



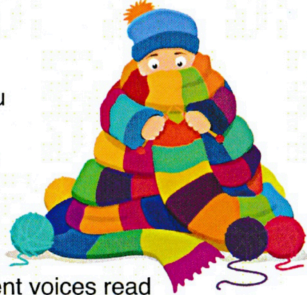
To tell!

PRAYER

We welcome you with us Lord Jesus, open our hearts and minds to what you want to speak to us or reveal to us today. Amen.

STARTER

- Can you name any breeds of sheep? Perhaps you could research sheep breeds from biblical times.
- Do you knit? What do you have that is pure wool?
- Do you like the dark? Why or why not?



READ – LUKE 2v 8-14

Read it through twice, have different voices read and use different versions of the bible if you can.

Is there anything that has made you go wow I didn't realise that or hadn't read it like that before?

Is there anything that you don't understand or that you are not sure about?

QUESTIONS

1. What do you think the shepherds were doing before the angels arrived?
2. Shepherds were at the bottom of the social heap in Bible times so why did God send the angels to them?
3. What would God need to do to get your attention?
4. Angels are God's messengers. What is your favourite part of their message?
5. Read verses 10 - 12 again. How does it make you feel?
6. Do the angels say or sing their message? Does this change your feelings about the message?
7. How do we react to the song of the angels' song promising peace on earth when there is so much war, violence and unrest in the world today (v14)?
8. Can we be God's messengers today? Can we bring peace on Earth?



ACTION

Organise or join a carol singing event and join in. Sing praises to God.

Visit a local care home, or go as a group and sing outside/inside a local supermarket...you will need to seek permission!

PRAY...for those who serve our communities...

...the list is endless but include post workers, GPs and community nurses and carers, nursing home staff,

fire brigade, teachers, bin and recycling people, lollypop people, police, armed forces, border force, ministers, local council workers.

PRAY...for the work they do that they are encouraged over this season and their families too.

GET CREATIVE

Why not use an angel to tell the good news about Christmas? You could make an angel shape in paper or card and hang it in your window, knit an angel and attach the good news to a label and leave it somewhere for someone to find, or even make one from a paper plate and give it to someone who needs to hear the love of God for themselves.



SONGS

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing
 "Glory to the new-born king
 Peace on earth and mercy mild
 God and sinners reconciled"
 Joyful all ye nations rise
 Join the triumph of the skies
 With angelic host proclaim
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
 Hark! The herald angels sing
 "Glory to the new-born king"
 Hail the heaven-born
 Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings
 Risen with healing in His wings
 Mild He lays His glory by

Born that man no more may die
 Born to raise the sons of earth
 Born to give them second birth
 Hark! The herald angels sing
 "Glory to the new-born king"
 Hark! The herald angels sing
 "Glory to the new-born king
 Peace on earth and mercy mild
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 "Glory to the new-born king"
 "Glory to the new-born king"

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night:
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light.

Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star.