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# Christmas Services – Additional to Normal Service Times

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| **Bethesda** | 11.00am 25/12/20 | Christmas Day Service - Hales |
| **Blackshaw Head** | 10.00am 25/12/20 | Christmas Day All Age Worship – OA (online) |
| **B’town & Southowram** |  |  |
| **Brighouse Central** | 4.00pm 24/12/20  11.00am 25/12/20 | Christingle - Cheetham  Christmas Day Service - Cheetham |
| **Christ Church LEP** | 4.00pm 20/12/20  5.00pm 24/12/20  11.00am 25/12/20 | Carol Service – Sherwood and Stead  Communion - Sherwood  Christmas Day Service - Sherwood |
| **Clifton** |  | Christmas services to be confirmed |
| **Cross Hills** | 7.00pm 24/12/20  7.45pm 24/12/20  11.30pm 24/12/20  11.00am 25/12/20 | Prayers in the Community – Local Arr  A Christmas Blessing on the Labyrinth – Local Arr.  Holy Communion – G Smith  Christmas Day Service – Welch (IMMC to join) |
| **Hebden Royd** | 6.00 pm 20/12/20  11.00am 25/12/20 | Carols – Heathcoat (Via Zoom)  All Age Worship for Christmas - Heathcoat |
| **Heptonstall** | 6.00pm 20/12/20  6.30pm 24/12/20  9.30am 25/12/20 | Carols @ St Thomas’ – Heathcoat – United service  United service @ St. Thomas’  Christmas Day service @ St. Thomas’ |
| **Highgate** |  |  |
| **Illingworth Moor** | 11.00am 25/12/20 | Christmas Day Service @ Cross Hills – Welch |
| **Mount Tabor** |  |  |
| **Mount Zion** |  |  |
| **Northowram** |  |  |
| **Salem** | 4.00pm 20/12/20  9.30am 25/12/20 | Christmas Reflections - Welch  Christmas Day Service – Welch |
| **Southgate** | 11.30pm 24/12/20  10.00am 25/12/20 | Holy Communion - Sherwood  Christmas Day Service - Sherwood |
| **St. Andrew’s** | 6.30pm 10/12/20  11.15pm 24/12/20  10.30am 25/12/20 | Christingle Service – Keen  Midnight Communion – Keen  Christmas Day Service – Keen |
| **St. Matthew’s LEP** | 11.30pm 24/12/20  9.15am 25/12/20 | Midnight Communion – Hannam @ St. John’s Rastrick  Holy Communion – Ven Dr Anne Dawtry |
| **St. Paul’s** | 6.00pm 13/12/20  11.30pm 24/12/20  10.30am 25/12/20 | Carols  Holy Communion - @ Christ Church US  Christmas Day Service – Saville |
| **Stones** | 10.30am – 12.30pm 19/12/20  4.00pm 24/12/20  10.30am 25/12/20 | Space for Christmas. Come and go as you please  GLOW - All Age Service – Keen. Booking required  Christmas Day Service – Wilkinson. Booking required |
| **Todmorden** | 10.00am 25/12/20 | All Age Worship for Christmas – Heathcoat |

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

A few years ago, Christmas didn’t feel much of a time of celebration until the 29th December. Christmas Day was on a Friday, which it is this year. The Sunday beforehand I had three services, two of which were Carol Services, during the week there were several home communions. Christmas Eve involved two further Carol Services and a Midnight Communion. This was followed by Christmas Morning service at one of my churches. As Sunday was two days later there was also morning worship to prepare for and lead.

This year is going to be vastly different, not just for me but for all of us. We didn’t get the chance to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, nor have many of us had the opportunity to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. So how are we going to let the world know that we are still remembering and celebrating the birth of a child that became the man who changed the world?

When Jesus was born, the Jews were under a huge restriction of what they could do and what they had to do. Joseph and Mary were commanded to travel to Bethlehem for a census to be taken. The journey was long and hard, and the second leg of the trip was not to where they had thought it would be as they set off to Egypt to protect Jesus.

We have been on a journey into and through a very strange place and way of doing things. For many of us we haven’t known which way up we are for many days and that has been scary. There is one thing that we can hold on to and that is the constancy of Jesus, he is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

For some it has also been a huge learning curve about how they cope in isolation, where their support is, and who needs their support. I have heard many stories of love, care and support being shown, not only in words but in actions.

The impact of the virus on the churches and circuit is ongoing and probably will be for some time yet. We need to be prayerful and careful about the future of the Circuit as we don’t yet have a complete picture of the finances and practical viability of some of our congregations. Please pray for all the churches in the Circuit that they may be able to witness to their community in a quite different way this Christmas.

May God bless you and those precious to you in the coming months.



Rev Terry Keen

Calderdale Superintendent Minister