

# honest advent

awakening to  
the wonder  
of God with Us

**Artshow  
Guide**  
for  
**kids &  
adults**

Based on the art of  
**Scott Erickson**



**Welcome!**

**Hi Friend,**

(psst - kids you can skip to the next page)

Good morning! **We're so glad you've joined us** for this 3rd Sunday of Advent!

Things are going to be a little different this morning.

You may have noticed the art set up since the first Sunday of Advent this year. Today, we're going to be more **intentional about engaging God through the portal of the Arts** (one of our Core Practices at the Vineyard). Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will awaken our hearts to the wonder of God-with-us as we observe, ponder and participate in the Christmas story this season.

Today, we have **eight interactive stations** that are each centred around one of the works of art by Scott Erickson. This booklet will guide you through each station.

The stations in the main gathering area can be accessed throughout the service. We ask that you be mindful of others at each station - make sure to **keep a 6 foot distance from other households.**

There are four other stations set up elsewhere in the building. Small groups will depart from the sanctuary every 5 minutes *after we explain what's going on*. This will happen after the first few songs. Groups will proceed to each station in order starting with “Grow” in the Comfy Couch Room (page 14 of this guide). Please stay with the small group you are with. Once you've completed all four stations in order you can return to the main gathering area.

The worship band will lead us in worship for the whole morning. **Engage. Participate. Encounter.**

Specific interaction suggestions are posted at each station.

Last week Krista gave us a few tips for engaging with art. **As you look at the images, ask yourself:**

- *What do you notice?*
- *What images or symbols do you see?*
- *What emotions do you feel?*
- *What memories or longings does this stir?*
- *How might this image connect with the stories around Jesus' birth?*
- *What might God be speaking to you through this image?*

# Hey kids,

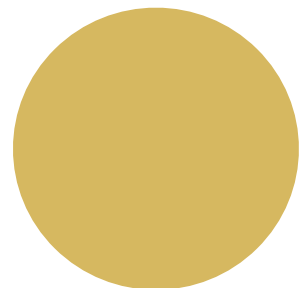
This morning you have the opportunity to hang out with your family and do something a little different than our normal Sunday service or Kids Church.

You're going to walk around the church and look at pieces of art, think about them and then do something with what you're seeing.

You will have a chance to observe, listen in on a conversation, use your hands to do stuff and more.

I hope you have a great morning!

Lani





# given

“For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given.”

Isaiah 9:6

***Where?*** In the Sanctuary by the Christmas tree.

Jesus left eternity to be given to the world.

None of us has given up that much for anyone, and yet there are people who give up a lot for us every day.

There are also people who have left this world to be with Jesus.

Using the sticks provided, scratch a name or create a design that is meaningful to your family that honours someone who has given to you.





# virgin

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin.”

Luke 1:34

***Where?*** *In the Sanctuary near the big scale.  
(by the West Foyer)*

How Mary could be pregnant with Jesus is a mystery. No one can figure it out.

Here are some other things for you to try to figure out:

- How can you write on the board and then it's like it isn't even there?
- How does that trick work? Can you figure it out?

Why do you think God let Mary's pregnancy stay a mystery?



# visible

“He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.”

Isaiah 53:2

***Where?*** *In the Sanctuary against the back wall to the right of the soundbooth.*

Do you like the game of hide and seek? God played a little game of hide and seek with us, didn't he?!

God gave hints about Jesus coming through the prophets for a really long time.

He was hidden. But then, when the time was right, he became visible to everyone and fulfilled the prophecies that had been spoken.

Plant some seeds, we'll all wait together, we won't be able to see what's happening underground, and then...we will!



# attention

“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:2

**Where?** *This station is in the Sanctuary against the back wall to the left of the soundbooth.*

Sometimes it is hard to pay attention.

But it is pretty important. It is how we find out about things! Like when the magi were paying attention to the sky and saw something they'd never seen before, and it led them on a journey. What will you find out, if you pay attention right now?

Use your senses:

- What can you see?
- What can you hear?
- What do you feel?
- What can you smell?
- Is there a taste in the air?

Right down one of these things on a card and attach it to the sound booth!



# grow

“And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord.”

Luke 1:45

***Where?*** *In the Comfy Couch Room  
(1st floor down the main hall and to the left).*

Mary wasn't married and was having a baby. People thought all kinds of things that were probably not right.

Sometimes we do that too. We think we know how something happened, or why it happened, but do we really understand?

How can we avoid making assumptions (those thoughts that may or may not be true)?

How do we grow in our understanding of the things that people say and do that we don't understand?





# motherhood

“Then the Lord God said  
to the serpent...

“I will cause hostility between you  
and the woman, and between your  
offspring and her offspring.

He will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

Genesis 3:14a-15

**Where?** *In the Youth Room.*

*(1st floor across from the Comfy Couch Room).*

Who are these women?

Look at the picture.

Listen to the conversation.

What did Eve and Mary have in common?

How do YOU imagine a conversation between the two of them going? What do YOU think they would talk about?



# annunciation

“Gabriel appeared to her and said, “Greetings, favoured woman! The Lord is with you!” Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean.” Luke 1:28-29

**Where?** *In the Main Kid’s Gathering area (2nd floor).*

Annunciation means, “to announce something”.

An angel came and made an announcement to Mary. It was a HUGE revelation of something that was going to happen. She was going to have a baby and he was going to be the Saviour of the world.

She would have to give up a lot of things for this revelation to happen. It wasn’t going to be easy.

What is revealed in the sand when you dig around?

Did you need to give up anything to receive that revelation?

**Think about it!**



# light

“The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”

John 1:4-5

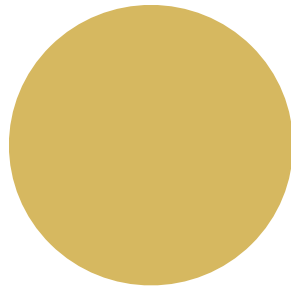
**Where?** *In the Kid's area Vault (2nd floor).*

Can you see the baby in the flame of the match?

Remember the prophets talking about the world being in great darkness and a light coming? Guess who that light was?

Take a glow stick and step inside the vault. The door is going to close behind you. Stay in the dark for a while. Feel it all around you.

Then... Crack that glow stick... **a light has come!**



All images in this show are by

**Scott Erickson.**

@scottthepainter

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Dec 24: Christmas Eve, 6 - 7pm.  
**“A Light is Given”**  
(please pre-register)

Dec 26: A special service from Vineyard  
Canada National Directors,  
David & Anita Ruis.

Jan 2: Personal Stories from 1 John.

Jan 9: Kid’s Church resumes.

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