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This morning we welcome Bishop David to preside and preach

This morning's music

- 541 O for a thousand tongues to sing
- 481 Lord, thy word abideth
- 667 Son of God, eternal Saviour
- 579 O thou, who at thy Eucharist did pray
- 798 We have a gospel to proclaim *Bach: Fantasia in C minor*

This morning's readings

Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10 (Reader: Kathleen Mulligan); Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a (Reader: Freda Evans); Luke 4.14-21 (Gospeller: Opal Walsh), Intercessor: Jenny Black

Today's Eucharistic Prayer: E Prayer in the silence after communion God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Collect: Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Gospel acclamation

Reader: Alleluia, alleluia. Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world. *Response:* Alleluia!

Post Communion: 3rd **Sunday of Epiphany** Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Today

To mark our pleasure at Bishop David's visit there will be a simple Parish Lunch (soup and bread, fruit and scones) after the usual coffee and biscuits, starting around 12.00noon – Bishop David has to leave around 1.00pm.

This week and further ahead

7.30pm Evening Prayer followed at 8.00pm by Needlecraft Group meeting
6.30pm Choral Evensong with the Maia Singers from Stockport. Please invite family and friends to what should be a most uplifting
service. Last year the Maia Singers performed at St Paul's
Cathedral and sang Choral Evensong at St Martin in the Fields.
8.00pm in church: Science and Religion Evening on God as a Problem in Modern
Physics to discuss Canon Radcliffe's sermon at the Parish Eucharist the day before.
6.30pm at St Nick's: Confirmation service. Interested in being prepared for confirma-
tion, or know somebody? Please tell one of the churchwardens asap!
Annual Meeting after the Parish Eucharist: put the date in your diary.

Next Sunday, Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas

President and preacher: The Revd Keith Justice; **Malachi 3:1-4** (Reader: Robert Nicholls); Psalm 24.1-10; **Hebrews 2.14-18** (Reader: Jean Nixon); **Luke 2.22-40** (Gospeller: Colin Powell), Intercessor: Helen Reid

Responding to people sleeping rough on church property

As many will be aware, a man was sleeping rough outside the back door of the Hall over the New Year period, one of several similar occurrences in recent years. The PCC spent some time at its January meeting considering how best to respond to rough sleepers, as a church community and as individual Christians. The PCC invited Colin Marchbank Smith from Union Chapel to advise us from his long experience with homeless people and rough sleepers. His advice is still being digested before producing a church policy on responding to individuals sleeping rough on church property. This will be made available to everyone once it is finalised.