



Circuit Contact

Welcome to our Circuit Worship for

6th July 2025 Prepared by Rev Julie Hassall

Worship in the following locations:

Boundary Methodist Church - At 18:00pm - With Mr Anthony Mottram

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

Wellspring Methodist Church, Tean - At 15:00pm - Songs of Praise

Endon Methodist Church - At 10:00am - With

Ms Beryl Stew

Ipstones Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With Rev Joyce Smith

Onecote Methodist Church - At 11:00am - With Ms Gill Meredith - Holy Communion

Rudyard Methodist Church - At 11:00am -

With Ms Jo Powell

St Andrews Methodist Church, Cheddleton - At 10:30am - With Mr Dennis Johnson

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

Trinity, Leek @ St Edwards - At 10:30am - With Dr Lynne Bradbury

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

Wetley Rocks Methodist Church - At 10:30am - With

Mr Roger Cutts

Sunday 13th July 2025 – Worship at Wellspring Cheadle– At 10:30am – With Mr Mark Fallows



Psalm 86 (New International Version) * [Psalm 86 NIV - A prayer of David. Hear me, LORD, and - Bible Gateway](#)

⁹ All the nations you have made
will come and worship before you, Lord;
they will bring glory to your name.

¹⁰ For you are great and do marvellous deeds;
you alone are God.

Spend a few moments reading these words from the Psalmist - and then offer your prayers of thanks for the ways in which God has been close to you this week. Where God seems distant pray for openness to hear and sense God's presence in your life.

Loving God, no matter how we come to worship today we pray,
Come close to us...Hold gently our story...
Reassure us of the kindness and mercy at the heart of your longing for us...
Receive our praise and walk with us through this day. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Song - [Great is the Lord and Most Worthy of Praise \[with lyrics for congregations\] - YouTube](#)

Reading - Matthew 13 v 44-45* [Matthew 13:44-45 NIV - The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and - Bible Gateway](#)

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Reflection

The parables told above do not reflect the lectionary which is set for today - but I have chosen them because this half term Marion Aston and I have been sharing the parable of the pearl of great price with schools around this beautiful area and as the school year draws to a close, I wanted to reflect on it for a few moments this morning.

The stories we share are all taken from a resource entitled 'Godly Play' which aims to share biblical tales with the young (and not so young!) in a creative and engaging way...The stories are enacted by means of a learning circle on the floor (getting down is fine, getting back up more challenging!) and is told through props and a quiet but thoughtful engagement. At the end of the story there are 'wondering' questions before we move into a time of response to the story through art and craft.

The way even the youngest throw themselves into the sessions never ceases to amaze me, and the children can tell you about what they did and who they then shared this story with long after we have left the building.

In one school this past couple of weeks we were reflecting on the man who sold everything he had to possess the pearl which was of greatest value and whether he was happy with his

decision. The children watched as his possessions were moved from one location to another - a chair, a sack of money, a precious lamp, a treasure chest in which he kept his gold! The biggest and heaviest possession to be surrendered was his bed...and as he made his way to pick up the bed and completely empty his home, a little boy sitting next to me on the floor whispered, aghast, 'oh no miss, not the bed'

There was silence in the room as we sat for a moment - before we reminded the children that this story was told by someone who said and did amazing things, who talked about the Kingdom of heaven, and we asked, '**what could possibly be so precious that someone would be prepared to give up everything for it?**'

Over these weeks we have been blessed by all kinds of answers to that question - from the profound to the funny, the well thought through answers to those designed to create a laugh amongst their peers - love, family, happiness, dinosaurs, pets, toys, beds(!) I will long remember the little girl who said that her sister was so precious to her that there was nothing she wouldn't do for her - she was reminded that in fact she had several siblings but she was quick to say 'ah, yes, but I only like this one!' My abiding memory of this half term is the little boy and his '**oh no miss, not the bed**'. He was completely immersed in this story and genuinely trying to work out what it might mean.

Remember that the man who told the story said 'the Kingdom of heaven looks like this - a merchant went in search of the pearl of greatest price, and when he found it, he sold everything he had in order to possess it' - so how would you answer the question we discussed with 5 and 6 year old children?

What, for you could ever be so precious that you would give up everything for it? And when you have the pearl of greatest price, what will you do with it? **Amen.**

Song - [KING OF KINGS, MAJESTY \(Lyric Video\) | Jarrod Cooper](#)

Prayers

Gracious and tender God,

In our praying and our living, we ask for your voice to guide us, to offer us comfort and reassurance - as we too wrestle with what the truly great treasures are and how we are called to live. And as that longing runs like a golden thread through our prayers, we stand alongside many other people today....

All those who are wrestling with their identity, searching for meaning and purpose.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

All who feel that they are the 'unchosen' – those who live difficult and challenging lives, all who find peace hard to come by.

All who today suffer at the hand of another – who have no say in the direction of their lives. And in our prayers, we recognise that often when we pray, we are praying for ourselves.

We hear your call to seek that which is precious and to share it with others around us, to bring healing and restoration and blessing – and we continue to pray for the breaking in of your Kingdom in the words Jesus first spoke...

Blessing

May God continue to speak to us, through us and around us,
May God bless us with courage and compassion,
Wisdom for the journey,
And laughter to make us glad,
Until our journey's end. **Amen.**

*Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984,