



Darwen St James'

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

Tuesday 3rd December 2024



Jesus

is



Born.



Let's light the candle to begin our Worship today.





Welcome Words.



God in Christ has revealed his glory.



Come let us worship.

Our Value yesterday was:

Community

Think about what this means while we are reading the Bible text.

BIBLE TEXT**LUKE 2.5–18**

Mary was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David’s town your Saviour was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great army of heaven’s angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

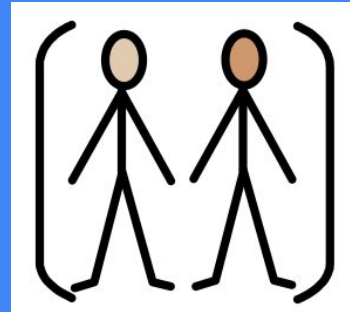
“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them back into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angel had said about the child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said.

What does community mean?

Why are we thinking about community with this Bible passage?

Talk to the person next to you!



The birth of a child creates **community**
- the **community of family**.



This child, Jesus, does far more than that.

Jesus brings together different communities.

He brings together rich and poor:

Born in Royal David's city in a lowly cattle shed.

He brings in those who are left out:

The shepherds lived out in the fields and outside the social network of the village community.

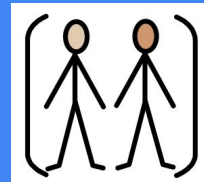
Now they are invited by angels to be the first to witness the birth of the Saviour!

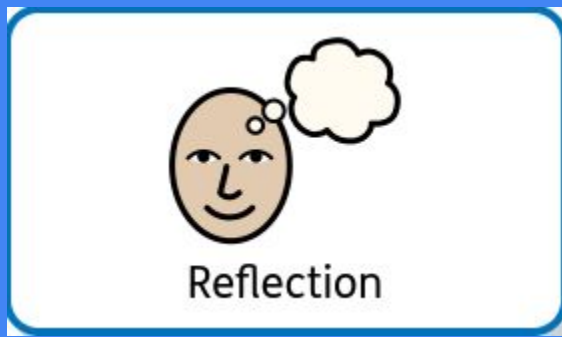


Jesus is born

How do you think Mary, Joseph and the shepherds were feeling when Jesus was born?

Talk to the person next to you.

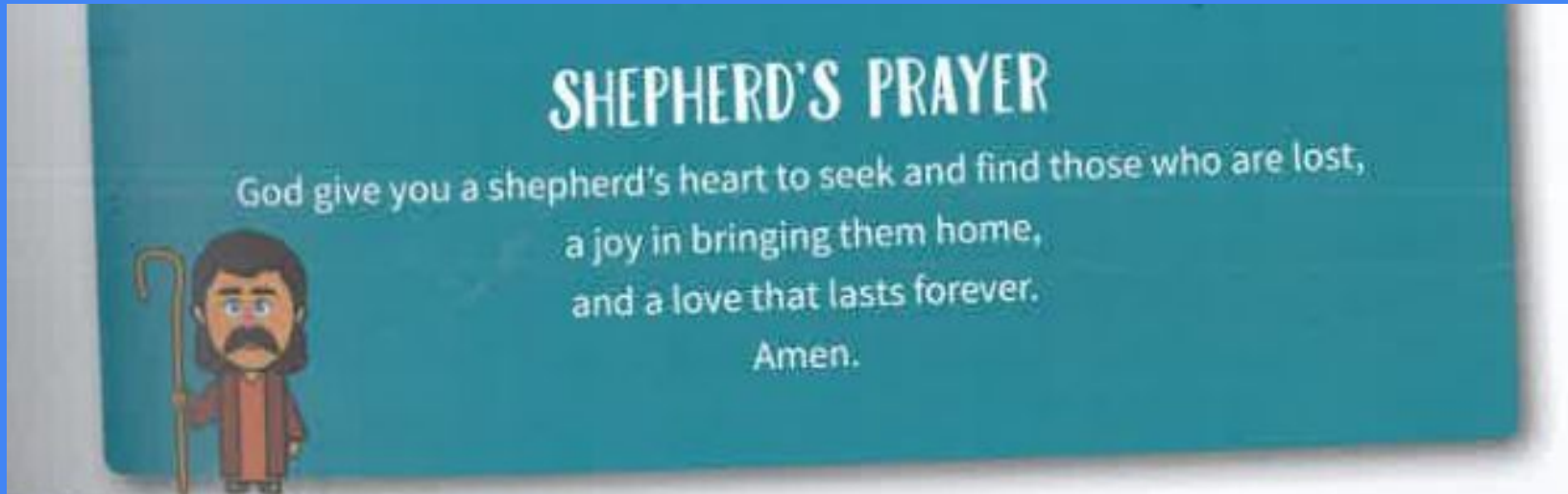




As this new family community is formed, let's think about how all these people came together to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

What kind of prayers would Mary, Joseph or the shepherds have said for the baby Jesus?

The shepherd may have said a prayer like this for the baby Jesus.



What would Mary or Joseph have prayed for the baby Jesus?



Let us sing.

And all the angels
sang for him,

the bells of heaven
rang for him

for a boy was born,
king of all the world.



Let us Pray.



May

the



grace

of



our



Lord



Jesus Christ



And

the



love

of



God,



our



father



Be

with



us



all,



evermore



Amen



Closing Words.



+



The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you,

&

++



and also with you.



MARY'S PRAYER

Sleep now my baby, while you can.

May you grow in wisdom and love through the years to come.

Know that my love will always be there, for the love of our Father will never end.

Amen.

JOSEPH'S PRAYER

May your hands become strong and skilled to help others,

May your feet be guided in God's ways,

May your eyes look up in praise and prayer, and around to those most in need.

Amen.



SHEPHERD'S PRAYER

God give you a shepherd's heart to seek and find those who are lost,
a joy in bringing them home,
and a love that lasts forever.

Amen.



