

The Benefice & Team Ministry of Tettenhall Wood and Perton

The Parish of Tettenhall Wood

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Dear Friends,

It's our Harvest Festival this week, and although we can't have harvest suppers or other festivities, it's still important we stop and give thanks to God for his ample provision through these difficult times. Included with this mailing, alongside intercessions from Jane Woolf and a short sermon from me, is the script for 'Stone Soup' – a story for which I've done a dramatized recording.

The Harvest service at Good Shepherd (9.30am) is Holy Communion, and at 11.00 it's Morning Prayer at Christ Church, where there will be a slightly different telling of the story so children can take part (at the necessary social distance, of course).

Readings 2 Corinthians 9: 6-11, 15 Luke 12: 22-34

Collect *Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

As I said last week, at Harvest it's our custom to bring donations of tins and packaged foods for the ministry of the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd. Demand for the Good Shepherd's food service has increased during the pandemic and they expect this to continue through the winter months. Due to current regulations, however, and with only a limited number of volunteers still allowed in to organise food donations, the charity is asking supporters to consider making a financial contribution if at all possible. Many of us like to give something tangible at this time of year as a sign of our offering to God. So, what I suggest, for those who wish, is to bring a single tin to offer up symbolically, along with an envelope with some money – a thank offering to the God of the harvest. If you are not able to come to church but would like to give your support, donations can be made via their website: www.gsmwolverhampton.org.uk – or by cheque payable to Good Shepherd Services sent to Good Shepherd Ministry, 65 Waterloo Rd, WV1 4QU.

Other matters: I've also enclosed a copy of the update to my Incumbent's Report read at last week's APCM. Other reports can still be viewed on the parish website.

Thank you to all those who have supported recent fundraising initiatives: I have paid in £371 to the Staffordshire Historic Churches for the *Ride & Stride*. At the time of writing, we have raised £140 for MacMillan Nurses.

We have two funerals at Christ Church during the week ahead, so the church will only be open for private prayer on Monday and Wednesday.

I hope you have a really good week.

God bless,

Phil