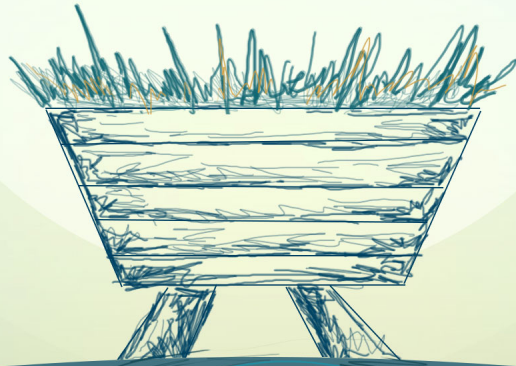


First  
*Love*



A hand-drawn illustration of a stable. The stable is drawn with blue and green sketchy lines, featuring a triangular roof and two vertical pillars. A green five-pointed star is positioned at the peak of the roof. In the center of the stable, there is a manger filled with hay, supported by two small legs. The background is a teal gradient with a large, bright white circle behind the manger. The word "Advent:" is written in a black, handwritten font and underlined in the center of the image.

Advent:



Advent:  
the arrival of  
a notable  
person, thing  
or event



Advent:

Preparing for  
the arrival of  
the Christ child,  
the Messiah

## John 3:16

For God so loved the world,  
that He gave His only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him should  
not perish but have eternal life.

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# John 3:16

For God.....

so.....

loved.....

the world,.....

that He gave.....

His only.....

son,.....



John 3:16

For God.....the greatest being  
SO.....  
loved.....  
the world,.....  
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His only.....  
SON,.....

John 3:16

For God.....the greatest being  
so.....the greatest degree  
loved.....  
the world,.....  
that He gave.....  
His only.....  
SON,.....

# John 3:16

For God.....the greatest being  
so.....the greatest degree  
loved.....the greatest affection  
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# John 3:16

For God.....the greatest being  
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loved.....the greatest affection  
the world,.....the greatest object of love  
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*the world,*.....the greatest object of love  
*that He gave*.....the greatest act  
*His only*.....the greatest treasure  
*SON,*.....

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*the world,*.....the greatest object of love  
*that He gave*.....the greatest act  
*His only*.....the greatest treasure  
*son,*.....the greatest gift

that whoever.....  
believes.....  
in Him.....  
should not perish....

but have.....  
eternal.....  
life.....



that whoever.....the greatest company  
believes.....  
in Him.....  
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believes.....the greatest trust  
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should not perish....

but have.....  
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life.....

*that whoever.....*the greatest company  
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*in Him.....*the greatest object of faith  
*should not perish....*the greatest

deliverance

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*eternal.....*

*life.....*

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deliverance

*but have.....*the greatest assurance  
*eternal.....*the greatest promise  
*life.....*the greatest blessing

John 3:16

He gave



John 3:16

He gave His only son

John 3:16

He gave His only son  
Incarnation

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

# John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

Resurrection

# John 3:16

He gave His only son

Incarnation

Crucifixion

Resurrection

Second-coming

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Crucifixion

"The cross, like a brilliant conundrum,  
was in fact, the height of glory.

What appeared to be the death of God,  
the shaming of the prized only begotten son of  
the Most High, and the dissolution of the  
Trinity was actually the most glorious  
interplay of justice and mercy,  
worked out in perfect harmony by all the  
members of the Godhead."

Allender and Longman, Bold Love

John 3:16

He gave His only son

Resurrection



"The primary source of the appeal of  
Christianity was Jesus -  
His incarnation,  
His life,  
His crucifixion,  
and His resurrection".

Kenneth Scott Latourette  
Professor Emeritus  
Yale Divinity School

to

God sent His Son not just  
die.....

to

God sent His Son not just  
die.....  
but to defeat death,

to

God sent His Son not just  
die.....

but to defeat death,  
to cause "the death of death".



# Jesus said "I came..."

## John 11:1-44

- 1** Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
- 2** It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill.
- 3** So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."



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**"Lord, he whom you love is ill."**



# Jesus said "I came..."

**4** But when Jesus heard it He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

**5** Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

**6** So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was.

**7** Then after this He said to the disciples,  
"Let us go to Judea again."

**8** The disciples said to Him,

"Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"



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# Jesus said "I came..."

**9** Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

**10** But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

**11** After saying these things, He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him."

**12** The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."



# Jesus said "I came..."

**13** Now Jesus had spoken of His death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep.

**14** Then Jesus told them plainly,

"Lazarus has died,

**15** and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

**16** So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples,

"Let us also go, that we may die with Him."



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# Jesus said "I came..."

- 17** Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.
- 18** Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,
- 19** and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.
- 20** So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.
- 21** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."



# Jesus said "I came..."

**22** But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

**23** Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

**24** Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

**25** Jesus said to her,

"I am the resurrection and the life.

Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live,

**26** and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"



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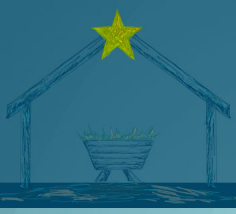
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**26** and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. **Do you believe this?"**





# Jesus said "I came..."

**27** She said to Him,

"Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ,  
the Son of God, who is coming into the world."



# Jesus said "I came..."

**27** She said to Him,

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the Son of God, who is coming into the world."**



# Jesus said "I came..."

**28** When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private,  
"The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

**29** And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him.

**30** Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him.



# Jesus said "I came..."

- 31** When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.
- 32** Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."
- 33** When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.



# Jesus said "I came..."

**34** And He said, "Where have you laid him?"

They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

**35** Jesus wept.

**36** So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

**37** But some of them said,

"Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"



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"Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"



# Jesus said "I came..."

**38** Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb.  
It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

**39** Jesus said,

"Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him,  
"Lord, by this time there will be an odor,  
for he has been dead four days."





# Jesus said "I came..."

**40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

**41** So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said,

"Father, I thank you that you have heard Me.

**42** I knew that you always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent Me."

**43** When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."



# Jesus said "I came..."

**44** The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."



# Jesus said "I came..."

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**"Unbind him, and let him go."**

# You Raise Me Up

When I am down, and, oh, my soul, so weary  
When troubles come, and my heart burdened be  
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until you come and sit awhile with me

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up to more than I can be

There is no life, no life without its hunger  
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly  
But then you come, and I am filled with wonder  
Each day I rise to glimpse eternity

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up to more than I can be