


What You Get in Your Download

1. Facilitators' notes to guide you through each session.

See sample pages below. You get helpful notes setting out what you need to do to prepare for each session, and a timed layout of each session with the links for online material which you will share with the group.



Treasuring Creation

Notes for Facilitators

This interactive PDF has been designed for use for group study. These notes are to aid you as a facilitator, whether you are using the module for an online group or working together in a room.

We have included some basic advice for facilitation online which you may not need if you have done this before but will help the complete beginner.

We have also created a PowerPoint presentation that you can use. It has key questions and quotations, but we have not used excessive amounts of text. You can adapt it as you wish, and you will find that the second slide is a blank template to which you can add material and copy as many times as you like. You can delete this if you don't need it - but the slide numbering which is shown at the margin of your notes will need to be changed by you.

You should have in the pack:

- These notes for facilitators
- PowerPoint presentation
- Workbook in .pdf format to which you can add the course details and which you should then copy to all the people attending. You will probably find it easiest to have a copy of the Workbook to hand as you are leading the group.
- Exercise Book in Word format which people can use as an alternative to the .pdf if they can't type into the .pdf. We suggest you offer this as an alternative and point out that it can be printed off and used to handwrite into.

1. Before you start the module

If you are working online, or in a hybrid fashion so that some of your group are at home and some in a room with you:


- Make sure that all the attendees have downloaded the module Workbook pdf and are able to see it while you are working on it. They can do this either:
 - by using the ESC key to make the meeting window smaller so that they can have two windows open at the same time;
 - being in the meeting on their computer and having the module open on a tablet;
 - printing off the module so that they can view it on paper.
- Provide a list for each session of what people need to do in advance: this is set out in the session plans.
- Each person should have access to a Bible.

SESSION 1 Getting started		SLIDES
PREPARATION FOR THIS SESSION Attendees should do these things in advance <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Do one at least of the activities listed on page 3 of the Workbook◦ Make brief notes of their response		1. Title slide to display
10 minutes	Introduction to course and each other, housekeeping etc	2. Add details such as timings
10 minutes	Ask the group: How do you feel when you think about God's Creation and the state of our planet? What words come to mind? Record the words and thoughts on a flip chart/virtually recorded/or use word cloud app https://www.freewordcloudgenerator.com/	3
7 minutes	Watch: Video (06:38 mins) Film 1: What the Bible says about the natural world (For this, and all the other videos that you will show we have left the links out of the Workbook so that the people in the group don't watch them in advance, as this may distract from the group experience. But please be prepared to share the links with them afterwards as resources.)	This has not been embedded in the PowerPoint for technical reasons, but you can customise it if you wish
15 minutes (but see note in Introduction about how you might extend this part of the session)	(Use breakout rooms on Zoom) Group discussion in the smaller groups on the five questions set out in the Workbook. If you have fewer than 5 groups, decide which questions will be the most germane for the group that you are leading. Assign one question to each group and ask them to report back to the whole group.	
20 minutes (or longer, at your discretion)	Plenary, where the groups share their observations. As facilitator, note key points on whiteboard/flip chart, and draw the discussion together. (If on Zoom, you might also ask people to put notes into chat. Remember to record the chat for later).	
10 minutes	Whole group discussion: The Five Anglican Marks of Mission developed by the Anglican Consultative Council since 1984 have been widely adopted as an understanding of what contemporary mission is about. The Fifth Anglican Mark of Mission is 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth. How does your church make this its mission?' Pick up on themes that emerge on the whiteboard/flipchart, and invite comments in chat if online.	4
Refreshment break, if you are linking sessions 1 and 2, or use the closing moments suggestions at the end of Session 2.		

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SESSION 4 An invitation to respond		SLIDES
	Introduction After all we have heard and thought about, how are we to respond to this call on our lives? First, we fix our eyes on God and pray. We praise God for creation. But we also need to work together across neighbourhoods and nations, calling all leaders to be bold, just and honest with the facts.	11
5 minutes	Ask people what is already happening in their church communities in these five areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship and Teaching• How you look after your buildings• How you look after your land• How you engage with your local community and in global campaigns• The personal lifestyles of you and your congregation. Ask them to jot down at least two things in each area on the grid in the Workbook	12
10 minutes	Ask people to compare notes with a neighbour.	13
5 minutes	Watch video: Video (04:21 mins) What can we do as a church Then draw their attention to the resources in the box on Page 12, particularly the Eco-Church questionnaire. Share your screen with Page 1 of the survey: WORSHIP AND TEACHING if you are online, or give it out as a handout if you are in the room together. Ask the group to run through the questions quickly and bear their answers in mind as they deal with the next exercise	
30 minutes	Ask people to think about the question on the slide: "If you were to lead a church service on climate change and the biodiversity crisis, how would you do this?" Depending on the makeup of your group and the numbers you might divide them into small groups and ask each to concentrate on one aspect of the service: prayers, readings, hymns, actions. In a smaller group you might just have a large group discussion. Record suggestions on a flipchart/whiteboard.	14
10 minutes	Bring the session to an end by repeating the activity you began with: ask the group How do you feel now when you think about God's Creation? What words come to mind? How have things changed after working through this module.	15

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	Record the words and feelings on the flipchart/whiteboard, or ask people to write words on large post-it notes and add them to a display. Ask people to note any changes in their attitudes. Suggested activity. Give each person a postcard, ask them to self address it, and write a note to themselves of what they want to do in response to the course. Promise (and you need to make sure that you can do this) that you will send it to them in 3 months' time. If you are working online, ask people to email you a message which you will send back to them. OR You might like to arrange a get together (virtual or in person) in 6 months' time (or a suitable interval that the group feels happy with) so that people can compare notes about what has happened. Look at the resources set out in the handbook for further reflection and action.	
Closing moments Please note that this is a prayer calling for radical action. You may feel that it your group needs a 'softer' approach. Alternatives can be found in the prayer worship/liturgy resources list at the end of the workbook	It would be appropriate to close with a prayer or an act of worship of some kind. As a resource we suggest using this adaptation of: <i>Prayer 25 by Rev Jon Swales</i> <i>From 26 Prayers for the Climate and Ecological Emergency</i> https://atyourservice.arocho.org/en/26-prayers-for-the-climate-and-ecological-emergency/ which we have edited into responsorial form. It is quite long, but will give people time to pause and consider. You may want to add a hymn, or a further blessing. We suggest asking different people to lead each section of the prayer, which is printed in the workbook.	16
	Father of Creation, God of Justice, Your Son proclaimed and enacted the reign of God, He showed us what this looked like. He healed the sick, He welcomed the marginalised He treated the vulnerable with dignity. To him be all praise.	16.

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2.A resource booklet.

This contains links and resources for further reading and exploration, which can be done individually or as a group. We envisage the facilitator making a copy available to each person in the group



3. Powerpoint slides which can be edited for each session. These have been prepared to save you time and provide a pleasing visual effect but they can be edited to suit your session as you please.



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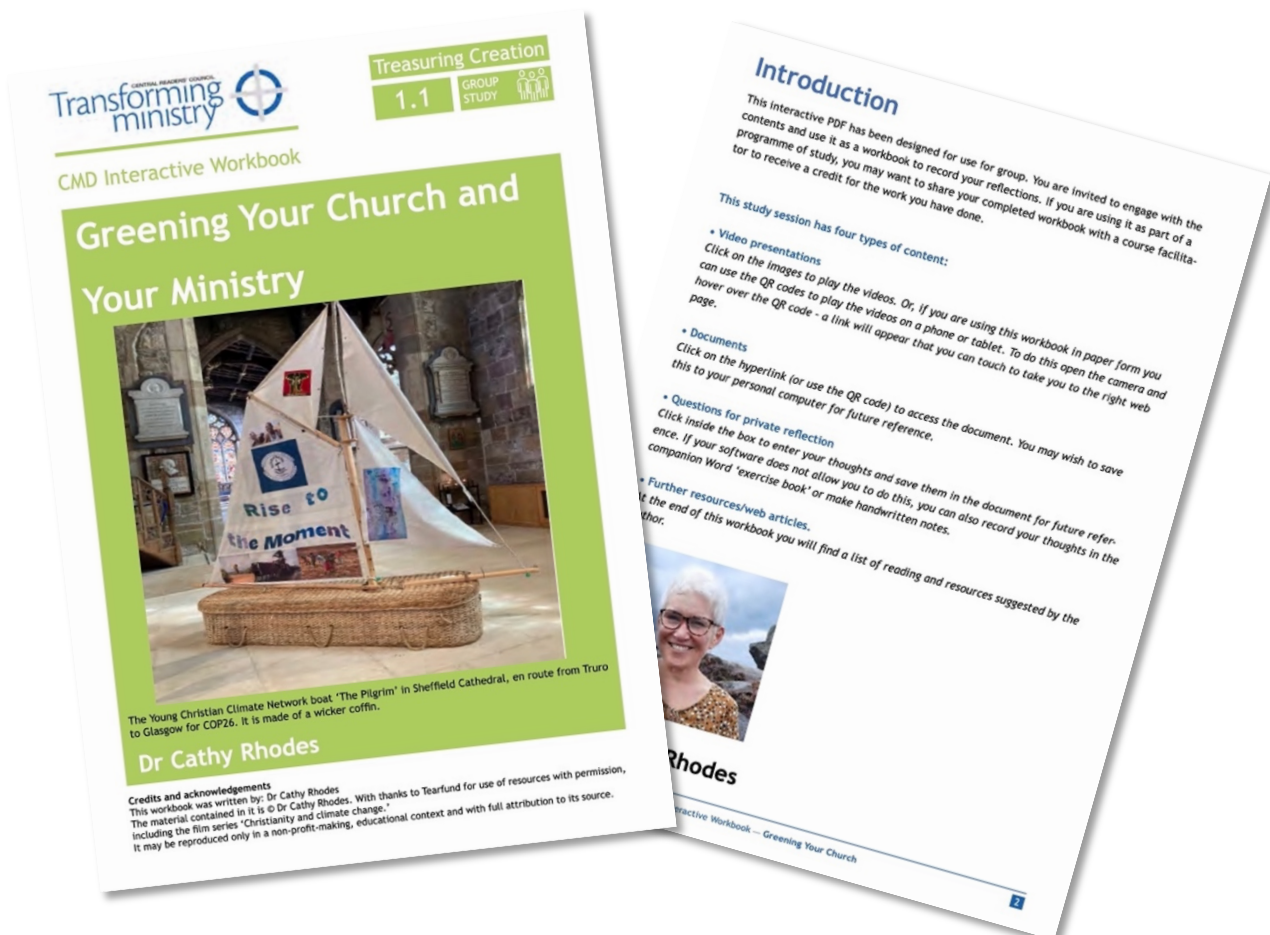


What is already
happening in
your church?

- Worship
- Buildings
- Land
- Outreach
- Lifestyles

- An interactive .pdf workbook that can be copied for each participant.

This allows people to work directly into a text so that they can keep notes and observations and access links. In this way it creates a record of the course and the work done that can be stored as a resource. Each participant should have one; they can carry it on laptop or tablet if they wish. Recognising that some Readers may have difficulty with the .pdf software **there is a parallel workbook which is a Word document** that can simply be printed for people to use as a paper exercise book.





Greening Your Church and Your Ministry

By Dr Cathy Rhodes

Diocesan Environment Officer Diocese of Sheffield

Introducing our new module for group learning

Summary

This topical new course will provide Readers/LLMs with tools and resources to 'green' their churches and ministry. It contains guided Bible study, discussion points and activities to aid reflection and action, worship and advice. There are links to companion videos and documents to enrich and stimulate your thinking on eco issues.

The author, Cathy Rhodes, says: 'I hope this module is helpful as a foundation and opportunity to learn, pray and discuss our call to sustain and renew the life of God's earth. We've used videos from Tearfund with climate scientist Katherine Hayhoe to encourage exploration of our Christian response to the climate and nature emergency, and what the Bible says about creation care. There's practical advice on Eco Church and time to think and learn about climate justice. Links to varied resources are provided to support you and your church.'

The course can be flexibly delivered, split into 4 sessions of approximately 2 hours each, or subdivided to 8 shorter sessions. You can deliver it online, or in person or hybrid formats.

The four sections are:

1. Getting started
2. God's creation under threat
3. The hope we have in Jesus
4. An invitation to respond

Cost and Purchase

CRC Members: £10 Non-Members: £25 The course is not yet available on the website. To enquire and purchase, please contact imogenclout@icloud.com

