**WOODLANDS CHURCH**

**December 16th 2018. Songs in the key of Luke**

**Discussion notes: Angel’s song Luke 2:11-14.**

In Luke’s gospel, four ‘songs’ begin the story of Jesus in the first two chapters. They include Mary’s Magnificat, Zechariah’s prophetic song, the song the Angels sing, and the song of Simeon (Nunc Dimitis). How do these songs link with and build on one another?

1. Why is the birth of this baby announced by Gabriel ‘good news to all the people’?
2. Who is the message of peace between? Between people, or between God and people?
3. The word to describe the angels translated sometimes host is a military word, an army. An army that brings peace might be what Church is meant to look like, not by fighting but blessing? Where have you seen that sort of ‘warfare’
4. The angels talk about God’s blessing on those (or among those) on who his favour rests. What does the favour of God look like? How do you get it?
5. Is it possible to spot what Jesus calls a ‘person of peace’ Matthew 10:11? How? Can you describe such a person?
6. In what way would it have been surprising culturally for the hearers of this song to be shepherds?

Peace, favour, all people. In our divided and troubled world it would be great to pray for peace and to go ourselves as worshippers, blessing wherever we can.