

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.



The theme for the Season of Creation 2021 is A Home for All, renewing the oikos of God. Oikos means 'home' or 'family' and is the root of our words starting with 'eco' like 'ecology' and 'economics'. The last year has been a wake up call to the need to restore our relationships with God, creation and each other. The ideas and resources in the [Celebration Guide](#) will help you find a way to pray or to hold an event or special service. Find out more about the Season of Creation [here](#).

Churches have been holding [Climate Sunday](#) services all year, and the Season of Creation is a great time to hold yours. In the final few months leading up to the UN global climate change talks in November 2021 (COP26), we'll be encouraging churches to hold a special Climate Sunday service or event, to make a commitment to tackle climate change, and to raise their voices to call on world leaders to do the same.

## Season of Creation Webinars

A series of four webinars for the season, helping us to think about the environment in relation to our worship, theology and mission

[season of creation logo](#)

### Forest Church

Monday 13th September, 4-5pm.

Many people say that their more profound encounters with God occur outside, as they engage with God's creation. Forest Church takes this as the starting point for worship, gathering outdoors, with engagement with nature at the heart of our prayer.

This webinar will cover the 'why', 'what' and 'how' of Forest Church.

Speakers: Cate Williams is Environmental Engagement Officer for Gloucester Diocese, a Forest Church facilitator and author of the Grove booklet on Forest Church. Rachel Summers is the author of multiple resources including Wild Advent, Wild Lent and Wild Worship. She is a Forest School practitioner and trainer, Forest Church facilitator and pioneer ordinand.

[Register here](#).



## Theology of Climate Change

Tuesday 21st September, 12-1pm.

Our practical efforts to combat climate change are undergirded by our theology - a belief in a creator God and a hunger and thirst for righteousness, whilst our ability to connect the 'ecological crisis' to our faith is helpful in terms of evangelism and pastoral care.

In this webinar, we consider the theological resources at our disposal and how we might constructively reflect on the context of the Anthropocene from a variety of starting places.

Speaker: Revd Ruth Newton, vicar of St John's Sharow, a silver Eco Church. She is a member of General Synod and involved in environmental training in the Diocese of Leeds.

[Register here.](#)

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## Let All Creation Sing

Monday 27th September, 4-5pm.

Worship, prayer and the environment. This webinar will enable us to bring together God's beautiful creation and our worship and prayers

Speaker: Revd Canon Dr Vicky Johnson, Canon Precentor at York Minster. Vicky oversees the worship, liturgy and music at the majestic York Minster, and is a member of the national Environment Working Group.

[Register here.](#)



# Climate action is mission

Wednesday 20th October, 4-5pm.

Exploring how climate action fits with all five Marks of Mission, and inspiration to see how this can be part of your church's mission outreach.

Speaker: Revd Grace Thomas, curate at Moss Side, St James with St Clement, and Whalley Range, St Edmund, and one half of the shared Diocesan Environment Officer role in the Diocese of Manchester. She is also the author of a newly published Grove Booklet on this topic.

[Register here.](#)

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The Season of Creation is a great time to encourage children and young people to take part in the [Letters for Creation](#) project. This is a way for them to reflect on what caring for creation means to them, and how they want their voice to be heard in the climate justice conversation.

You can find out more about how to take action on environmental issues on our [Environment Programme page](#). To keep in touch, sign up to the [quarterly newsletter](#).

You can still find lots more ideas from previous years on this [resources page](#).

## [Background information](#)

Creationtide is a concept introduced by the late Ecumenical Patriarch, Demetrios I, 1989. Since then, September 1 (chosen because it is first day of the Orthodox ecclesiastical year) has been adopted as the start of Creationtide. This is the season, running to St Francis day on October 4, when churches and congregations are called to pay special attention to the responsibility of humanity for the Earth and for all that lives upon it. Its start and end dates reflect that it is a shared idea between Western and Eastern Christianity.

[Churches Together in Britain and Ireland](#) adopted the concept in 2008. In 2016, Pope Francis declared 1 September an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creationtide.

While its adoption was in part driven by the complex environmental crises the human race faces, Creationtide draws on much deeper roots in Scripture and in older Christian traditions of the relationship between God, humanity and the created order.

The timing of Creationtide means it is an excellent way of rooting traditional harvest festivals in wider issues and firm theological ground.



## Resources

Find resources for celebrating Creationtide.



## Letters for Creation

Add your voice to the call for climate justice.

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