

**THE ANGEL GABRIEL**

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.  
"All hail." said he,  
"thou lowly maiden, Mary,  
most highly favoured lady." Gloria!
2. "For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be.  
All generations laud and honour thee.  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel,  
by seers foretold,  
most highly favoured lady." Gloria!
3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head.  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify  
his holy name."  
Most highly favoured lady! Gloria!
4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;  
and Christian folk throughout  
the world will ever say:  
"Most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

**THE ADVENT CANDLE SONG**

Light the Advent candle, one;  
Now the waiting has begun;  
We have started on our way,  
Time to think of Christmas Day.

**Candle, candle, burning bright,  
Shining in the cold winter night;  
Candle, candle, burning bright,  
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

Light the Advent candle, two;  
Think of humble shepherds, who  
Filled with wonder at the sight  
Of the child on Christmas night.

Light the Advent candle, three:  
Think of heavenly harmony;  
Angels singing "Peace on earth"  
At the blessed Saviour's birth.

Light the Advent candle, four;  
Think of joy for evermore;  
Christchild in a stable born,  
Gift of love that Christmas morn.



AT PEAR TREE CHURCH WE AIM TO LOVE  
GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOURS

The Purpose of the Church in Pear Tree is to provide a place of worship where all people are welcome and encouraged to experience God's love in faith and prayer; where we will reach out as witnesses to discover the needs of the local and wider communities using our gifts and resources and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit

**SUNDAY**  
**24th**  
**DECEMBER**  
**2017**

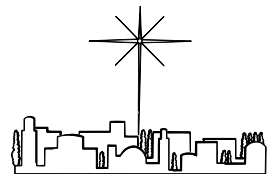
**Christmas**  
**Eve**

Priest-in-Charge - Revd Miles Newton, 117 Swift Road, Woolston SO19 9ER  
☎ 023 80441124

**10.00 a.m. PARISH WORSHIP**  
**- Carolyn Jennings**

**Hymns:** BBC 33, The Angel Gabriel  
(see overleaf) 39, 37, 48  
**Reading:** Luke 1:26-38  
See overleaf

**4.30 p.m. Christingle Service**  
**11.00 p.m. Midnight Communion**



**INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE**

*The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." (Luke 1:28)*

**COLLECT**

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN THE  
CHURCH HALL AFTER THE 10.00 a.m. SERVICE**



**Luke 1:26-38**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.”

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.”

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**MON 25 DEC** **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
10.00 a.m. Worship Together Service at St. Mark’s Church - all welcome  
**NO SERVICE IN PEAR TREE**

**SUN 31 DEC** **1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**  
10.00 a.m. Worship Together Service at Pear Tree

Please note there is no 10.00 a.m. service here tomorrow, Christmas Day. Instead, you are invited to join us for a Worship Together service at St. Mark’s Church, Woolston. It would be appreciated if those with cars would be aware of those without transport and offer lifts to St. Mark’s Church. Thank you.



**PEAR TREE PRAYER TREE**

Today, as part of our cycle of prayer, we pray for all those who find Christmas to be a time of pain or bereavement; those who are lonely, who have no family to call upon them or visit; those who have no food or shelter from the cold weather; those who do not know God or recognise the saving grace of his Son, Jesus Christ.

We also remember the bereaved and the housebound, all those known to you who may be ill at home or in hospital and all those who care for them.

In particular, please continue to pray for the Ockelford family, Les Beard, Dave and Joanne Isaacs, Win Stead, Mary Stone, Rosemary Nutburn, Arthur Collins, Mary Hallerton, John Burrows, Bethany Mullen, Bill Kerr, Alan and Margaret Harding, baby Leo, Ian Fry, Aimee, Fred and Edith.

**~~ A REMINDER ~~**

Have you signed the Parish Christmas Card?  
The idea is to avoid having piles of Christmas cards on the table. Just write your Christmas greeting on our Parish Card and put the money you would have spent on buying cards for each other into the collection tin.

All proceeds to the Countess Mountbatten Hospice.

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH**

The Salvation Army, North East Road, Sholing, are providing Christmas Day lunch again this year for anyone who is on their own. If you are interested in joining them, please call 02380 438713 to register.

**THANK YOU ....**

to all those who organised and took part in our excellent Nativity Service last Sunday.

**DON'T FORGET .....**

2018 Pear Tree/St. Mark’s diaries are available on the table, price £1.

**A REMINDER** that there is a church incident book in the right hand drawer of the desk in the vestry by the war memorial. If anything happens to you which could affect your safety or the safety of someone with you, please write the details in this book so they can be reviewed by the safeguarding team.

Also, by law, any accidents happening in the Church or Hall must be recorded. Accident books are now on the large table in the Church, and with the first aid box in the Hall kitchen. If anyone has an accident in either building they must, please, fill in an accident form in the book. Help is available from the Churchwarden (or ask any member of the clergy) to complete the form.