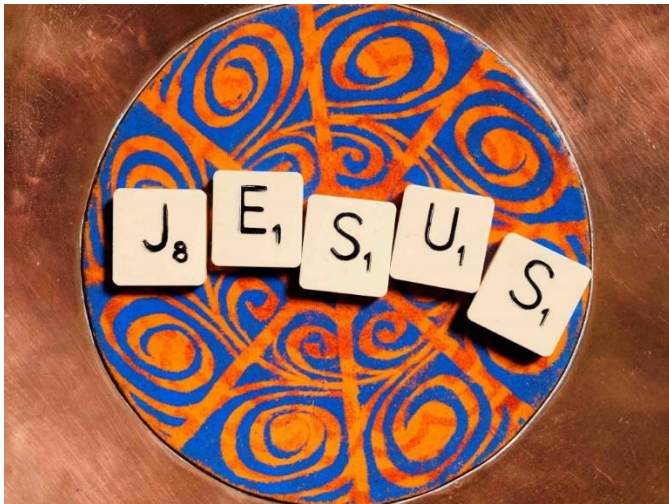# Advent Thought for the Day 30 November by Rev. Wendy Sellers

30 November

*And he was called... **'Jesus'***

'She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' (Matthew 1. 21)

Do you know who chose your name? It was probably one of your parents. However, it is an 'angel of the Lord' who gives Jesus his name. In Matthew 1. 21 we are told that, in a dream, the angel tells Joseph that 'Jesus' is to be the name of Mary's (as yet unborn) Son.

Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua. While it would now be highly unusual (in our culture) to name a baby Jesus, the name Joshua was and is a popular name. Translated it means something like 'God

saves', or 'God is salvation', or 'God is help', or 'God is a cry for help'.

Throughout Advent we are going to think about some of the many names given to Jesus. But it's fitting we start with his given name – because his God-given name tells us that he was born to be our help and our salvation.

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord,
(Naida Hearn)