



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for
8th February 2026 Prepared by Rev Joyce Smith

Worship in the following locations:

Wellspring Methodist Church, Cheadle- At 10:30am - With Dr Lynne Bradbury
Endon Methodist Church - At 10:00am - Mr and Mrs Massey
Ipstones Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Rev Julie Hassall
Rudyard Methodist Church - At 11:00am - With Mr Howard Monks
The Gathering At St Andrews, Cheddleton - At 15:00pm
Trinity Church, Leek - At 10:30am - With Rev Denise Williamson - Holy Communion
Waterhouses Methodist Church - At 18:30pm - With Ms Beryl Stew
Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 14:30pm- With Rev Julie Hassall



We gather:

God calls us to worship,
The worthy and the unworthy,
The rich and the poor,
The joyful and the sorrowing
The greatest and the least,
Each one loved and treasured by our generous, compassionate God
Let us gather to bear witness to the Light of the World.

We sing 55 Immortal, invisible

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=Immortal+Invisible+Hymn+Lyrics&mid=006643F75F9626BAF9B5006643F75F9626BAF9B5&churl=https%3a%2f%2fwww.youtube.com%2f>

We pray:

Merciful God, you call us to worship you not just with words but with actions. You love each and every one of us, regardless of gender, race, colour, status, or age because we are all made in your image and each of us is precious to you. Help us to reflect your love and light in our encounters with all we meet, let your mercy, justice and grace be the bedrock of everything we do. Forgive us for those times when we fail to see you in the faces of those around us and show us how to shine the light of your love into the dark corners of our world. Amen

We read: Isaiah 58:6-9 [Isaiah 58:6-9 NIV - "Is not this the kind of fasting I - Bible Gateway](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+58%3A6-9&version=NIV)

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to lose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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Reflection

I'm sure you know the phrase "The sun shines on the righteous and on the ungodly too". We often wrongly use just the first part of that phrase, but the thing about light is that it does not choose specific targets, it shines on everything in its orbit. A spotlight in the theatre may centre on the main character, but it will shine on everything around that person too. Light does not choose what to illuminate, it just shines. Jesus, the Light of the World, did not bring his message just for one group of people, but for Jews and Gentiles alike, for Samaritans, Romans, lepers and criminals as well as the religious and self - righteous. He brought a message of love and redemption, salvation and restoration, a message that we have heard and accepted and try to live out. We are all light bearers and light bringers, and we all walk in the light of God's love, but I wonder when you last felt your light 'break forth like the dawn'?

When I read this passage, an old Sunday School song came to mind (they often do). "Jesus bids us shine with a pure clear light, you in your small corner and I in mine."

Sometimes I feel my light is more like a guttering tea light, small and wavering, I look at the injustice and oppression in the world and despair that I could ever make a difference. But, think about what happens when there's a power cut, the house is in complete darkness until you light one candle, then light others from it to put around the room, then light some more from it to take upstairs, suddenly there is light all around the house-and all from one tiny flickering flame. Every act of kindness and compassion shines the light of Jesus' love into the lives of others, every contribution to the Foodbank, every time we take the church flowers to someone having a hard time, the light of Jesus' love shines through us. Pretty soon that feeble, guttering tea light becomes a beacon of hope and a source of joy. I pray that in the coming week you will both feel the light and be the light.

Because sometimes worship should be exuberant,

we sing: [**This little light of mine**](#)

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=bruce+springsteen+this+little+light+of+mine&&mid=5F5304C27F72C9B956E85F5304C27F72C9B956E8&churl=https%3a%2f%2fwww.yo>

We pray:

God of justice and compassion, we give you thanks for the love you show to each of us; we thank you that we are called to reflect the light of your love in our daily lives. We pray for those who are struggling to see light in the darkness of their lives at the moment;
for the cold, hungry and homeless,
for the dying and bereaved,
for the last, the least and the lost.

Give us grace to shine with Christ's light and glory that your light may break forth like the dawn into hurting lives and hearts. Amen

We sing the Lord's Prayer: [The Lord's Prayer \(Singing the Faith 762 / StF 762\) \(Joseph Lees\)](#)

We sing: 413 Send down the fire of your justice

[Bing Videos](#) Send down the fire of your justice

We bless each other:

May God go before, to show us the way; May God shine above, to lighten our world; May God lie beneath, to bear us up; May God go beside, to companion our journeys.

May God's peace go before you and God's kindness behind you and God's comfort beside you. In the name of Christ. Amen.