



Celebrating Environment Sunday Well

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Have you celebrated World Environment Sunday before?



Saving Creation

Diocese of Leeds

Celebrating Environment Sunday Well

- What is Environment Sunday and why would you celebrate it?
- Biblical reflection: Romans 1:18-24
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=6oDgYTUHc7k>)
- 5 Different Environment Sunday Options
- Q and A
- What will you take away from this webinar?



What is Environment Sunday and why would you celebrate it?



Since the first celebration in 1974, World Environment Day has helped UNEP to raise awareness and generate political momentum around growing concerns, such as the depletion of the ozone layer, toxic chemicals, desertification and global warming.

The Day has developed into a global platform for taking action on urgent environmental issues. Millions of people have taken part over the years, helping drive change in our consumption habits, as well as in national and international environmental policy.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/environment-day/background>



What is Environment Sunday and why would you celebrate it?



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What is Environment Sunday and why would you celebrate it?

- An opportunity to praise and thank God for His creation
- An opportunity to lament
- An opportunity to intercede
- An opportunity to serve



What is Environment Sunday and why would you celebrate it?

- What is your main objective for your service?
- What outcomes do you want to see?
- Where does this fit in with your whole church response to the current environmental context?

<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching>



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What's Available ?

5 Different
Environment
Sunday
Options:

**Traditional Service with a
theme**

Campaigning Service

**Award Ceremony or
Commissioning service**

Outdoor Service

Community Action focus

Traditional Service with a theme

- **Environment Sundays can be held as part of the usual parish eucharist on a Sunday morning or as special service at any time.**
- **Simply add in an appropriate Collect , Confession or Lament, Bible reading etc.**
- **Environment Sunday is traditionally held on June 5th to coincide with UN World Environment Day.**
- **New theme each year: 2022 Only One Earth**

- **A service for Climate Sunday could be the theme at any time of the year.**
- **Agricultural Festivals are a recognised part of the Church year, Church calendar.**
- **Informing and educating the congregation on caring for the environment as God's creation**

Campaigning Service Mission and Outreach

- Invite a speaker from one of the Environmental organisations or from your own community to give an address
- Christian Aid, USPG, Greening the Lectionary, Local Parish, Town or Borough Council, or from one of the numerous environmental organisations
- Share the service ecumenically with your local Churches Together group or representative from another denomination.

Award Ceremony or Commissioning service

- **Commissioning your Parish Environmental Officer**
- **Presenting Eco Church (Arocha) awards**
- **Provide opportunities for badges for the uniformed organisations**

Outdoor Services

- **Hold traditional services in your churchyard**
- **Beating the bounds**
- **Forest Church**

Community Action Focus

- **All the above are focused on Community action.**
- **Include members of the community in the worship, readings from the Bible, prayers etc**
- **Risk assessment; wet weather plans; asking permissions within the community**

Sources and Resources

Diocese of Leeds website

<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching>

Pray and Fast for the climate

www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk

Sustainable Preaching

<http://sustainable-preaching.org/>

World Environment Day

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>