

# The light of life





**CHRISTMAS DEDICATION**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE 2020**



## 1.1 *Film clip: O light of life!*

1.2 It is Christmas Eve 2020 ... and this year has gone very differently to how I had imagined it. Early in the year we were confronted with a new virus that had spread from China around the whole planet over the course of a few months. It had far-reaching consequences. We had to literally distance ourselves from one another, and our freedom of movement was severely limited. For weeks it was quiet on the streets – often extremely quiet. Yet again I realised that life cannot be perfectly planned, and that as humans we are vulnerable. We saw with our own eyes all that was set in motion to address this virus outbreak and its consequences, and that was encouraging.

## *My thoughts on paper*



**1.3** When our Society could not hold conventional Sunday Services, we sought other options, because as humans we share a fundamental longing to maintain a sense of connection to each other and to that which transcends and moves us. Online Sunday Services commenced. This allowed us to hear, and often to see, the pastoral carers. During this time, children were born, couples were married, and many people lost loved ones. Many of us missed the community and the personal encounters through which we can intensely experience the wholeness of our humanity and the peace and harmony inside us. We also missed the rituals we share to celebrate births and marriages, and mourn deaths. Now, in consideration of that, it is good to stand still for a moment.



## WHAT HAS LIFE DURING THE PANDEMIC BEEN LIKE FOR YOU?

Choose an object that, for you, symbolises the restrictions related to the coronavirus pandemic.

What has life during the pandemic been like for you?  
What have you learned from it?

Take a picture of the object that you chose and write a brief description of your experiences here. Share your experiences with others.

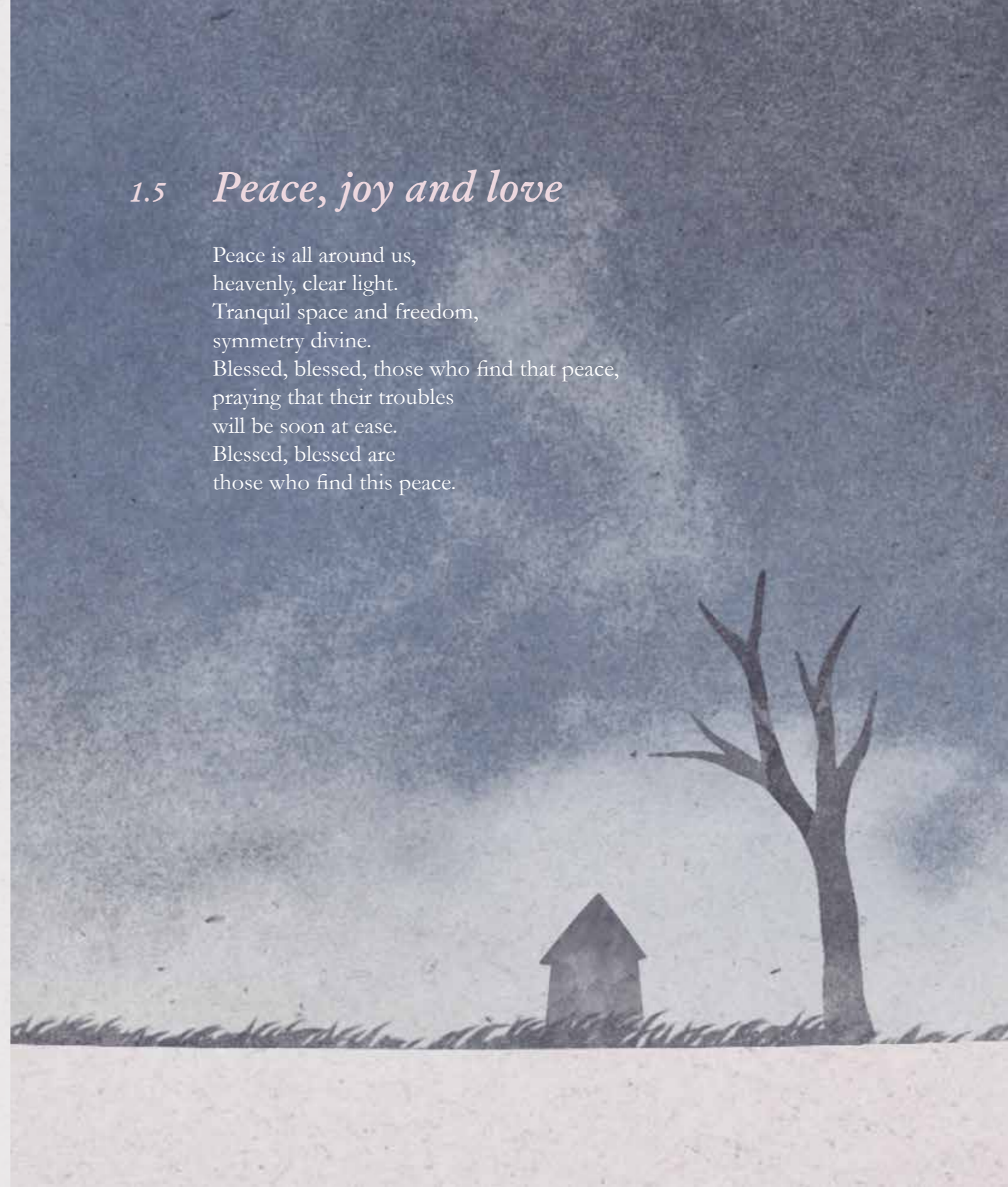
If you like, send your photo and what you wrote to  
Rimme van de Coolwijk: [rvdcoolwijk@apgen.nl](mailto:rvdcoolwijk@apgen.nl).  
He will select stories for on Facebook and [apgen.nl](http://apgen.nl).

## 1.4 NARRATOR

In the Old Testament are words expressing the longing for peace and harmony. About 750 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah proclaimed that the long-awaited redeemer would come: 'For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'

## 1.5 *Peace, joy and love*

Peace is all around us,  
heavenly, clear light.  
Tranquil space and freedom,  
symmetry divine.  
Blessed, blessed, those who find that peace,  
praying that their troubles  
will be soon at ease.  
Blessed, blessed are  
those who find this peace.



## 1.6 QUESTIONER

Why do people feel the attraction, each year, to the Christmas story, and why do they seek out the company of others to share it on Christmas Eve? We sang about a lovely dream – a vision of peace? Would it be more sensible to have no illusions?

## 1.7 NARRATOR

That last thought could easily occur to a person in these uncertain times. Yet if we stop dreaming, stop longing, we grow empty inside. Then you will live from out of nothing and you will have nothing to live for. That is why people tell each other the Christmas story every year, and why we do as well. It is symbolic language, an expression of a deep longing for peace. The point is not whether it really happened that way, but rather what it has to say to us today. In all its vulnerability, that age-old longing for peace becomes visible in the birth of the child, for the world, for you, for me. That is why we come together this evening: to celebrate Christmas, the festival of peace, because whatever the threat, there is still the star that shines its twinkling light. Let us listen to the Christmas story.

1.8 At that time Emperor Augustus issued an order that all the people living in the Roman Empire had to be counted. This had never been done before. And because everyone had to be counted in the place where their family originated, nearly everyone had to travel somewhere. Joseph had to travel as well. Together with Mary he went from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea, the place where his distant forefather, King David, was from. Mary was to marry Joseph, and she was pregnant.

When they arrived in Bethlehem not a single inn had a room where they could sleep. They found a spot in a stable, and that was where the child, a boy, was born. Mary wrapped him in a cloth and laid him in the manger.

That night there were shepherds near Bethlehem, watching their sheep. Suddenly, an angel was standing among the shepherds, and a divine light was shining around them. The shepherds were afraid. But the angel said, 'You do not have to be afraid. I bring you good news. All the people will be glad to hear it. Today in Bethlehem, the city of David, your saviour was born. And this is how you will recognise him: the child is lying in a manger and is wrapped in a cloth.' And suddenly a whole group of angels were with the angel. They said, 'All glory to God and peace on earth for all people.' The shepherds said to each other, 'Come, we will go to Bethlehem. We have been told what has happened; let us go and see.'

Then they found the parents and the child. When they saw the child in the manger, they repeated what the angel had said about him. Everyone who heard the shepherds' story was surprised. Mary tried to understand what it all meant. She kept thinking about what the shepherds had said.

A little later, three wise men from a distant land also arrived. On their travels they had seen a bright star that showed them the way. The star stood still above the place where the child was. The wise men went inside. There they saw the child with his mother, Mary. They knelt down and worshipped him. They also gave him the precious gifts that they had brought with them: gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then they travelled back to their home.



**1.9** *Film clip: When a child is born*

**1.10** Of course, the Christmas story is not telling us that every problem in the world, in ourselves, will solve itself. On the contrary, we understand all too well that, again and again, peace requires people. Just like 2000 years ago when those fervent watchers in the field – whose names were never recorded – went with an open mind in search of the light of life. Just like today, when ordinary, fallible people like you and me, feel an inner calling to work for peace and human dignity in our own surroundings.



**1.11** Our recent history is also filled with examples of people who kept striving for peace, some of them under terrible circumstances. This year we commemorated the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. Numerous soldiers from North America, Australia and Europe, many barely out of adolescence, gave their lives for freedom. The end of January also marked 75 years since the liberation of the concentration camp Auschwitz. At the memorial ceremony 93-year-old Marian Turski explained that ‘Auschwitz did not simply fall from the sky’. He described the climate preceding the Holocaust in which, slowly but surely, everyone grew accustomed to discrimination against Jews and other minorities. He quoted a friend of his as saying that the Ten Commandments should include an eleventh: ‘Be alert; don’t become indifferent’.

**1.12** This points to the capacity to recognise and to resist each and every thought of exclusion regarding any and all of our fellow beings. Persecution begins bit by bit, with humans starting to think in terms of us-and-them and ‘we are better’. The trouble begins when we don’t recognise ourselves in the other. It disrupts society, leaves behind deep wounds, and jeopardises the future. That is why everything hinges on what drives our view of humankind and the world, and on how we nourish that view.



*My thoughts on paper*



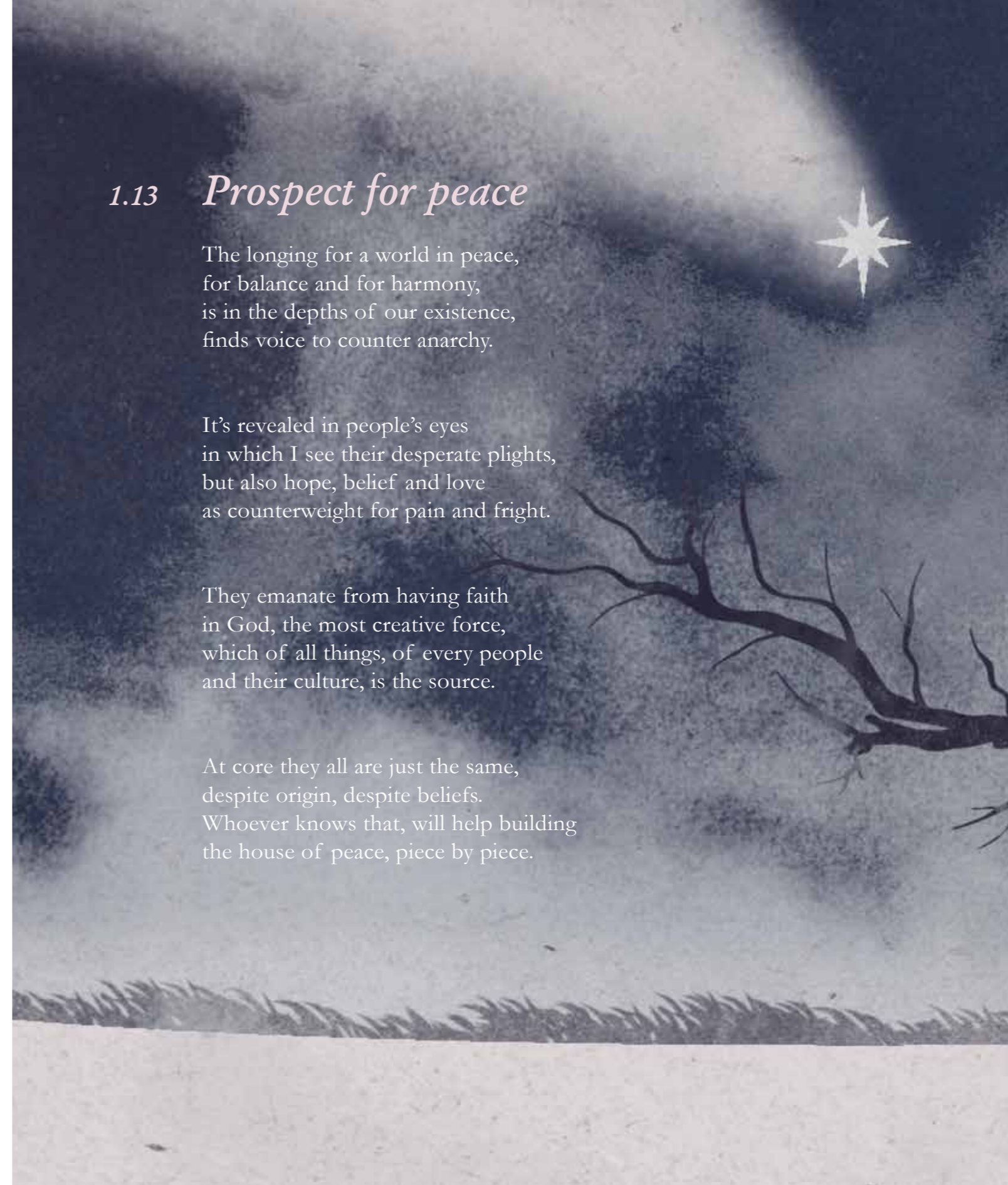
### 1.13 *Prospect for peace*

The longing for a world in peace,  
for balance and for harmony,  
is in the depths of our existence,  
finds voice to counter anarchy.

It's revealed in people's eyes  
in which I see their desperate plights,  
but also hope, belief and love  
as counterweight for pain and fright.

They emanate from having faith  
in God, the most creative force,  
which of all things, of every people  
and their culture, is the source.

At core they all are just the same,  
despite origin, despite beliefs.  
Whoever knows that, will help building  
the house of peace, piece by piece.





**1.14** Don't we all share the age-old dream of peace? At some point in my life it touched my soul and I felt, more than I could know, that this was worth living for. Since then I evaluate my choices according to that ideal. I want to foster sustainable relationships. I want to see my fellow beings as a valuable expression of creation. I want to work towards the future and a life in service of, not at the expense of, the earth and its inhabitants. This is how I give my life meaning.

**1.15** It is good to realise that in each of us, including in myself, not only the highest is present, but also the lowest. When I am fully aware of this, I can consciously choose not to give in to what is crude, what is degrading, rather, I can focus on what is constructive, what elevates humanity. This brings me to the heartfelt cry: never again will there be war, never again will there be exclusion! In 2020 this is no idle wish. In May, the violent arrest of an African-American man in Minneapolis led to his death at the scene. The shocking TV images went around the world and led to a storm of protests and demonstrations. George Floyd was the victim and the reason, yet all around the world a broad-based protest erupted: black and white, young and old, against racism and discrimination.

**1.16** All over the world, too many people still have to deal with racism on a daily basis. This makes an urgent appeal to our ideals, to our faith; an appeal that we cannot and must not ignore. Do we dare to stand up, to make our voice heard as a society and, first and foremost, as a human being? Do I dare to speak the truth? It requires courage. It can be very difficult and frightening to speak out, and sometimes you stand alone. All people are equal regardless of their origin, race, beliefs, political convictions, sexual preferences or gender. When I put into practice my belief in that equality, I put flesh on the bones of solidarity.

**1.17** In the book *The Meaning of Life* Fokke Obbema asks everyone he interviews, 'What is the meaning of our life?' Pastor Claartje Kruijff replies, 'What I have found is that, if I have the intention to live my life as part of a greater whole, then – even if I am not otherwise important – I definitely make a difference and I have earned my place. Because we are all unique, the meaning of our own life is different for each of us. But I do think that we all function as that connecting, meaningful link in a greater whole.'



## 1.18 *What is of value*

Day after day we see time fly by faster,  
though we work quickly the task is still there.  
Sometimes it's good to just stop and consider:  
'Do people really have much time to care?'  
Great is their knowledge but also their sorrows,  
great the desire for a warm, friendly face;  
never should love have to wait till tomorrow:  
creating love is a task we embrace.

Day after day we see time fly by faster,  
people appear in your life and they go.  
Sometimes it's good to just stop and consider:  
'What is of value in life's ebb and flow?'  
All that you do out of love's inspiration  
grows from within, like a new sprouting seed.  
For in the hearts of the folk of all nations  
love creates love to fulfil every need.

## 2.1 **QUESTIONER**

Our generation has grown up in freedom and prosperity. That prosperity makes it possible for education to offer us an incredible array of options for self-development and to choose a field of study that suits us, one in which we can find fulfilment. It seems so normal, so usual. But how long have things been this way?

## 2.2 **NARRATOR**

After World War II, in part of the world, a time of freedom, reconstruction and, later, prosperity began. This freedom came at a high price. Your generation knows no different. There is the risk of taking peace and freedom for granted, forgetting the price that was paid for them. Adults, parents and guardians bear the responsibility of continuing to communicate the value of freedom to you and future generations.

## 2.3

Freedom is fragile, and commemorating it becomes meaningful, when we link it to our future. What can I work on today and tomorrow? There are so many possibilities. One of them is to be fully aware, which is necessary to find a good balance between our own freedom and that of others. In our country we have the freedom to express our opinion: an essential and fundamental right for how we live with one another. It is both necessary and wise to be cautious about how we exercise that right. Restricting our own speech is voluntary, and that is precisely the essence of civilisation: recognising that personal freedom is defined by the freedoms of others.

### **OPTION:**

Invite someone from the community to tell about their own thoughts and feelings.

## 2.4 *Blessed land*

Oh blessed land, oh blessed folk  
where freedom is the highest good  
This precious gift, once paid for in blood  
Is guarded safely as it should  
Whether we travel far away,  
stay close to home, we still can say  
that freedom is in highest demand for everyone, in every land

### START A CONVERSATION TOGETHER

Together with others, take a look at the statements below. They are based on the song *Lasting Freedom* (*Duurzame vrijheid*). Explain which statements appeal to you, and why. Also choose one that doesn't suit you. What do you think the writer meant to say?

**A person has to get  
from 'I' to 'we'**

**Freedom is  
precious for  
everyone**

**Freedom requires recognition  
that we live thanks to the  
wonderment that we feel**

**Commitment  
leads to freedom**

**Freedom is lasting  
only if we are  
free together**

**Love sets us free;  
it makes us one**

2.5 This year we rediscovered how precious our freedom is. What does that teach us?

2.6 *Film clip: Everyone belongs*

2.7 Our solidarity increased, and people helped or encouraged each other. The question is how solidarity can evolve into lasting, healthy and resilient ways of living together. You and I need to start thinking now about what we are going to do in the time that lies before us. In every time, including this one, a new reality emerges. We may have to give up a bit of our affluence in exchange for a better future for ourselves and future generations. That can cause some tension. Are we flexible enough to go along with that development? It would be such a pity if the positive changes were to prove to be temporary and insignificant.

2.8 Responsibility never stands by itself. Without a sense of wonder, of course, it becomes a dull obligation. Without a sense of connection, it has neither purpose nor effect. Without a sense of trust, it is too big, and makes us fearful. How can I nurture my sense of responsibility? Our foundation provides a perspective: I cannot pass on my sense of responsibility to an authority, to God as an external power. No, instead I feel that I am a part of creation and I realise that only by virtue of people, people like me, can God get hands and feet, and especially a heart. This sparks a sense of responsibility to emerge from within. It prompts me to live an attentive life, by investing my friendship and compassion generously in enduring, sustainable relationships. By being reliable, even in the face of oppression. By speaking words of connection in sad or disappointing situations. By standing not against, but alongside one another.

2.9 Although we are setting a high ethical standard for ourselves, deep in our heart we believe and know that we can do this. It is a matter of love, a matter of courage, a matter of action. The value of our uniqueness lies in the connection with a greater totality. To this connection, which crosses national borders and the boundaries of our lifetimes, you and I can add something precious. That is because we are who we are, with all our human beauty and all our human clumsiness. It requires a profound faith, and also that we shoulder our responsibility to work towards a world where there is room for every child and every person. It requires gratitude for peace and freedom and that we maintain them wisely. It requires both trust and courage.



## 2.10 *Gods loving presence*

To express God as the power of love; nothing else will do.  
Because love becomes reality when I grant it a home.



### 3.1 QUESTIONER

*'To express God as the power of love; nothing else will do'...* Isn't that too ambitious? What about my ideals? I do have ideals, though sometimes what I see around me and what I read in the paper makes me doubt this. Sometimes I catch myself thinking about my ideals rather than acting on them ... there is so much we as young people have to deal with. We are always sharing that with others on social media, and we make it look like everyone is perfect. Everything goes well, everyone looks great and is happy. Perfection seems to have become the norm. This pressure that we put on ourselves is huge. Adapting myself to fit in and be accepted means pretending to be different to who I am. My longing to be myself is then directly at odds with my longing to belong somewhere. How can I deal with that?

### 3.2 NARRATOR

I believe that all people are unique, and beautiful in their own way; that you, by being yourself, actually adds something unique to your circle of friends and the world around you. But it has also been my experience that discovering and accepting that fact can be a very long road. In any case, you and I accumulate experiences, wisdom and lessons in life every day. Might they help us? As the years go by, I have come to realise that it is a miracle that you and I are here, that others are here, and that we are part of a 'greater whole'. Despite all our intellectual knowledge, life – that 'greater whole' – remains a mystery beyond comprehension. The same atoms and molecules that make up a human are also found in vast clouds of gas among the stars. In this way we are one with the cosmos, we are an integral part of creation. When you realise that, it gives you strength: life force.\*

### 3.3 *Film clip: That I exist*

### 3.4

Seeing life, and yourself as a miracle pulls you out of the world of performance and achievement. It helps you to experience happiness, gratitude and joy, to be relaxed in pursuing your ideals, and in so doing, to celebrate life every day. I try to make this an attitude to life: to see the miracle of being here, and then to see and value the good in me and in others. We tend to value what is unique and remarkable in every person. But we are not perfect. Let's do our best to be, or to become once more, the most pleasant, most progressive, the most wonderful version of ourselves. To thereby be warm and open to the imperfections of others. Then we learn from each other and have compassion for others and for ourselves.



### 3.5 *And the birds fly ...*

How many voices fit  
into a matchbox  
and how strong is a daisy  
that grows through the asphalt?

How boundless is infinity,  
How long does eternity last  
and how far is the distance between you and me?

How much strength is in a relationship  
and how contagious is love?

How invisible is a virus  
and how great is human knowledge?

What are power and ego  
in comparison to a microorganism?

Let love for each other be just as contagious  
as a virus.

Borne by hope, determination and solace,  
surprised by creativity and solidarity,  
delighted by empathy and human warmth  
we are surrounded by miracles and questions.

So be amazed and ask questions;  
it will only make your world more wonderful.

### MAKE A BOX FOR QUESTIONS

‘How many voices fit into a matchbox?’ is one of the many questions in the poem that ends with, ‘So be amazed and ask questions; it will only make your world more wonderful.’

Decorate a matchbox any way you like. Write down your questions or thoughts on small pieces of paper. Put them in the matchbox. Open the box sometime when you are with friends – on New Year’s Eve, in June, on Christmas, or ...

*My thoughts on paper*



**3.6** John Lennon sang, 'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans.' When life turns out differently to how you had planned, it doesn't have to keep you from continuing to make plans. In our lives there can be disappointments and dissatisfaction, worries about your health, your relationship, your job, or expectations that are not fulfilled. We need a great deal of resilience and persistence to cope, to keep on going, to keep hoping. My trust, my faith and my love are truly put to the test.



**3.7** *Film clip: Ring the bells*

**3.8** Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack in everything  
That's how the light gets in

**3.9** That is the essence of the Leonard Cohen song. It is about accepting your imperfections instead of being at war with them. There is a crack in everything, a crack that makes you who you are, just as much as your good qualities do. When you accept your own imperfection and that of others, you can grow, and connect, with other people.

**3.10** In their book *Beyond the walls – A hopeful correspondence* the young Muslim woman Oumaima Al Abdellaoui and Rabbi Lody van de Kamp write to each other about their respective worlds. What connects them is the wish to get to know each other and each other's backgrounds better. They wish to demonstrate that thinking or speaking in terms of 'us' and 'them', or perpetuating stereotypes without thinking, does not get us very far. Both of them are searching for connection, yet they do not hesitate to point out dividing lines. Their letters speak of their realities and religions, of Israel and Palestine, of feminism and immigrants, of successes and low points in their lives. Lody writes in his last letter, 'Oumaima, you and I have journeyed together through each other's worlds for a year. We have gotten to know each other and each other's cultures instead of shutting each other out, to respect each other rather than pushing each other apart. I hope that we, and many others along with us, will continue on in this way.'

**3.11** Living together leads us to compare ourselves to others. But I tend to forget that my experiences can be different to those of the other person, and that that makes me see things differently. That's why I want to reflect on my truths regularly. Sometimes I am unsure what impact I may have. What can I do towards a better world for all (!) people? And for a liveable earth that exists not for the convenience of humans, but as a place where humans – including myself – may be guests? Hans Alma, professor of psychology and meaningfulness writes in her book *Het verlangen naar zin* (Longing for Meaning) about God as 'having a dialogue with the voice of the possible'. I notice that when I return to thinking in terms of possibilities, often my uncertainty becomes manageable. For me, believing is the process of being rooted in, and nourished by, trust and reality.

### **3.12** *My faith*

Despite the ages of suffering  
and the darkness of the night  
I have hope and faith in God  
in the eternal Power of Love.  
I believe that love will prevail,  
because people carry it within.  
If they live more consciously,  
if the light of love dawns in them,  
then a society will grow  
that is supported by respect.

On that I rely with full confidence,  
then I experience God's strength;  
my faith is firmly anchored  
in the wondrous Power of Life.

Though sometimes we have to endure  
passing through darkness,  
divine life unfolds  
when the darkness is dispelled:  
a new day dawns.





**3.13** Will we ever achieve a world without profound problems, without violence? No, that is a utopia. But recently we have seen how people in difficult circumstances have supported each other, have brought each other small rays of light. Just consider the efforts and courage of people in healthcare, the many individual initiatives in society and the community initiatives to be close to one another. Each person can bring about peace. The existence of violence and indifference does not lessen the strength and the value of the good, the reverse is actually true. Everything we do that adds to hope, faith and love contributes to a world of dignity for ourselves and others. When we keep up those efforts, fully aware that there will never be an ideal world, hope, faith and love will flow into society.



### **3.12** *Stars and Magi*

people required  
willing to seek the child  
exiled or missing  
or wrapped in cloths

people required  
who like shepherds and magi  
listen to angels  
and who travel by stars

people required  
who shine the light  
whose fiery longing  
never disappears

people required  
who dare to  
change old systems  
and break chains of power

people required  
who keep wishing to share  
their dream that the world  
will one day be healed

people required  
who with that story  
want to remain true  
to their ideal





## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Compilation: Henk Canten, Mieke Onderstal

Editorial board: Monique van Strien-van Milaan, Bert Wiegman, Nanda Ziere, Jan Zwart

Design: Rimme van de Coolwijk

Illustrations: Nina Mertz - Javornik Productions

Printing: Tromp Print & Packaging, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Publisher: Apostolisch Genootschap, Postbus 116, 3740 AC Baarn, Netherlands

Copyright: ©2020 Apostolisch Genootschap



## REFERENCES

- 1.1 Film clip: *O light of life*, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpih9\\_YA3zY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpih9_YA3zY)
- 1.2 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 10, 2020: *Juist nu geloven en werken*
- 1.3 Freely after, among other things, Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 19, 2020: *Herbezinnen, telkens weer*
- 1.4 From the Bible [New King James Version]: Isaiah 9:6, [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)
- 1.5 *Peace, joy and love*, song number 107, Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Truus Bouman-Komen
- 1.6 Freely after *Midden in de winternacht [In the Middle of Winter]*, a story in the book *De geboorte van J.C. en andere kerstverhalen* by Nico ter Linden, Balans, 2012
- 1.7 Freely after *Midden in de winternacht [In the Middle of Winter]*, a story in the book *De geboorte van J.C. en andere kerstverhalen* by Nico ter Linden, Balans, 2012
- 1.8 Freely after the Christmas story according to Luke and Matthew in the *Bijbel in gewone taal [Bible in plain language]*, Nederlands Bijbelgenootschap, 2014
- 1.9 Film clip: *When a child is born*, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=D\\_yr8uQs7ys](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_yr8uQs7ys)
- 1.10 See also *Midden in de winternacht [In the Middle of Winter]*, a story in the book *De geboorte van J.C. en andere kerstverhalen* by Nico ter Linden, Balans, 2012 and see also Kerstdeclamatorium 2003, De kracht van het gewone, 4.1.
- 1.11 See for example: [bit.ly/weesnietonverschillig](http://bit.ly/weesnietonverschillig)
- 1.12 See Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 5, 2020: *Dat blijft bestaan wat in liefde is gedaan*
- 1.13 *Prospect for Peace*, choir song number 65, Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Jan Willekers and Minke Slok-Zwaan, composer: Raymond Stoop
- 1.14 See Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 7, 2019: *Dromen met open ogen*
- 1.15 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 5, 2020: *Dat blijft bestaan wat in liefde is gedaan*. See also p. 19 of Grondslag in perspectief
- 1.16 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 5, 2020: *Dat blijft bestaan wat in liefde is gedaan*
- 1.17 See the book: *De zin van het leven - gesprekken over de essentie van ons bestaan [The Meaning of Life – Conversations on the essence of our existence]* by Fokke Obbema, Atlas Contact, 2019
- 1.18 *What is of value*, song number 127, Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Truus Bouman-Komen and Minke Slok-Zwaan, composer: Jean van Vugt
- 1.19 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 24, 2019: *Laten we geloven*
- 2.2 Vrij naar weekbrief Apostolisch Genootschap nummer 24, 2019: *Laten we geloven*
- 2.3 Filmfragment *Levenslicht*: [bit.ly/levenslicht](http://bit.ly/levenslicht)
- 2.4 *Blessed land*, song Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Apostolisch Genootschap, composer: C.H.H. Parry / E. Elgar
- 2.6 Film Clip: *Everyone belongs*, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-sNHO85aKY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-sNHO85aKY)
- 2.7 See Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 13, 2020: *Een nieuw normaal*
- 2.8 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 35, 2019: *Stoel van de toekomst*
- 2.9 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 35, 2019: *Stoel van de toekomst* and Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 24, 2019: *Laten we geloven*
- 2.10 *God's loving presence*, song number 56, Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Reinout Diehle based on an earlier version, composer: Jaap van der Meulen
- 3.1 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 15, 2019: *Moedig het verschil durven maken* See also Eva Spek in De jonge denkers: Verbeelding aan de macht
- 3.2 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 15, 2019: *Moedig het verschil durven maken* and Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 3, 2020: *Scheppingswerk*; \*Quote by Wubbo Ockels in his last interview.
- 3.3 *That I exist*, song Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: René Hamstra, composer: René Blom, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPNDL58nzI4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPNDL58nzI4)
- 3.4 Freely after Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 15, 2019: *Moedig het verschil durven maken*
- 3.5 Poem *And the birds fly ...* by Chris Lindhout in the CNV magazine *Onderwijs*
- 3.6 See Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 20, 2013: *Een hoopvol perspectief*
- 3.7 Film clip: *Ring the bells* [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vetb1ZImEhQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vetb1ZImEhQ)
- 3.8 The projected text
- 3.9 Freely after a text by Caspar Verhees
- 3.10 The book: *Over de muren heen – een hoopvolle briefwisseling [Beyond the Walls – A hopeful correspondence]* by Lody van de Kamp and Oumaima Al Abdellaoui, Libris, 2019
- 3.11 See Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 22, 2020: *Een brief over mijn geloof*
- 3.12 *Mijn geloof [My faith]*, song Apostolisch Genootschap, lyrics: Rob Diehle based on an earlier version, composer: Jaap van der Meulen
- 3.13 See also Apostolisch Genootschap Weekly Letter number 37, 2018: *Bewegen uit bewegenheid*
- 3.14 Poem *Sterren en Wijzen [Stars and Magi]* by Evelijne Swinkels-Braaksma, in *Honderdmaal een nieuwe dag*, GremLem, 2020



**APOSTOLIC**  
SOCIETY