

GETTING STARTED



DUE DATE:
Tuesday, Nov. 19th
by 4pm

Need help? Please contact me, I am happy to be a sounding board for the whole or any part of your creative process! Also, please let me know what you are creating and how I can be praying for you. I will also send out reminders over the next few months to cheer you on and to persevere in completing your artwork.

— with joy,

Mary Margaret Brotherton
Associate Director for
Creative Arts and Worship

- **First, pray!** Invite God into the process of your artmaking.

Take time to ask the Holy Spirit to provide an image you can create that reflects ANY aspect of these fulfilled prophecies. You are invited to use any medium, creating original artwork that is a literal or abstract representation.

“God, I love to see how You are fulfilling Your story through Jesus. Please provide a specific idea or image to create an artistic response for this call for Advent art. Jesus, I want to give honor and praise to You as Immanuel. Holy Spirit, guide me in this process of creating as an act of worship. Amen.”

As you work on this piece, keep in mind the prayer you started with—let it guide your creative process and infuse the artwork with your worship and reverence.

GETTING STARTED:

Take some time to read about how Jesus’ birth in the New Testament fulfilled Old Testament prophecy. Specifically, in Matthew’s gospel account, Matthew includes how Jesus’ birth reveals Jesus as the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham, and a new Moses, rescuing the world from the darkness of slavery to sin and hope for all nations.

Consider how Jesus entered history on earth. Jesus is God with us, called “Immanuel.” Compare Matthew 1:18 – 23 and Isaiah 7:14. *IDEA: Create a piece that visually represents the presence of Immanuel, capturing the essence of God being with us through Jesus. Use light and shadow to emphasize the idea of God’s presence breaking through darkness or difficulties, symbolizing hope and guidance.*

Consider Jesus’ birthplace, Bethlehem (see Matthew 2:6), and how it fulfills Micah 5:2. Reflect on the significance of Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem and his role as the long-awaited Davidic Shepherd King, celebrating both the fulfillment of prophecy and the profound humility of his arrival. *IDEA: Create art that depicts both his humble origins and his royal identity. Present Jesus in the manger, surrounded by symbols of shepherding such as a shepherd’s crook or a small flock of sheep.*

Consider the consequence of Jesus fleeing with his parents as an infant to Egypt. Read Matthew 2:13-15, & Hosea 11:1, Numbers 23:22. Reflect on the tension and divine protection of Jesus’ flight to Egypt, linking it to his role as the True Israel and the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. *IDEA: Visually or in a poem, highlight both the danger and divine protection involved his dramatic and significant escape to Egypt. Depict Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus on their journey to Egypt. Show them in a moment of flight, possibly with a donkey or walking through a desert landscape, emphasizing their urgency and the peril they face.*

Consider that Jesus came into a world of real suffering and death, bringing hope. See Matthew 2:18 and Jeremiah 31:15. Reflect on the profound impact of Christ in the times of personal grief and hardship as well as the transformative hope brought by Jesus’ birth. *IDEA: Use imagery that symbolizes the journey from suffering to hope through Jesus, such as path of light leading from darkness to light or imagery from desolation to peace.*

Examine the connection between Jesus growing up in the Galilean town of Nazareth. See Matthew 2:23, Isaiah 11:1 and 42:6. Reflect on the profound truth that Jesus, despite His humble beginnings in Nazareth, is the Light to all nations, fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah and spreading divine light and hope to the entire world. *IDEA: Create an image of light rays that resemble different cultures or symbols representing various nations to convey the universal invitation that Jesus extends to all people.*

SUBMISSION DETAILS



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Visual Art Submission Details:

- 2D artwork on canvas: may be a one-piece or a series (several purposely-related works submitted under one title). Artwork on canvas, wood panels, etc. must include a sturdy hanging mechanism (metal wire on eye hooks recommended). Artwork on paper must be framed and ready to hang.
- 3D sculpture, craft, creative writing spiralbound: may be freestanding or made to be set on a pedestal. Please contact Mary Margaret Brotherton if your work will need a pedestal! MaryMargaret.B@HCBellingham.com
- Do not include pieces that can easily fall off, break or deteriorate.
- Do not submit any works that qualify as an installation—that is, 2D/3D mixed media that incorporates drilling into any part of the wall, floor, or ceiling in the Fireside Room.

Creative Writing Submission Details:

- 1-2 pages (two options)
 - 1.) handwritten (legible) or typed.
 - 2.) please email Mary Margaret your writing and we will print and mount on cardstock for display.
- 3+ pages: handwritten (legible) or typed, must be ready for display in a blank 3-ring binder, which will be set on a pedestal for passersby to read. Write/print on paper that is durable enough to be handled by passersby (no notebook paper), punch with 3 holes and submitted in a 3-ring binder.

ART RELEASE FORM

– To print out and turn in with your artwork.



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Artist Signature required below.

"I understand that Hillcrest Church will take every reasonable precaution with all art submitted, but I understand that Hillcrest Church cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to my artwork.

I give permission to Hillcrest Church to edit my artist's statement for content, clarity, and length (it will be edited to 150 words or less). I allow Hillcrest Church to display my artwork and artist statement in the Fireside Room for as long as the exhibit continues, even if the exhibit runs longer than initially planned. I will not sell or remove my displayed artwork during the exhibit.

I understand and consent that my artwork may be photographed and posted on the Hillcrest Church website and social media channels. When the exhibit is over, I will pick up my artwork by the requested date."

Signature of artist:

Print your name:

Date:

ART ENTRY SHEET



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Print and tape to the front of your artwork:

Please write legibly.

TITLE of artwork: _____

Artist's **NAME**: _____

Age, if artist is under 17 yrs. _____

MEDIUM of artwork: _____

Your email: _____

Phone: _____

PLEASE WRITE AN ARTIST STATEMENT:

Artist statements help people who see your art, to understand and admire your hard work!

In 150 words or less, please describe and explain the inspiration for your piece. Remember to share how it relates to the image you choose for "Advent".

- Print a copy and attach it to your art when you turn it in.

- ***Email your statement by the entry deadline, Tuesday, November 19th by 4pm.***

To: MaryMargaret.B@HCBellingham.com