

## WEEK 3: Joy

Here are the materials we will be using for week 3. You are welcome to use them any way you choose and may consider waiting until the gathering to engage with them for the first time. Included each week will be the reading, the visual and musical pieces, as well as some reflection questions. We hope for a rich time of wondering as you deeply explore the story of God in new ways.

Reading: [Luke 2:8-12](#)

Shifting Skies at Sunset over the Salish Sea



“I painted this from a photo I took on the ferry. I remember watching the skies and the clouds as we sailed along, seeing them change colours in the warm light from a purplish grey to pinks, yellows and oranges. Sunsets and sunrises are spectacular; it’s somehow hard to imagine they happen every day. For that matter somewhere on our planet, at every moment, the sun is rising somewhere, and setting somewhere, just as it always has.”  
- Mike Lathrop

[Shifting Skies at Sunset over the Salish Sea: Mike Lathrop Print on Birch Plywood](#)

A gentle reminder that there is no cost for these advent gatherings but a donation to soulstream is greatly appreciated. To donate you can go [HERE](#)

## Reflection Questions

These are for your use (or not) during the visio divina, music listening and personal reflection times.

1. What part of the image are you drawn to? Spend some time there and notice what stirs within you. (images, body sensations, emotions, memories, etc.)
2. Allow what has been revealed to unfold in your imagination. How might this be connected to life in the present?
3. Do you have a sense of God's invitation for yourself or the group? What might that be?

## Music for silence

During the gatherings, music will be played as a way to enhance the reflection or offer a different reflection opportunity. You are invited to listen in a comfortable posture, with body relaxed and eyes closed, or however you feel comfortable.

## [Jupiter - Mike MacLennan & Gustov Holst](#)

## Closing Song

Each week we will close our time with a song with lyrics. You are invited to join in the singing (on mute) if you would like. The lyrics and the link to a recording (if one exists) will be provided each week for your reference.

### Joy To the World

- Richard S. Willis

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing  
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the earth the saviour reigns, let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sin and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found  
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love  
And wonders, and wonders of His love

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