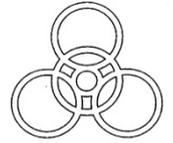


St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church Junior Church Activity Sheet

7th February 2021 The second Sunday before Lent



Here is something to pass the time at home as we can't meet in church at the moment – a story and some activities. We are going to have a different story from the grown-ups this morning.

Candlemas

On 2nd February this last week the Church celebrated the Feast of Candlemas. Traditionally this was when the season of Christmas finally ended and all the decorations were taken down and packed away. All the candles that would be used for the next year in the church were brought to the service and blessed to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. In the days before electric light, February was still a very dark month with short days. This feast reminded people that spring was coming to cheer them up. This is the story that the Church reads on Candlemas: the last of the stories in the Bible about Jesus as a baby.

Forty days after Jesus was born the time came for Mary and Joseph to do what the law of Moses laid down. So they took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord in the Temple. The law said "You must offer two doves or two young pigeons as a thank offering for the baby."

There was a man called Simeon who lived in Jerusalem. He was a good man and very religious. He had lived all his life waiting for the time when God would help Israel. The Holy Spirit told Simeon that he would not die before he saw the Christ promised by the Lord. When Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the Temple Simeon was inspired by the Holy Spirit. He took the baby in his arms and thanked God. "Now I can die happy", he said. "Because I have seen the child who will be the saviour of Israel and will be a light to the whole world."

Mary and Joseph were amazed at what Simeon had said about Jesus. Then Simeon blessed them but he warned Mary, "Things that will happen will make your heart sad, too."

And there was also an old woman in the Temple called Anna. Anna was now 84 years old. She never left the Temple. She worshipped God by going without food and praying day and night. She came too and thanked God for this special child. She talked about Jesus to all who were waiting for God to free his people.

Joseph and Mary finished doing everything that the law of the Lord commanded. Then they went home to Nazareth, their own town in Galilee. The little child began to grow up. He became stronger and wiser, and God's blessings were with him.



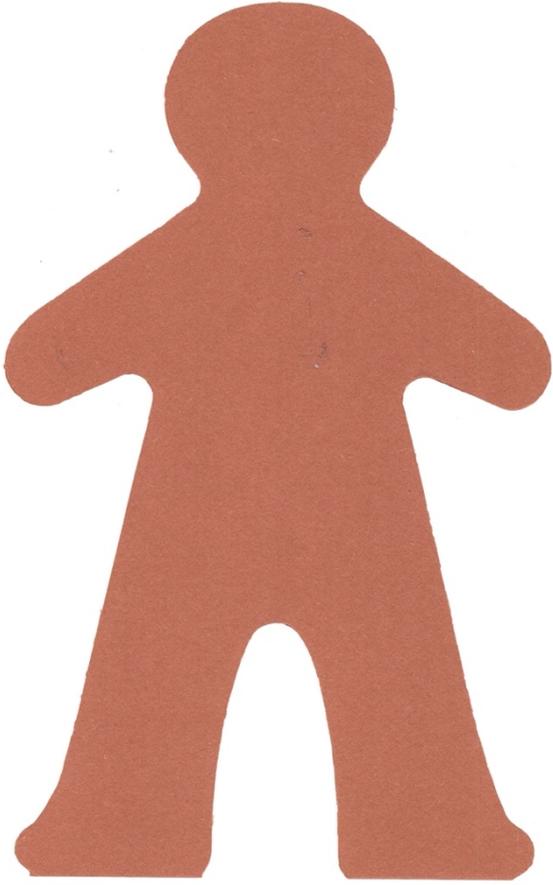
SOME THINGS TO DO

Simeon and Anna saw great things were going to happen to the baby Jesus when he grew up.

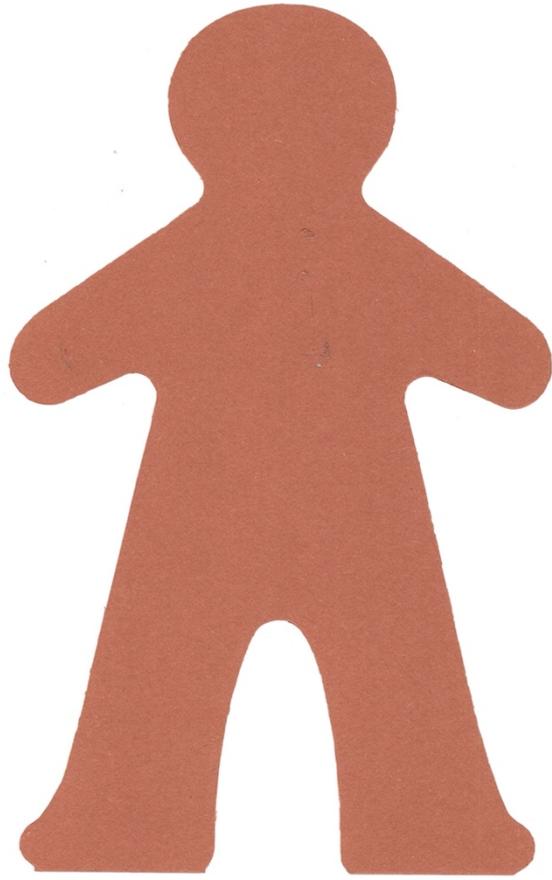
What do you want to be when you grow up ?

You might want to be lots of things. You can use the next page to draw yourself in the right clothes and doing the things you would like to do .

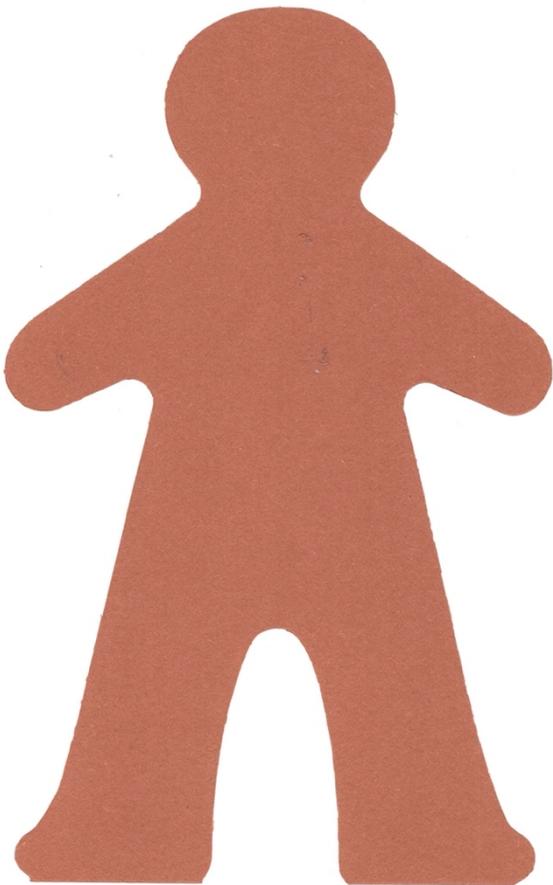
When I grow up I'm going to be:



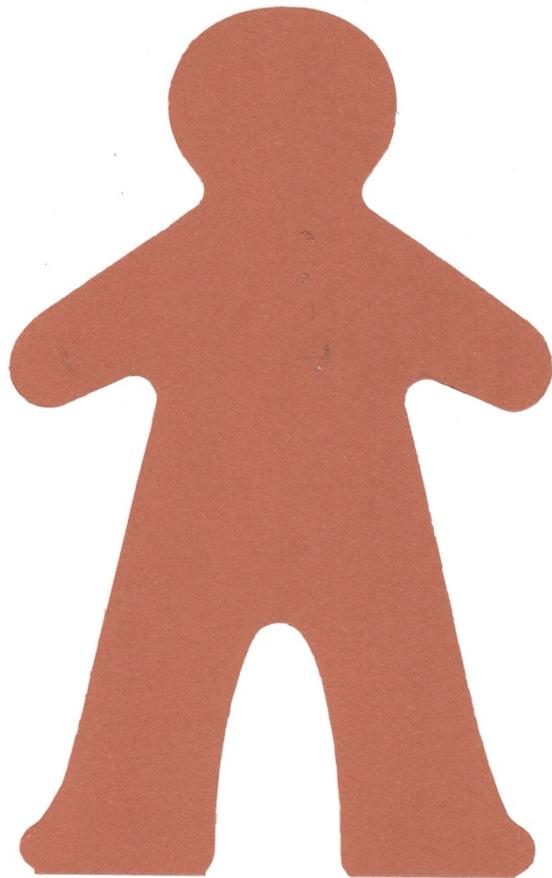
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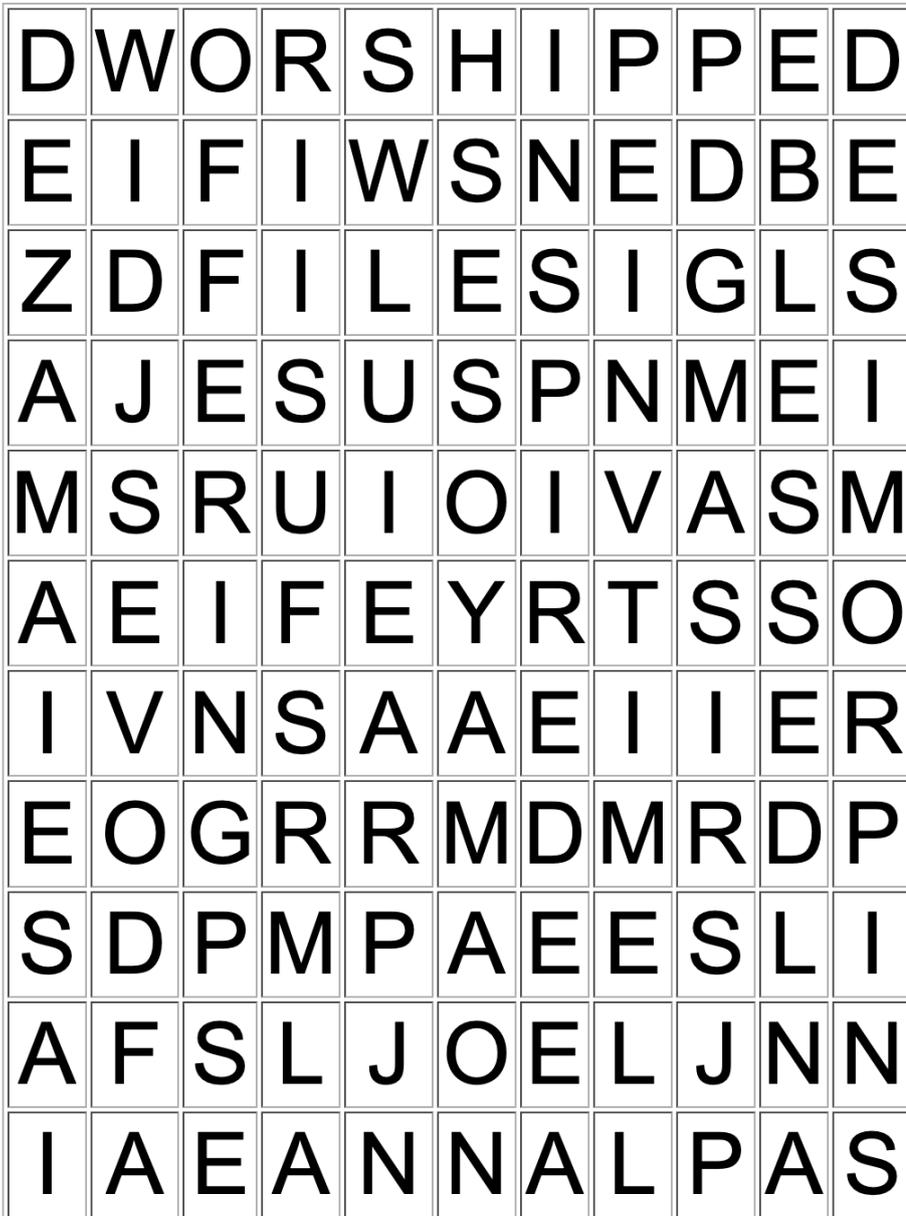


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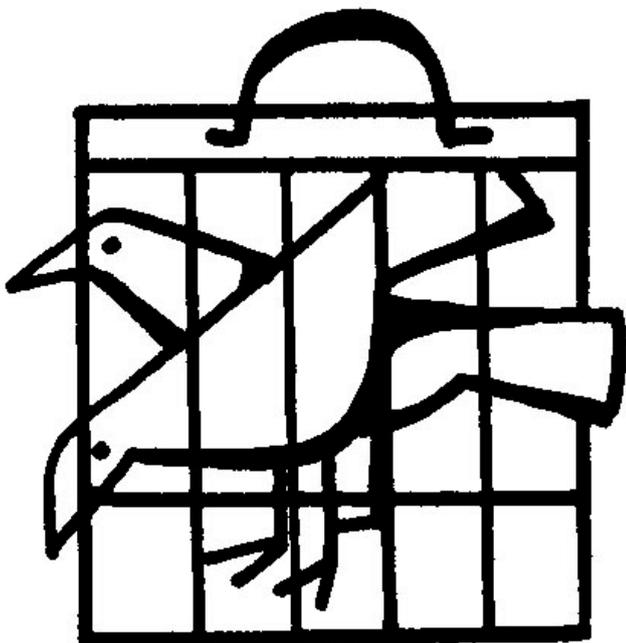


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WORD SEARCH



AMAZED
ANNA
ARMS
BLESSED
DOVES
INSPIRED
ISRAEL
JESUS
OFFERING
PRAYING
PROMISED
SAVIOUR
SIMEON
TEMPLE
WORSHIPPED



Colour the birds to make them very beautiful as an offering