

**The Benefice & Team Ministry of Tettenhall Wood and Perton
The Parish of Tettenhall Wood**

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Dear Friends,

We reach the Second Sunday of Advent: catching a glimpse of the light, we are still very much a people walking in the darkness. Whilst we remain under severe restrictions, the resumption of Sunday worship in our church buildings this week is a sign of hope. 9.30 at Good Shepherd is Holy Communion. 11.00 at Christ Church is Morning Prayer.

I am delighted that Caroline Seaton is able to pick up her ministry as a Reader in our parish once more, and I attach her sermon, together with Jane's intercessions.

Readings: Isaiah 40: 1-11 Mark 1: 1-8

Collect: *Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen*

We're enclosing a copy of the Christmas leaflet giving details of all the Christmas services. The aim is to get leaflets to all the homes in the parish. If you're able to help with door-to-door delivery, please pick up a pack or two at church, or contact Russell Taylor (07527 591608 - rjdtaylor@outlook.com). Many thanks.

The joint online Christmas Fair has been going extremely well. This weekend is the last chance to put in your orders, so act now! Deliveries will start during the week ahead. Raffle tickets are available until 20 December. Thanks for all your support.

Many thanks also to everyone who's been knitting angels: it looks like a new company has been added to the heavenly host! If there are any more out there, it would be great if they could find their way to church this weekend.

Some sad news, as many will already know: David Sedgley, a very long-term member of Christ Church, passed away on Thursday last week. Please pray for Edna and the family. The funeral is not until 22nd December.

Over the last few days, lots of households have put up their Christmas lights, making a special effort to cheer up the streets in dark times. At both our churches, we're making a point of shining a light outside. At Good Shepherd, a Christmas Crib is being set up by the outside notice board, and at Christ Church the Christmas tree will be outside the church this year. In our homes, I think it would be great if as many as possibly can display a star – the sign that leads to Bethlehem – either outside or in our windows: another sign of hope for the world.

May the God of hope be with you this week.

Phil