**Holy Week & Easter Services – Additional to Normal Service Times**

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| **Bethesda** |  |  |
| **Blackshaw Head** | 7.00pm 6/04/23  8.00am 7/05/23 | Worship  May Morning Service @ The Praying Hole, Colden Clough |
| **Boothtown &**  **Southowram** | 7.00pm 7/04/23 | Good Friday Service - Christie |
| **Brighouse Central** | 7:00pm 6/04/23  12:30pm 7/04/23 | Maundy Thursday Communion - Atkins  Good Friday Service - Atkins |
| **Christ Church LEP** | 7:30pm 6/04/23  2.30pm 7/04/23 | Maundy Thursday Communion – Stead  Good Friday Service – Sherwood |
| **Clifton** |  |  |
| **Cross Hills** |  |  |
| **Hebden Royd** | 8.00am 7/05/23 | May Morning Service @ The Praying Hole, Colden Clough |
| **Heptonstall** | 6/04/23  11:00am 7/04/23  8.00am 7/05/23 | US with St. Thomas  At St. Thomas  May Morning Service @ The Praying Hole, Colden Clough |
| **Highgate** |  |  |
| **Illingworth Moor** | 7:00pm 6/04/23 | Maundy Thursday – Welch |
| **Mount Tabor** |  |  |
| **Mount Zion** |  |  |
| **Northowram** |  |  |
| **Salem** |  |  |
| **Southgate** | 7:00pm 7/04/23  8:30am 9/04/23 | Good Friday Service - Sherwood  Easter Sunday Morning Communion – Sherwood |
| **St. Andrew’s** | 7:30pm 6/04/23  10:30am 7/04/23 | Maundy Thursday communion – JS @ All Saint’s Church  Good Friday Reflections – Welch - JS |
| **St. Matthew’s LEP** | 7:00pm 4/04/23  7:00pm 6/04/23 | Holy Week Service – Petch  Communion Service with foot washing - Petch |
| **St. Paul’s** | 6/04/23  7/04/23 | Ecumenical Service – Heathcoat  Walk of Witness |
| **Stones** | 7.00pm 6/04/23  2.00pm 7/04/23 | Maundy Thursday Communion – Atkins (Joint service at Brighouse)  Good Friday Service - Atkins |
| **Todmorden** | 6/04/23  10.00am 7/04/23 | Maundy Thursday Service – @ Roomfield Baptist)  Good Friday Service - Heathcoat |



Dear Friends,

As a Church we Christians are quite good at telling the epic stories that are central to our Christian identity. The birth narrative is sung, narrated and acted out in churches and schools across the country. In a few weeks we will be retelling the Easter story, the highs and lows that move us from triumphant entries, to the sadness of Good Friday, then onto the joy of Easter Day. I wish though we were as good at sharing the stories of Jesus’ life and ministry. For he had such an impact on the communities he witnessed to that many gave up all they had to follow him. In truth Jesus’ influence on his followers and those he ministered too was so profound that it changed hearts and lives. During his life he revealed the image of a God who could not be contained within the laws of religion, a God that wept with us, laughed with us and walked beside us. A God, who suffered, forgave and remains with us.

This epic life story shaped those first followers whose stories echo through the centuries. Those stories are ours to share not just at Christmas and Easter. There are stories held within the gospels that can speak to the needs of contemporary society at different times and places, whilst revealing the nature of a compassionate, inclusive and just God. Whether you are a preacher, a worship leader, or a contemporary disciple, I would encourage you to tell those stories because they might just offer new listeners, new insight. I will finish with some profoundly relevant words from Brian Wrens hymn *‘Deep in the shadows of the past’*

*For all the writings that survived,*

*For leaders, long ago,*

*Who sifted, chose, and then preserved*

*The Bible that we know,*

*Give thanks, and find its promise yet*

*Our comfort, strength, and call,*

*The working model for our faith,*

*Alive with hope for all.*

Peace and love.

**Rev Vicky**