



# Make Room for the Manger

Dear UBC Parent,

*There is a story of a little boy who was afraid of thunder and lightning. One night, during a particularly bad thunderstorm, he woke up and rushed into his parents' bedroom for comfort and protection. His mother gathered him in her arms and said, "Don't be afraid, dear one. You are never alone. God loves you and is with you all the time." The little boy snuggled more deeply into his mother's arms, looked up, and said, "I know, Mom... but tonight I need someone with skin!"*

*Indeed, God must have known that about us. Sometimes we need someone with skin. This is at the heart of the Incarnation—God, taking on human form—chooses to come to earth as a small, vulnerable baby. And yet, he is the King who will save the world. This is foundational to our faith and an essential story to share with our children.*

*During the hustle and bustle of this busy season, I encourage you to be intentional about **"Making Room for the Manger"** by choosing the mode of activities that works best for your family. Each week, engage in the devotional exercises, complete an at-home lesson, tune in to story time, or lean into calendared Advent practices. As we journey through the season, talk about the importance of hope, peace, joy, and love and what it means to believe in a God who, in an act of mercy and love, comes down—in skin—to be with us in all of our broken humanity. Blessed Advent!*

Warm regards,

*Rev. Ashley*

