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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 20/12/244.00pm 15/12/2410.00am 25/12/2410.15am 29/12/24 | Village CarolsChristingle ServiceChristmas Day All Age Worship – led by Roger MundayCoffee, Cake & Carols – led by Roger Munday |
| **B’town & Southowram** | 7.00pm 18/12/2425/12/24 | Boys’ & Girls’ Brigade Service – MorlingService @ Halifax Minster |
| **Brighouse Central** | 2.30pm 1/12/246.00pm 22/12/244.00pm 24/12/2411.00am 25/12/24 | Sing Choirs of Angels - AtkinsCarol Service - AtkinsChristingle – AtkinsChristmas Day Service - Atkins |
| **Christ Church LEP** | 7.00pm 10/12/246.45pm 18/12/242.30pm 21/12/244.00pm 24/12/245.00pm 24/12/2410.00am 25/12/24 | Carol Service – SherwoodCarol Singing at Sandholme Fold and around the Community“Blue Christmas” and refreshments - SteadCrib service – SteadHoly Communion – SherwoodChristmas Day Service – Sherwood |
| **Clifton** | 2.00pm 22/12/2410.30am 25/12/24 | Carol Service – Local ArrangementChristmas Day service - Briggs |
| **Cross Hills** | 7.00pm 24/12/2411.30pm 24/12/2410.30am 25/12/24 | Carols on the Green – Sherwood Holy Communion – SherwoodChristmas Day Service – Hales |
| **Hebden Royd** | 4.00pm 15/12/246.00pm 24/12/2410.15am 25/12/24 | Carols – HeathcoatCarols in the SquareAll Age Worship for Christmas - OA |
| **Heptonstall** | 6.30pm 22/12/2411.30pm 24/12/24 25/12/24 | Carols @ St Thomas’ – United serviceUnited 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 11/12/246.00pm 24/12/2411.30pm 24/12/2411.00am 25/12/24 | Christingle - SherwoodCarols for all – SherwoodHoly Communion – Sherwood @ Cross HillsChristmas Day Service - Sherwood |
| **St. Andrew’s** | 3.30pm 6/12/2410.00am 7/12/246.00pm 11/12/24 25/12/24 | Christmas Messy ChurchAdvent CraftsChristingle Service – MorlingService @ Halifax Minster |
| **St. Matthew’s LEP** | 3.00pm 22/12/247.00pm 22/12/247.00pm 24/12/249.15am 25/12/2410.30am 29/12/24 | Christingle & Nativity – Petch Joint service at St. John’s – Carol ServiceNine Lessons & Carols - PetchAll Age Holy Communion – PetchJoint Benefice Communion Service @ St John’s |
| **St. Paul’s** | 10.30am 08/12/24All day 14/12/24 & 15/12/246.00pm 15/12/2410.30am 22/12/2411.30pm 24/12/2411.00am 25/12/24 | Parade ServiceLive Nativity WeekendCarols by Candlelight - HeathcoatCafé WorshipHoly Communion - @ Christ Church USChristmas Day Service – Heathcoat (All Age) |
| **Stones** | 6.30pm 22/12/244.00pm 24/12/2410.00am 25/12/24 | Carols by Candlelight - HeathcoatGLOW - All Age Service – HeathcoatChristmas Day Service – Heathcoat |
| **Todmorden**  | 10.30am 22/12/2410.30am 25/12/24 | Carol Service - HeathcoatAll 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**