



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for

11th May 2025 Prepared by Deacon Peter Ogle

Worship in the following locations:

Boundary Methodist Church - VE Day Thanksgiving and Cake - At 15:00pm - With Rev Julie

Wellspring Methodist Church, Cheadle -At 10:30pm -With Rev Lloyd Cooke

Endon Methodist Church - At 10:00am - With Rev Denise Williamson - Holy Communion

Ipstones Methodist Church- At 10:30am - With Ms Gill Meredith - Holy Communion

Rudyard Methodist Church - At **15:00pm Lakeside** - With Rev Denise Williamson

The Gathering At St Andrews, Cheddleton - At 16:00pm

Trinity, Leek - At 10:30am - With Rev Julie Hassall

- At 16:00pm Churches Together in Leek and District

Waterhouses Methodist Church - At 18:30pm - With Rev Julie Hassall

Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 14:30pm - With Dr Lynne Bradbury

Sunday 18th May 2025 – Worship at Wellspring Cheadle– At 10:30am – Local Arrangement



Call to Worship

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

John 15 verse 16

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%2015%3A16&version=NIV>

Called by Christ to be disciples

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 5fI0N6umzc>

Prayer

Gracious God, we come today to worship your holy name. We come because you have called us by name to be your ambassadors here on earth. We come as we are, different shapes, different sizes, different abilities and disabilities. We come, because we want to listen and hear what you want us to do for you.

We also come, knowing that we do not always follow what you ask us to do, say or think. So, in the silence we bring our sins to you in the name of the risen Saviour, Jesus, who was the sacrifice required for the sin of the world.

Thank you, Lord.

Send us forward in the power of the Holy Spirit, to live and work for you. Amen

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Bible reading Acts Chapter 9 verses 36-43

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%209%3A36-43&version=NIV>

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time, she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so, when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

Peter went with them, and when he arrived, he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon. BibleGateway (New International Version)

Take my life and let it be

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gf11rReeWIs>

Reflection

I wonder what you did, following your journey through Lent, Holy Week, Easter Sunday? The journey might have left you exhausted, particularly if you attended everything that took place in the Circuit during that period. You might have felt you've seen it all before many times. I deliberately decided to watch Gareth Malone train 8 people to sing The Messiah, watch The Pilgrimage and visit Coventry and Litchfield Cathedrals, Bolsover Castle and went to see 'Jesus Christ, Superstar at Buxton Opera House. After doing all that in 6 days, I was exhausted, but exhilarated.

I was overwhelmed by the magnificence of the Cathedrals, marvelling at the skills, women and men used to create them. I was deeply touched by the dedication of the 8 people chosen to

participate in The Messiah, all of whom had never sung with such a choir and orchestra. All using their God given talents to glorify God's name.

But it was the Pilgrimage that touched me most, 7 'celebrities' most of whom, if I'm honest, had never heard of, journeyed by foot and transport 300 kilometres from Innsbruck in Austria to Einsiedeln Abbey in Switzerland. Among the 'celebrities' was Stef Reid, born in New Zealand, was Paralympian, who went on to represent Canada and Great Britain at the Olympics. When she was 16, she was involved in a boating accident. Stef lost her right foot. Her life was saved by a surgeon in Toronto who amputated her right leg below the knee. She wears a prosthetic leg, how she walked in some trying conditions, I'll never know.

It was inspiring to hear the way that she spoke about her relationship with God through the recovery period and beyond. It wasn't pushy, she responded gently to the questions that were put to her. She listened to the thoughts of the other 'celebrities' some of whom were Muslim, Jewish descent, and agnostic.

In our reading we find Dorcas, one of only 3 people who are named a 'disciple' in Acts. She is to quote Luke 'always doing good and helping the poor. Peter who is in nearby Lydda, is told that Dorcas had died, arrives at her home. When Peter arrives at the house, the widows show him 'the robes and other clothing that she'd made'. Clearly Dorcas had been using her God-given talents for the benefit of others. Peter, who had been with Jesus on the 3 occasions that Jesus raised people from the dead, clears the mourners out of the room. He kneels, prays, using her Jewish name, says 'Tabitha' get up, at which point she does. Peter encourages the mourners to come back in and see the 'risen' Dorcas. We can only imagine their reaction, though Luke tells us many believed in God.

The message for us today, I believe is, we have been called to use the gifts that God has given to us. We are not all preachers, teachers, healers, miracle workers, or speak in tongues (1 Corinthians 12) or evangelists, service, administrators, givers of hospitality etc.

But we have been given something, to be used to serve God, build up the Church and bless others.

Generous God, I thank you for the gift(s) that you have given me, give me opportunities to use them for your Glory Amen

Let us pray,

Almighty God, thank you for the opportunity to bring our prayers of intercession to you at this time. We are mindful of the needs of so many people and places in your world, that we can become overwhelmed. So, let us individually bring those people and situations God has placed on our heart before him, in the knowledge that God will answer in his own time and way. Then spend a few moments praying for yourself, what do you need to be a 'Dorcas' in your community? Amen

Brother, sister let me serve you

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QO92Lw9v8PE>

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us now and for ever more Amen