

Have you ever colored in an adult coloring book? There is something calming and peaceful about the intricate designs and amazing detail to be filled in. I have been working on this garden scene for some time now; a scene with vines, trees and flowers covering the page with an occasional ladybug and dragon fly here and there. I am getting close to finishing, but I have not touched it for a while. Maybe I will pull it out now that I am writing about it. But I think part of the reason that I do not consistently keep at it is because I am not an artist. I am not very good at putting the right color schemes together. Yes, I know, there is no right or wrong answer when it comes to coloring, but there is still part of me that wants to do it “right”.

“Okay, why is the pastor writing an article about coloring?” That question is fair enough but stick with me some more.

These past few weeks have felt like we are living in a brand-new coloring book. The dense fog (that seems to be everyday) has created this winter wonderland look of hoarfrost. Trees, bushes, and the like are lightly coated with frost and giving the landscape a blank coloring page look. There is a particular beauty about the look, but if you are like me, you eventually want color. But even though the doldrums of winter seem to last forever, we know better. We know that these dark, colorless days will eventually end and the blank pages that we live in will come to life. God will sharpen His coloring pencils and showcase His master artistic abilities. Our Creator and author of life, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, will slowly but surely begin the process of perfectly pairing the right color schemes together.

Blank and darkness will turn to color and light, new life will spring up, and the doldrums will fade away. This is one of the many reasons that I love living in this part of the country. The stark contrasts of the seasons (especially winter to spring) remind me of the hope of eternal life through Jesus. Though we live in a world of sin and death, through faith in Jesus New Life will spring eternal; painted in an array of color and life. I can hardly wait to see what God has in store for me. In the meantime, I wait it out and I hope you, too, will look forward to the New Life to come.

Yes, the world may seem dreary and dark now, but remember, God is the Creator. He produced the coloring page, and He will finish what He started. For

God is the master artist, Father, Sustainer, and Rock of salvation. So, look to Jesus and know beauty eternal. To God be all glory, now and ever, Amen.