

DARWEN ST JAMES'



Tuesday 9th December

Believing God has a plan for
our lives. Luke 1: 26-38





Worship



Time



Quiet



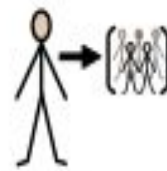
Looking



Listening



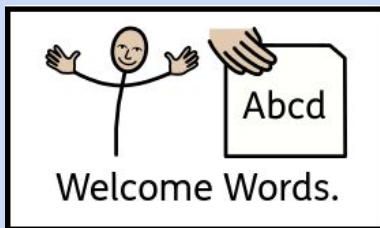
Respectful



Joining in

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





God



in



Christ



revealed



his



glory.



Let



us



worship



him



together.



What do you notice about the figures in the painting?

Do you know who it is that the artist has painted here?

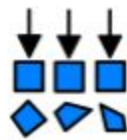


This is a famous painting by Fra (brother) Angelico, a monk who lived 600 years ago. He is imagining what the scene might have looked like when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary with an important message.



Mary

was an



ordinary



girl.



She

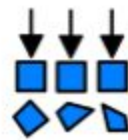


lived



in

Nazareth, an



ordinary



small



town



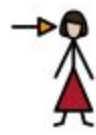
and



very



soon



she

was



going to

be



married.



Our



story

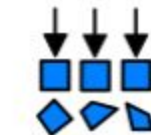


begins

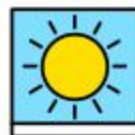


on

an



ordinary



day

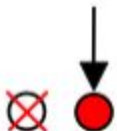


like

so



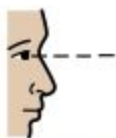
many


others.|

As she did her chores around the house, Mary had been

daydreaming about her wedding and her life ahead with

Jospeh. But suddenly she realised that she wasn't alone!



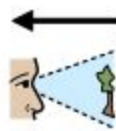
Looking



up,



she



saw



before



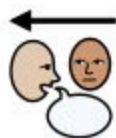
her



an angel.



"Greetings,"



said



the

Angel



Gabriel,



"God

is



with



you



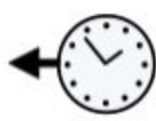
Mary,



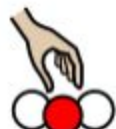
and



he



has



chosen



you

for



something



very



wonderful."



Mary

was

frightened.



"Don't

be

afraid,"

the



angel



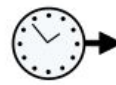
said,



"soon



you



will



have

a



baby



and



his



name



will

be



Jesus.



He



will

be



God's



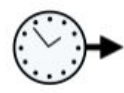
son



and



he



will

be a



king



in

a



kingdom



that



will



never



end."|

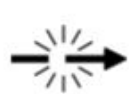
? can this happen?" asked Mary, "I am not even

←
married!"

"God's Spirit will surround you with his power!" replied

Gabriel, "Your child will be holy and will show the

whole world that God is with us."



Somehow



Mary



did not



feel afraid



any



more



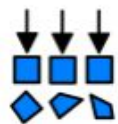
and



she



didn't feel



ordinary



either.



In

fact



she



felt



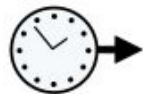
very special



indeed.



"I



will



trust



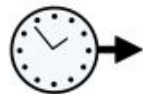
God



and



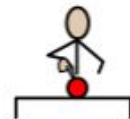
I



will



do



whatever



He



asks

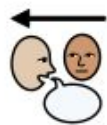


of


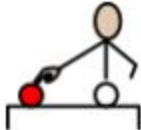




me,"





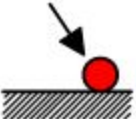






she

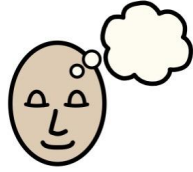


said.

     
And that was how the extraordinary life of God's very

        
own son began, right there in Mary's house in the

  
ordinary little town of Nazareth.



Reflection time

Do you have any questions about how Fra Angelico has painted the picture?
Is there anything that surprises you?





Let



us



sing



Silent Night



Loving



God,



We



thank you

for



Mary's



trust



in



you.



Help



us

to



trust



you

to



lead



us

+



direct



us



throughout



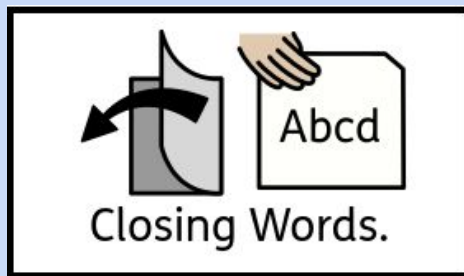
our



lives.



Amen.



The Light



and



Peace

of



Jesus Christ

be



with



you,



and



also



with



you.



Worship



Time



Quiet



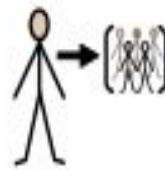
Looking



Listening



Respectful



Joining in