



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for

27th September 2026 Prepared by Rev Julie Hassall

Worship in the following locations:

Wellspring Methodist Church, Cheadle- At 10:30am - With Rev Julie Hassall - Holy Communion

Wellspring Methodist Church, Tean - At 15:00pm - Songs of Praise - With Rev Julie Hassall

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

Ipstones Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Mr Richard Bagworth - Harvest Festival

Rudyard Methodist Church - At 18:00pm - Songs of Praise- Harvest Festival - With
Rev Denise Williamson

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

Trinity Church, Leek - At 10:30am - With Rev Denise Williamson - Holy Communion/Harvest
Festival

Waterhouses Methodist Church - At 18:30pm - With Ms Heather Hayward

Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Mr Richard Funnell



Call to worship

God of fire and wind,

We worship you!

God of the stars and the planets,

We worship you!

God of the still, small voice and the gentle breeze,

We worship you!

God of the unexpected encounter, and comforting of friends,

We worship you!

Hymn – STF 20 Be still, for the presence of the Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZugvUQ4m90U>

Prayer

- Offer to God one thing from this past week for which you have been truly thankful
- Offer to God your gratitude for one person who has lifted your spirits, or provided practical assistance
- Offer to God one thing of beauty which you have noticed during these past days

God of kindness and generosity, we thank you for the blessings of the everyday which you drop into our lives....help us to live each day as your grateful children, that through our thanksgiving, your blessing may run through us to reach many others – and that your Kingdom may come. **Amen.**

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for
ever.
Amen.

Reading - [Matthew 21:23-32 NIV - The Authority of Jesus Questioned - Bible Gateway](#)

Reflection

‘He changes his mind more often than his socks’ people sometimes say. But is that always a bad thing, wonder ?

George Bernard Shaw once commented: ‘Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.’

Clearly, it’s not helpful if we can never make our mind up about anything or are totally inconsistent in our views. But over our lifetime our experiences often lead us to alter our views on people or issues or other things; and Jesus always asks us to question whether our thoughts and actions are in line with the values of the Kingdom of God.

This is very much the theme of our Gospel reading today, where the Chief Priests are trying to trip Jesus up. They are questioning his authority to heal and preach - did it come from God or was it of human origin? Jesus throws this back at them with a question about the authority of John the Baptist which they find difficult to answer.

He then tells the story of two sons whose father asks them to go and work in the vineyard that day. One said ‘I will not’ but later changed his mind and went.

The other immediately said he would go but then failed to do so.

‘Which of the two did the will of his father?’ asks Jesus. The answer is obvious, but Jesus goes on to make the point that John had come to show them the way of righteousness, but the religious leaders would not listen; by contrast it was the non-respectable tax collectors and prostitutes who heard and responded to his message.

We may not always get things right, but it’s no sign of weakness to change our minds - and because of that, our actions. The key phrase in the Gospel passage is “But later he changed his mind and went...” Apparently, the phrase ‘changed his mind’ is not a particularly good translation of the Greek - a more literal translation would be to say: “*Later he changed what he cared about and went...*”

If we care about God's justice, then sometimes it may mean we have to challenge our own long held views; if we care about God's mercy then often it leads us to look at people who are different from us in a new way. Sometimes, we too will be challenged to look again at what we really care about. Not just changing our minds, but our hearts too.

Amen

Song - [Show me how to stand for justice. Lyric Video \(StF 713\) - YouTube](#)

Blessing

May God who calls us to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly bless us along the way with courage, with self-awareness and with the ability to take seriously our call to follow Christ – all the days of our lives.

Amen.