



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for

30th August 2026 Prepared by Rev Julie Hassall

Worship in the following locations:

Boundary Methodist Church - At 18:00pm - Local Arrangement
Wellspring Methodist Church, Tean- At 10:30am - With Rev Julie Hassall
Endon Methodist Church - At 10:00am - With Dr Lynne Bradbury
Ipstones Methodist Church @ St Leonard's - At 10:30am - With Mr Roger Cutts
Rudyard Methodist Church - At 11:00am - With Ms Gill Meredith
The Gathering At St Andrews, Cheddleton - At 16:00pm
Trinity Church, Leek with St Edward's - At 10:30am - With Rev Denise Williamson
Waterhouses Methodist Church - At 18:30pm - Local Arrangement
Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Rev Joyce Smith



Oceans and Mountains, sing praise to God,
Rivers and hills, cry out to God,
Streams and valleys, shout to God,
For the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!
Let your voice come to the One who knows you, who hears you, who loves you...

Song - [Goodness Of God \(Lyrics\) ~ Bethel Music](#)

Reading - [Psalm 98 NIV - A psalm. Sing to the LORD a new song, - Bible Gateway](#)

Reflection

Today marks the first Sunday in what the Church refers to as Creation Time - as Autumn draws near and the seasons change. Creation Time encompasses the Harvest celebrations which we will share over the coming weeks in our churches - an opportunity to give thanks to the God whose hand is upon all that is, all that has ever been, or will ever be. Perhaps at this time of year more than any other you can call to mind the great harvest celebrations of years gone by, church harvest suppers/auctions of produce, altars laden with the good things of the earth, voices raised in song. I can certainly remember those days from my own youth.

Yet, we have only to watch the news to see how very much changed our natural world is; Farmers diversify for fear of being too reliant on crops which might fail, wildfires ravish the beautiful countryside all around us, destroying homes and memories in their path, rivers and streams are polluted, seasons are changing before their time, berries withered over the summer will no longer provide winter food for the birds, and on, and on, and on.....

Psalm 98 tells us that the natural world is ecstatic at the thought of God's reign - indeed, creation is not silent but responsive and alive to God. Mountains sing, trees clap their hands, rivers applaud the coming justice of God. Even stones are said to cry out when truth is suppressed!

For the Church, eco-justice is not an optional concern for the unusually informed or ethically inclined. It is a matter of discipleship, repentance, and truth-telling. In a moment when creation's groaning grows louder, silence becomes its own theological stance. Eco-theology equips churches to recover a faith spacious enough to hear the voices of the land, courageous enough to name the systems of sin destroying not only people but planet, and hopeful enough to believe that resurrection demands change — here, now, and together. So, how at this Creation Time do we respond to the devastation all around us. There are numerous ways in which, as individuals we can stand up and be counted, not least of all by making ourselves aware of the conversation going on around us - have a look at The National Emergency Briefing which has been circulating this spring/summer.

But collectively, as church, why not see if there is someone in your congregation who might take a look at EcoChurch - [Eco Church - An A Rocha UK Project](#)

Celebrating 10 years of action through local churches, Eco Church encourages congregations to demonstrate that the Gospel is good news for all of God's creation! Register your church and commit to working towards an Eco Award.

Hartford Methodist Church in the Mid Cheshire Circuit already has its bronze award - take a look at what is involved in achieving that recognition.

In the meantime - if you are able, don't forget to feed the birds this winter...
Get a little group of people together who feel passionately about God's created order and see where your conversation goes....and all creation will cry '**glory!**' Amen

Hymn - [Touch the earth lightly](#)

Blessing

May the God of the trees and the spiders go with you,
May the God of the sheep and the lavender go with you,
May the God of the sea creatures and the wheat go with you,
Call you to action and fill you with joy. **Amen.**