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# Christmas Services – Additional to Normal Service Times

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| **Bethesda** | 11.00am 25/12/24 | Christmas Day Service - @ Southgate |
| **Blackshaw Head** | 7.00pm 20/12/24  4.00pm 15/12/24  10.00am 25/12/24  10.15am 29/12/24 | Village Carols  Christingle Service  Christmas Day All Age Worship – led by Roger Munday  Coffee, Cake & Carols – led by Roger Munday |
| **B’town & Southowram** | 7.00pm 18/12/24  25/12/24 | Boys’ & Girls’ Brigade Service – Morling  Service @ Halifax Minster |
| **Brighouse Central** | 2.30pm 1/12/24  6.00pm 22/12/24  4.00pm 24/12/24  11.00am 25/12/24 | Sing Choirs of Angels - Atkins  Carol Service - Atkins  Christingle – Atkins  Christmas Day Service - Atkins |
| **Christ Church LEP** | 7.00pm 10/12/24  6.45pm 18/12/24  2.30pm 21/12/24  4.00pm 24/12/24  5.00pm 24/12/24  10.00am 25/12/24 | Carol Service – Sherwood  Carol Singing at Sandholme Fold and around the Community  “Blue Christmas” and refreshments - Stead  Crib service – Stead  Holy Communion – Sherwood  Christmas Day Service – Sherwood |
| **Clifton** | 2.00pm 22/12/24  10.30am 25/12/24 | Carol Service – Local Arrangement  Christmas Day service - Briggs |
| **Cross Hills** | 7.00pm 24/12/24  11.30pm 24/12/24  10.30am 25/12/24 | Carols on the Green – Sherwood  Holy Communion – Sherwood  Christmas Day Service – Hales |
| **Hebden Royd** | 4.00pm 15/12/24  6.00pm 24/12/24  10.15am 25/12/24 | Carols – Heathcoat  Carols in the Square  All Age Worship for Christmas - OA |
| **Heptonstall** | 6.30pm 22/12/24  11.30pm 24/12/24  25/12/24 | Carols @ St Thomas’ – United service  United service @ St. Thomas’  With St Thomas’ Xmas Day service & Communion |
| **Highgate** | 25/12/24 | Service @ Halifax Minster |
| **Illingworth Moor** | 25/12/24 | Service @ Halifax Minster |
| **Mount Zion** | 3.00pm 15/12/24 | Carol Service - Sherwood |
| **Southgate** | 6.30pm 11/12/24  6.00pm 24/12/24  11.30pm 24/12/24  11.00am 25/12/24 | Christingle - Sherwood  Carols for all – Sherwood  Holy Communion – Sherwood @ Cross Hills  Christmas Day Service - Sherwood |
| **St. Andrew’s** | 3.30pm 6/12/24  10.00am 7/12/24  6.00pm 11/12/24  25/12/24 | Christmas Messy Church  Advent Crafts  Christingle Service – Morling  Service @ Halifax Minster |
| **St. Matthew’s LEP** | 3.00pm 22/12/24  7.00pm 22/12/24  7.00pm 24/12/24  9.15am 25/12/24  10.30am 29/12/24 | Christingle & Nativity – Petch  Joint service at St. John’s – Carol Service  Nine Lessons & Carols - Petch  All Age Holy Communion – Petch  Joint Benefice Communion Service @ St John’s |
| **St. Paul’s** | 10.30am 08/12/24  All day 14/12/24 & 15/12/24  6.00pm 15/12/24  10.30am 22/12/24  11.30pm 24/12/24  11.00am 25/12/24 | Parade Service  Live Nativity Weekend  Carols by Candlelight - Heathcoat  Café Worship  Holy Communion - @ Christ Church US  Christmas Day Service – Heathcoat (All Age) |
| **Stones** | 6.30pm 22/12/24  4.00pm 24/12/24  10.00am 25/12/24 | Carols by Candlelight - Heathcoat  GLOW - All Age Service – Heathcoat  Christmas Day Service – Heathcoat |
| **Todmorden** | 10.30am 22/12/24  10.30am 25/12/24 | Carol Service - Heathcoat  All Age Worship for Christmas – Michael Fryers |

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This year, the Methodist Church's Christmas campaign carries the theme, "Hush the Noise”. Throughout Advent and the Christmas season, we are invited to *"listen for the love song that the angels bring, this and every year."* It’s a poignant reminder of our deep longing for stillness, a longing to escape the overwhelming noise that often surrounds the festive period.

We’re bombarded with the noise of Christmas advertisements urging us to prepare for Black Friday, pushing us to spend, spend, spend. We hear the noisy claims of those in power, who assure us they are doing everything to provide food, shelter, and safety for the marginalised, yet the voices of those truly in need are often drowned out, silenced by injustice. And there’s the persistent, unsettling noise of a planet struggling to breathe, as businesses continue to prioritise profit over preservation.

The story of Elijah reminds us that God is found in the silence, not the noise. After confronting 450 followers of Baal, Elijah fled for his life, seeking refuge. He did not encounter God in loud, dramatic displays of power, but in a gentle, quiet whisper. It was in that stillness that he heard God’s voice. I was reminded of this truth when I stood at the summit of Hasenhorn Mountain in the Black Forest this summer. In the hushed stillness, 1,156 meters above sea level, I felt God's presence profoundly.

Today, we might not worship pagan gods like Baal, but many are drawn to another kind of idolatry, the worship of money, material possessions, and the endless things we are encouraged to desire, especially during the festive season.

How, then, can we hear the love song of the angels if we do not step back from the world's noise, finding a moment to be still and listen? The love song the angels sing is not about the gifts, the food, or the glitter. It is about Jesus — love born among us. He came quietly, without fanfare, and continues to move silently among us, transforming lives through love.

This Christmas, may we seek that stillness, hush the noise, and truly listen for the love song that is always there, inviting us to join in.

Christmas Blessings,

**Rev Vicky**