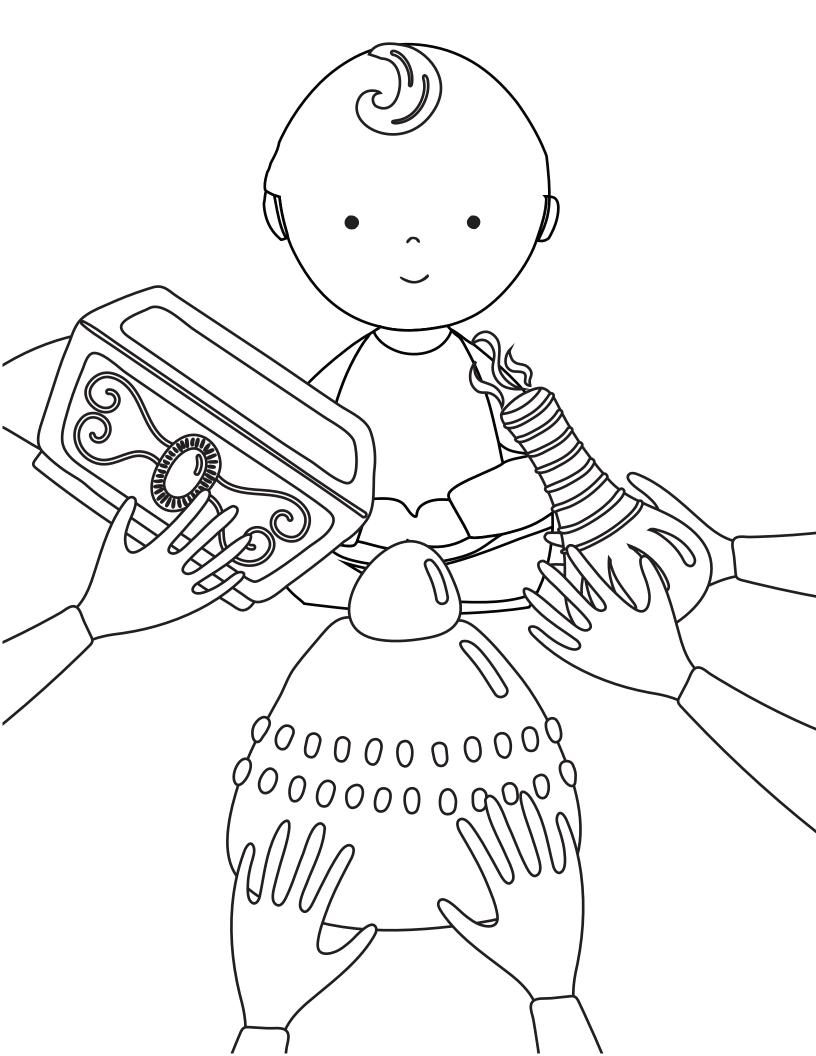
But most of all, MIRTH! The wisemen were OVERJOYED as the star led them to little Jesus.





Then, the Magi gave Jesus their gifts and worshipped Him.





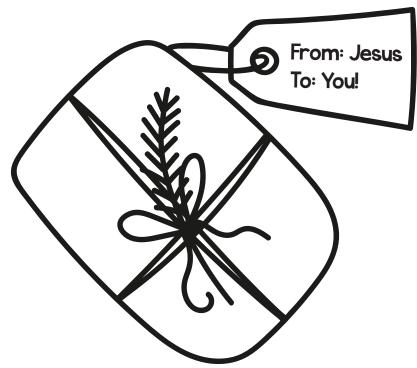
But there was MORE MIRTH to come! Years later, Jesus died on the cross, but then He rose from the dead!

Jesus' friends were overjoyed! Jesus had beat sin and death for God's people. (John 20:20)



And, we can be overjoyed, too, when we put our trust in Jesus as our Savior and King.

This is the BEST Christmas present we can ever have!



Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer!

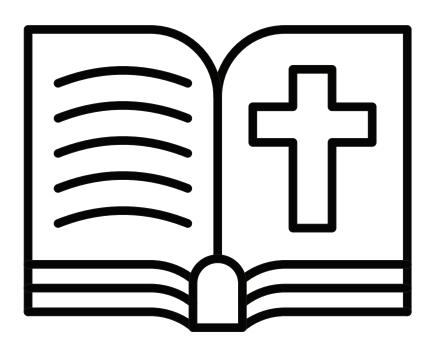
Matthew 2:9-11

"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi [wisemen] from the east came to Jerusalem 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."

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.

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

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."



We Three Kings

1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.



2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3 Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high. [Refrain]





4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

5 Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

Want to learn more?

Here are some great churches nearby! We'd love to meet you!

CAPITOL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

https://www.capitolhillbaptist.org 525 A Street, NE Sunday Services: 10:30 am and 5 pm Treat Tuesdays: 508 East Capitol St, NE 3:30-5:30 pm Great playground every day! Join us!

MERCY OF CHRIST FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

https://mercyofchrist.com Riverside Center, 5200 Foote Street, NE Sunday Service: 10 am

PILLAR CHURCH DC

https://pillardc.com 1111 South Carolina Avenue, SE Sunday Service: 10:30 am

REDEMPTION HILL CHURCH

http://www.redemptionhilldc.org 400 D Street, SE Sunday Services 9 am and 5 pm

ANACOSTIA RIVER CHURCH

https://anacostiariverchurch.org The ARC, 1900 Mississippi Avenue, SE Sunday Service: 10 am