



Jesse



Creation



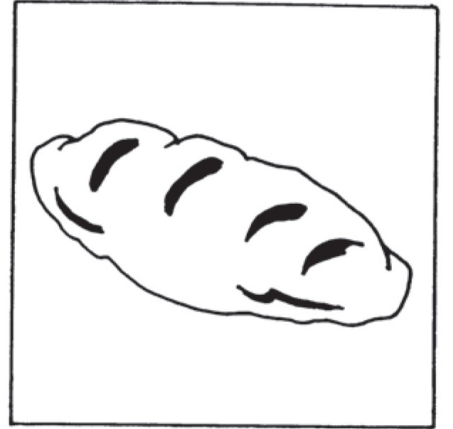
Adam and Eve



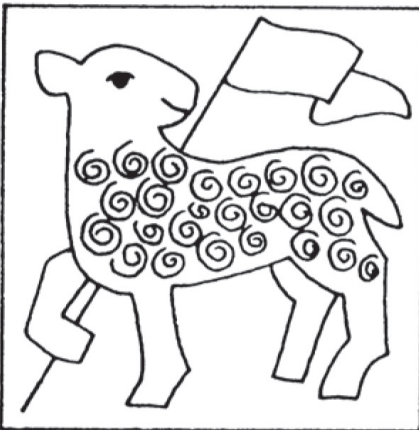
Noah



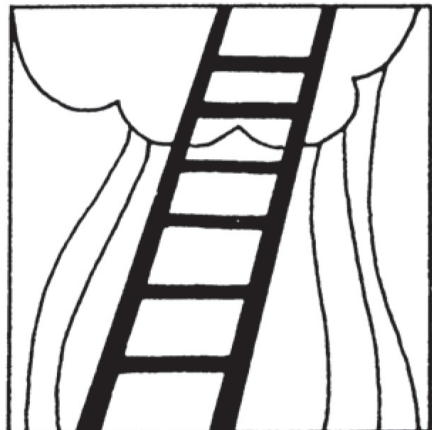
Abraham



Sarah



Isaac



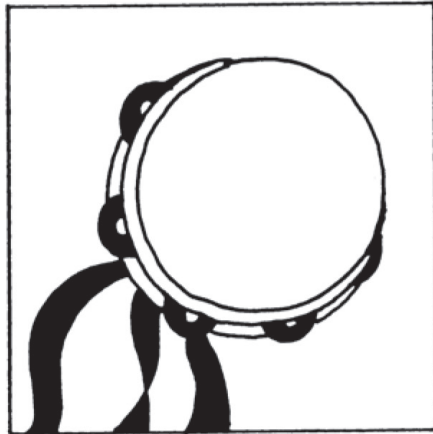
Jacob



Joseph



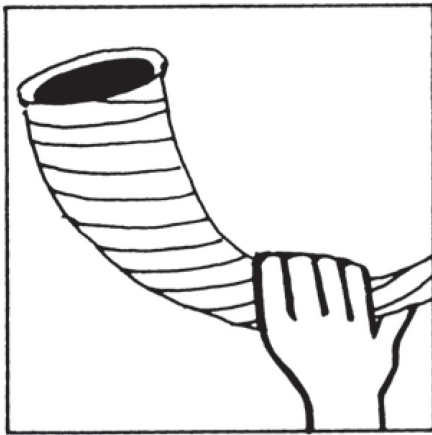
Moses



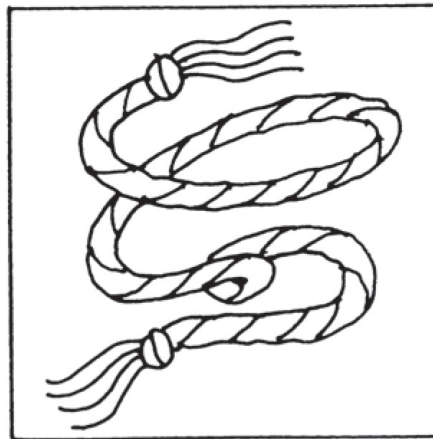
Miriam



Aaron



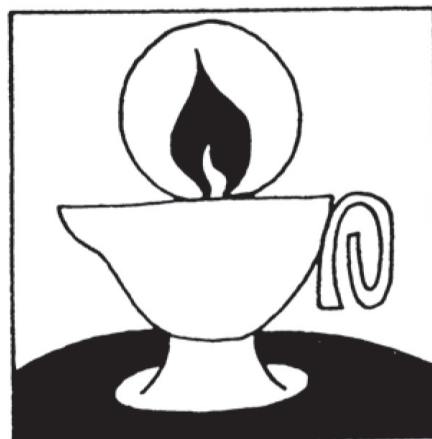
Joshua



Rahab



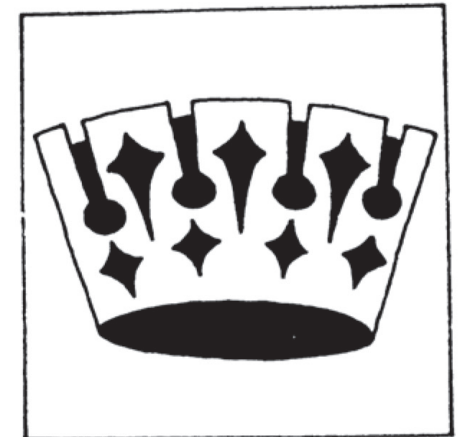
Ruth



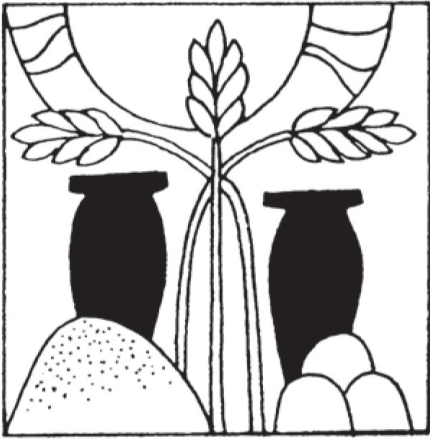
Samuel



David



Solomon



Elijah



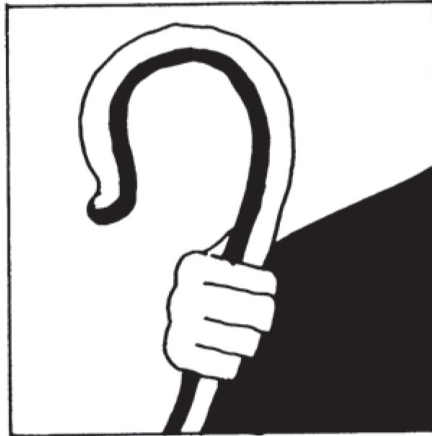
Elisha



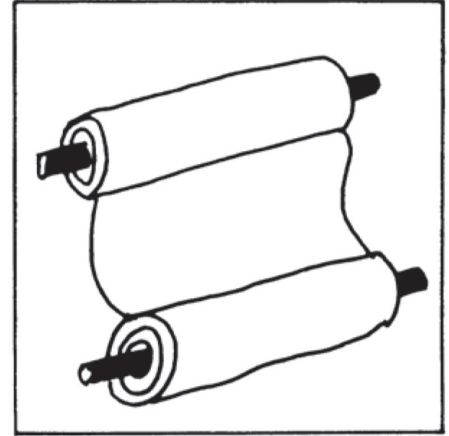
Isalah



Jeremiah



Ezekiel



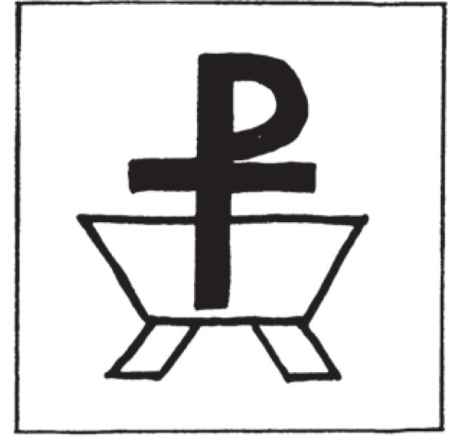
Ezra and Nehemiah



Mary



Joseph



Jesus

Banner Questions

Group 1

When and how did Jesus come to us in the very first Advent?

(See Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38 and John 1:1-5, 14.)

Group 2

When and how will Jesus come to us in the future at what we call his second coming?

(See Matthew 25:1-13, Mark 13:24-27, Luke 21:25-28 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-28.)

Group 3

How does Jesus come to us here and now in the Eucharist?

(See Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, John 6:32-40 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.)

S I M A R J E S U S
H Z E C H A R I A H
I E L I Z O N M N E
G H I M O J S E S P
A O Z M C O U O G H
B Q A A K S X N A E
R A B R I E L O N R
I N E Y M P A N G D
E N T J O H N E E S
L A H N N D S G L A



┌ — ┐
| **At each house, the *pilgrims* chant:** |

| In the name of heaven
| I ask you for lodging,
| because she cannot walk,
| my beloved wife. |

└ — ┘
| **The *innkeepers* at the first two *inns* will answer:** |

| This is no inn,
| So keep on going.
| I won't open the door,
| in case you are robbers. |

└ — ┘
| **At the third (final stop) *inn*, those inside chant:** |

| Enter, holy pilgrims!
| Accept this dwelling—
| not of this humble house,
| but of my heart. |

└ — ┘



Chi Rho
(first two letters of Greek spelling of Christ)



Alpha and Omega
Revelation 1:8 and 22:13



INRI
Latin inscription on cross of Calvary (John 19:19) meaning "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews"



Crown of Life
Psalm 24:7-10
Revelation 11:15



Chi Rho with Anchor
(a symbol of hope)
Titus 2:13



IHS
(monogram derived from first three letters in Greek spelling of "Jesus")
Matthew 1:21



Ichthus
(Greek letters spell fish and make a rebus "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior")



**Agnus Dei
Lamb of God with
Banner of Victory**
Revelation 5:12-14



Rising Sun
Malachi 4:2



Bright and Morning Star
Revelation 22:16



Star of David
Numbers 24:17
Revelation 22:16



Manger with Chi Rho
Luke 2:11-12

The Christmas Story in Four Parts

Read: Luke 2:1–4

At that time Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. When this first census took place, Quirinius was the governor of Syria. Everyone, then, went to register himself, each to his own hometown. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David.

Sing: “O, Little Town of Bethlehem”

Read: Luke 2:5–7

He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Sing: “Silent Night, Holy Night”

Read: Luke 2:8–14

There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David’s town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great army of heaven’s angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God: “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!”

Sing: “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

Read: Luke 2:15–20

When the angels went away from them back 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.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angel had said about the child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said. Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them.

Sing: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Blessing of the Home

The blessing of the house begins with all members of the household at the entrance of the home. A member of the family leads the blessing.

Leader: Peace be to this house.

Participants: And to all who enter here.

The Leader speaks the following while marking the doorway with the chalk as indicated:

Leader: Wise ones came to honor the Savior and offer him gifts.

C Caspar,

M Melchior,

B and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who
became human

two thousand and [*insert current year*] years ago.

++ May Christ bless our home and all who join us here,

++ and remain with us throughout the new year. *Amen.*

20 + C + M + B + 19

All: May this Epiphany blessing be a reminder of Christ's presence among us and a symbol of God's love and care as we share the blessings and burdens of our daily lives.

