

life to others. We thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation.
Give us reverence for life in your world. We thank you for your redeeming love; may
your word and sacrament strengthen us to love as you love us.

God, Creator, bring us life.

Jesus, Redeemer, renew us.

Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.

Blessed are you, God of growth and discovery; yours is the inspiration that has
altered and changed our lives; yours is the power that has brought us to new
dangers and opportunities. Set us, your new creation, to walk through this new
world, watching and learning, loving and trusting, until your kingdom comes. Amen.

Sharing

What have you found? You may be able to tell someone you live with. If you are on
your own, why not phone a friend, email me or post a comment on the circuit
Facebook page. We delight in the Lord and his creation as we share the joy and
wonder this world brings into our lives.

Closing

May we cherish in our hearts each and every blessing this time of sharing has
brought to us, whether seen, heard, felt or touched. Let us take them in our
memories as we move out of this different time of gathering, recognising and taking
with us the depths of our connection and participation with the world in which we
live.

Blessing

**May God who established the dance of creation, who marvelled at the lilies of the
field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the church
to reflect God's glory in creation. Amen**

Forest Church



Summer Gathering

Welcome and Introduction

We are welcomed into the church of God.

The church without walls.

We worship with and in the beauty of his creation.

Where God's word is found in his created world.

This is the cathedral of creation, designed by the architect of life.

God calls us to walk around and within creation, to wonder at its complexity
and beauty. So that we can see the gift of life that God offers to each one of
us.

Adam, Abraham, Noah, Enoch and many others in the Old Testament, walked
with God in his creation.

As we walk this life with you, God,

"Bless our feet that they might tread the path prepared.

Bless our hands that they might show your love's embrace.

Bless our words that they might share your grace and peace."

Prayer

Come, let us dwell in God's shelter. Let us dwell in God's work of art. Come,

because the Earth is the Lord's, and God's Earth is our home.

We live in God's World; we are not alone. We share this life with the heavens and the earth, with the waters and the land, with trees and grasses, with fish, birds, and animals, with minerals and creatures of every form, and with all our brothers and sisters.

God is good and everything God makes is good. God is love and everything God makes is love's fruit. Let us worship God!

Reading—Psalm 148

Hallelujah!

Praise God from the heavens; praise God from the heights!

Praise God, all you angels;

Praise God, all you multitudes in heaven!

Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars! Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Most High, for God commanded and they were created. God established them forever and ever; God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, royalty and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of God, for God's name alone is exalted; God's glory is

above earth and heaven. God has raised up a horn for God's people, praise for all the faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to God. Hallelujah !

Reflection

Where ever you are - in the garden or out on a walk, in your homes looking out, we remember we are still connected with creation. The world we live in is a place of awe and wonder, creation is fine tuned and as we have seen over the years it can easily go out of balance if we do not give it the right care and respect, the love and joy of working with it. Let your senses be your guide—close your eyes—what can you hear—what can you smell? Open your eyes—what variety of plants and animals are around you—go and search under the bushes, in the trees. How well do you really know what is in your garden, what animals live there? We had a shock a few weeks ago when we found several frogs in the garden—there is no pond, just a dark damp corner they seem to have made their home. Take as long as you want—10 minutes or an hour or two, what surprises are waiting for you?

Prayers for our world

Caring God, we thank you for your gifts of Creation for our world the heavens tell of your glory. For our land, its beauty and its resources, for the rich heritage we enjoy.

We pray for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth, that we may use your gifts responsibly; for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry, that all may enjoy the fruits of their labours and marvel at your creation. For artists, scientists, and visionaries, that through their work we may see creation afresh. We thank you for giving us life; for all who enrich our experience.

We pray for all creatures and plants that have been put in peril by our actions, for all who through their own or other's actions are deprived of fullness of life, for prisoners, refugees, the handicapped, and all who are sick; for those in politics, medical science, social and relief work, and for your Church, for all who seek to bring