



Where could
you find peace and
connection in the
natural world in this
Advent Season?

First Sunday of Advent

This Advent we acknowledge our need to reconnect with the land and the beauty of the created world. First Nations people teach us that,

... the power to transform is given within the land and is available to the human psyche or soul. Land is the medium of all aliveness and soul is the human's ability to participate in that aliveness. (Fletcher, F.

Jesus and the Dreaming, 2013. P. 225)

Advent invites us to spend time in the natural world, to appreciate the sacraments of beauty that surround us each day. Advent offers us time to consider our oneness with all of creation and to know... *the unnameable, and untameable presence of the Divine in all things.* (Newell, J.P. *The Rebirthing of God*. 2015. p.1).

Mary and Joseph's long journey to Bethlehem, along river plains, arid slopes and hills, brought them the blessings of sunshine, fresh breezes and star filled nights.

IMAGE SOURCE: "THE GIFT" BY REV ROBYN DAVIS

They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. (Psalm 1:3)

COMPASSION JUSTICE RESPECT HOPE

About the Artwork



The Gift

Robyn has combined rich colours, simple figures and elaborate dot work to create this striking nativity scene in which the wise men are depicted as emus. The track surrounding the scene develops branches leading to Christ, symbolic of the journey we can all take towards God.

I see my paintings as a spiritual gift. It enables me to bring the word of God into area where it would not normally be. I believe God puts stories as pictures into my head, so He needs to be acknowledged as the true artist.
Aunty Robyn Davis (Our Mob, God's Story. 2017. p.100).

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby... an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them.... The angel said to them "Do not be afraid I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord..." (Luke 2:8-12)

The greatest gift of all!

Artist note:

I wanted this painting to shine with joy. For the viewer to see the great promises of God. To see the colours of the rainbow, the promise of grace, understanding and peace on earth. To see a future filled with hope.

Robyn trained in European style art and now prefers to do contemporary Aboriginal art which depicts her cultural identity and background. Her clan totem is the platypus and her personal totem the sand goanna, giving her strong connections to the land and the water, which feature in most of her works. She has a strong Christian faith (ordained in 2009) and believes that God has given her this gift as he gives all of us gifts. You will find a small gold cross in each of her paintings to acknowledge this. God bless.

This is a print of an original piece of Aboriginal art and as such all rights belong to the artist,
Robyn Davis, Wadi Wadi Nations.