



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for

13th July 2025 Prepared by Ms Beryl Stew

Worship in the following locations:

Wellspring Methodist Church, Cheadle - At 10:30am - With Mr Mark Fallows

Endon Methodist Church - At 10:00am - Local Arrangement

Ipstones Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Rev Julie Hassall

Rudyard Methodist Church - At 11:00am - With Ms Heather Hayward

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

Trinity, Leek @ St Edwards - At 10:30am - With Ms Gill Meredith

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

Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 14:30pm - With
Rev Joyce Smith - Holy Communion

Sunday 20th July 2025 – Worship at Wellspring Cheadle– At 10:30am – Local Arrangement



Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46 v 10 [Psalm 46:10 NIV - He says, "Be still, and know that I - Bible Gateway](#)

Hymn StF 103 - God is love, let heaven adore him

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPDG_C8xihl&list=RDnPDG_C8xihl&start_radio=1

Prayers

Loving God,
when we are hesitant, encourage us;
when we are struggling, bless us;
when we are complacent, challenge us;
when we are divided, unite us
and wherever we are, use us to encourage,
reassure, bless, challenge and unite others,
In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

God of encouragement,
you bless us by calling us by name:
we are encouraged by your living Word.
You bless us by inviting us to serve you,
and we are encouraged by your living Word.
You bless us through the lives of others,
and we are encouraged by your living Word.
You entrust to us the ministry of blessing others,
that they may be encouraged by your living Word.
To your glory. **Amen.**

Reading.

St Luke 10 v 25 – 37 (N.I.V. Version) [Luke 10:25-37 NIV - The Parable of the Good Samaritan - On - Bible Gateway](#)

Reflection

This is probably the most famous of Jesus' parables, known from childhood.

The expert in the Scriptures asks the question 'Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He was obviously wanting to see how Jesus would answer him. As so often Jesus in his answer turned the question back onto the enquirer who quotes the Scripture 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your strength and with all your mind', and 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. Jesus says these are the requirements, so go and do this.

The Lawyer wanted more clarification, and this is where Jesus expands the answer with the parable. Now he's on dangerous ground because Jesus turns the question inside out and skewers the lawyer's self-serving hypocrisy.

Having travelled on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho I can assure you it could be a likely place for an incident such as this to happen. The journey is about 17 miles, having a descent from Jerusalem at approximately 2,500 ft above sea level to Jericho that is 800ft below sea level. It passes through rocky, desert countryside providing places where robbers could waylay defenceless travellers. This would give credence to Jesus' parable. We read the robbers stripped him of his clothes and left him half-dead at the side of the road.

First, we have the priest coming by – he didn't even go near the man – he passed by on the other side – he didn't want any contact with the man. Then we have the Levite, (a Levite was the priest's lay associate) – again someone you would expect to give help – again he too passed by on the other side. Thirdly we have a Samaritan – there was open hostility between Jews and Samaritans – the Jews considered the Samaritans as half-breeds, both physically and spiritually. But he was the person who did everything he could for the injured man – the unexpected carer who went the 'extra mile'. (The money he left at the Inn was 2 days wages, but it would pay for 2 months stay in the Inn.)

The final answer had to come from the Lawyer, Jesus asks him to decide who was the man's neighbour – he replies, 'The one who had mercy on him.' – to which Jesus replies 'Go and do likewise.' The loathed Samaritan becomes a model of Law keeping for the pious lawyer – even though he would not have crossed the street to kick such a person!

This is telling us quite clearly that we should help anyone in need, regardless of who they are or what they've done, and we learn lessons in Christian living from the most unlikely sources. As we practise our Christian faith this parable gives us encouragement but also puts us under an obligation to have a practical and generous love for people, especially when they are in need.

May we not be like the Priest and Levite and walk by on the other side – but be like the Samaritan giving help.

Hymn StF 664 - Lord, you call us to your service

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtsubiBA78s&list=RDMtsubiBA78s&start_radio=1

Intercessions.

Dear Lord, we hardly know where to start, because there are so many needs in the world. We see on our TV's and hear on the News about the suffering and hardships of people. We pray for all who are living within war zones at this time, in fear for their lives & homes, may negotiators be able to bring about ceasefires and end these wars. We pray for the many people where, due to climate change they may have experienced rising sea levels and prolonged periods of drought, may we all take some responsibility for this damage.

We pray for our own country where we know more people are finding daily living more difficult due to the cost of the essentials, possibly due to a change in their circumstances they find themselves in need and don't know where to turn for help. We pray for all Foodbanks and Support Agencies who endeavour to give help and guidance to them.

We pray for all who are suffering pain and illness at this time, may they know your healing and strength. We also pray for all carers whether professionals or family members, give them the resilience and strength to do this work.

Finally, we pray for ourselves, may we be alert to the needs of the people around us, and offer help where we can.

Amen.

Hymn StF 355 - Jesus, lover of my soul

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mff8_hwgWy4&list=RDmff8_hwgWy4&start_radio=1

Benediction