

## Children's Church at Home 20 December 2020

Most highly favoured lady. Luke 1:26-38

And also Matthew 1:18-21, Luke 2:1-7 and 10-14

**Craft ingredients:** card, pens, scissors, lolly sticks or plastic spoons, sellotape.

**First:** Questions questions. Who? What? When? Where? Why? Let's start with you: what's your name? What happens on Christmas morning? When were you born? Where do you live? Why?

**Story:** Luke 1: 26-38

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/v3656G6tWuI>

**Think:** This is a story that you know well. You may even have taken part in a Nativity play. I know someone who was Susan the Shepherd. So can you fill the gaps?

About two thousand years ago, a lady called ... was engaged to a man called ... . he was a ... .

Suddenly an ... appeared to ... . The ... was called ... . He told her not to be ... . he had good ... for her. ... had a wonderful plan for ... . She was going to have a ... and his name would be ... . His daddy was ... . And he would be a great king forever. OK, said ... , I'll do whatever ... wants.

... was bursting to tell someone, so she went to see her cousin ... . ... was expecting a ... too, even though she was an old lady. The ... had visited her husband ... and told him about it. That ... was to be called ... . ... was so happy she sang a wonderful song to God, saying how great he was and how blessed she was, even though she was just an ordinary girl.

When she got home again, ... told ... all about it. He was shocked and decided that he could not marry ... . But in a dream, he saw an ... who told him that he should marry ... and everything would be alright.

A long way away in Rome, the Emperor Augustus decided that there should be census, a list of all the people in the Empire. Everyone had to travel back to their home ... to be counted. ... and ... had to go to Bethlehem. ... was very tired because her ... was due soon. When they got there, there was no room at any of the ... . Finally an ... told them that they could use the ... . And that's where baby ... was born. His ... dressed him and used the animals' trough as a cot for him!

Out on the hills, the ... were looking after their ... . An ... appeared to them and told them not to be afraid! A saviour had been born who was the Messiah, the Lord. They had to go and see the baby ... . who would be lying in an animals' food trough in a stable! They rushed off to see this baby .... All at once the sky was filled with ... singing 'Glory to ... and peace on ... .' so off they went, taking a ... as a gift for the ... . They told ... and ... about the ... and afterwards they went back to their sheep, and they told people all about what they had seen!

So now we know the answers to Who? What? When? Where? But do you know Why? The angels had the answer, didn't they? And so did Mary. And Elizabeth. They all knew that the baby was God's son, and that he had been sent to save everyone and to be Lord and King for ever.

**Craft:** Make the angel Gabriel, Mary and Joseph, and possibly more!

**Activity:** use your craft to put on a Nativity Play for your family. If there are people in your family who you won't see over Christmas, you could video it or do it over Skype or Zoom or WhatsApp video ... or something else!

**Prayer:** Father God, thank you for Jesus, our saviour, the most wonderful present we could ever receive. Teach us to be ready to listen to angels! And help us to love you and do what you say, just like Mary. Thank you and thank you for Christmas and presents and for our families and holidays and everything! Amen.

**The Grace:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.