

Week 1



SEASON OF CREATION

The Climate Crisis

The Season of Creation, or Creationtide (1 September to 4 October) is a season in which Christians specifically focus on giving thanks for and committing themselves to care for God's wonderful gift of Earth.

'Climate change is already a matter of life and death...'

(Archbishop Justin Welby, speaking at the Lambeth Conference, July 2022)

'Because Christ is the creator of all things, the destiny of all things is bound up with his. Because all things were made 'for him', he will ensure that they reach that goal.'

(Richard Bauckham, *Bible and Ecology* p 155)

Finding our place in the biblical meta-narrative – reconciled in Christ, on the way to the reconciliation of all things in Christ – will help to sustain hope in dark times.'

(Richard Bauckham, p 178)

'Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals. But the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels... [The report] sets out viable, financially sound options for cutting emissions in every sector that can keep the possibility of limiting warming to 1.5° alive'

(Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General, commenting on the latest IPCC report on climate mitigation)

- What evidence have you seen recently of the climate crisis we are facing? You could also watch '*Minimate: Climate change and the future of humanity*', a 4-minute video by David Wallace-Wells (on [YouTube](#))

- Read Colossians 1:15-20

This passage is widely believed to be a hymn used in the early church.

- What do you think is the significance of the repetition of 'all things'?
- What does this passage tell us about Christ's role in relation to creation?

Read John 1:1-5

- What does this passage add to Colossians in helping us see Christ as Lord of Creation?
- If Colossians calls us to bring peace to all creatures in God's world and to help nature and humanity find a restored relationship, what does that mean for our decision-making, as a church and as individuals?
- Read the quotation from Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General. Do you agree with him?
- How can we remain hopeful in the face accelerating climate change?
- End by praying for God's earth – for the issues you have discussed and for your part in caring for it.