

Dear God, I pray that you will bless me and my church. Send people into our fellowship,  
and protect us all. In Jesus' name. Amen

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**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017**  
**Theme 'It's Coming...Love and Joy'**  
**Text Luke 1:39-56**



### **Good morning & welcome to worship...**

Carols and Christmas music are an essential part of Christmas, we all have our favourites, with some such as Hark the herald angels sing dating back as far as the 1700's, but I wonder if you have ever considered some of the very first Christmas carols? This morning we will be looking at one of the first songs to be sung about the Christmas story. It was sung by a pregnant teenager who sang with joy about the coming of her unborn son. Found in Luke's Gospel, Mary's hymn of praise- sometimes called the Magnificat- reflects her character as she chooses to be joyful in response her situation and to God's work in her life. It also extends praise to God for His kingdom values and His faithfulness to the righteous remnant down through history. This morning as we reflect upon this early Christmas carol I pray that during this advent season we can chose, as Mary did, to be joyful even in the most challenging and uncertain circumstances.

Blessings

Berri



The gift of flowers greatly enhances our worship environment. Today we thank **Anne & Richard**

**Prayers:** Please continue to remember Peter Mills and the family in prayer following Sylvia's Promotion to Glory. Funeral arrangements are still pending. Also Roy and Patricia Whitewood & Pauline Ashley need our prayers.

### **This Week:**

Mon & Tues- Toddlers,

Weds- CAMEO

**Monday and Tuesday- Nursing Home Carol Singing.** Monday meeting at Balgowan at 4:55 (to start at 5) and Tuesday meeting at St. Margarets (Next to Waitrose) at the same time. We could still do with a couple more volunteers- please see Berri after the meeting. Transport can be provided.

**Wednesday-** Band at Captains Court (Private Engagement)

**Saturday** – The band will be playing carols in the High Street starting at 10.30am.

**Monday Dec 18<sup>th</sup>** – The band will be leading a Carol singalong – outside the Church in Appledore – they are sending a coach for us which will leave at 6.30pm If you would like to come please give your name to Alyson.

### **Sundays in Advent:**

**17th December-** "It's coming...Hope and Peace" Family Worship lead by Callum **3pm-** Messy Nativity- **volunteers needed (see Berri); 3pm – 8pm "Christmas get together"** you are invited to **"pop in"** at the home of Randy & Cate, 1a Old Dover Road, Capel, CT18 7HJ

**24th December-** "Nine Lessons and Carols" Family Worship followed by setting up the hall for Christmas Day.

**25th December- Christmas Day Worship** at 11am followed by a meal and festivities for those who would appreciate some company on Christmas Day.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December** - 'It's on the Way: 2018'- Our meeting on New Year's Eve will also be relaxed and informal and will give us the opportunity to thank God for his faithfulness to us throughout the past year and to commit the new year to him.

### **Christmas Help Needed**

Over the next few weeks, there are several opportunities to get involved in serving the local community. Please sign up with Callum after the meeting.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - 1:00pm- 'Wrapping Party'** – Each year we provide toy parcels to families in need in the local area. Come along on this afternoon to help wrap up and assemble the remaining parcels for distribution in time for Christmas.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1:00pm- 'Hall Tidy and Christmas Day Preparations'** – Help is needed to get the hall ready for our Christmas Day Celebration, where we will welcome around 40 guests for Christmas Dinner. The added complexity of Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday means that we'll also need a hand to move and set tables following the meeting on Christmas Eve!

The newsletter is available by email, if you would like to receive it by that means please let Richard have your email address. It is also published on [www.hythesalvationarmy.org.uk](http://www.hythesalvationarmy.org.uk)  
You can also contact Richard by email – [richardhcarroll1@gmail.com](mailto:richardhcarroll1@gmail.com)