

Autumn 2026

ACT.LOVE.WALK

This Creationtide we are taking four weeks to explore Micah's call to *act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God*, and to hear how the lectionary Gospel each week gives that call shape in the life of the Church. The climate emergency can feel overwhelming, as though it demands entirely new moral frameworks, but Scripture begins with what God has already shown us. Each week sets Micah's words alongside the appointed Gospel, revealing how these long-given practices guide faithful living in a damaged world: honesty about harm, commitment to justice, delight in mercy, and humility within God's creation.

Sunday 6th September

ACT.LOVE.WALK

1 OF 4

Micah 6:8 and Matthew 18:15–20

Week 1 — What does the Lord require?

Micah's question — *what does the Lord require?* — begins with what God has already shown. Matthew 18 gives one expression of that: the ordinary work of repairing harm within the community. Jesus sets out a pattern of truthful speech, patient restoration, and commitment to repair. These practices are not dramatic, but they are the ground on which faithful life grows. In the context of a damaged world, they become the first steps of creation care: naming the harm, taking responsibility, and persevering in the work of restoration.

10am St Barnabas Communion [slot 19]

11.15 St Wulstans Communion [slot 20]

Wed 9th September 10am Communion: St Barnabas [slot 21]

Sunday 13th September

ACT.LOVE.WALK

2 OF 4

Micah 6:8 and Matthew 18:21–35

Week 2 — Do justly

The climate emergency raises unavoidable questions of justice, especially because its effects fall unevenly. Micah's first instruction is direct: *do justly*. Jesus gives shows this in the parable of the unforgiving servant. A man released from an impossible debt refuses to release another from a small one. The Gospel makes the point sharply: justice requires integrity — the same fairness we expect for ourselves must be extended to others. In a warming world, doing justice means recognising our shared life and refusing to shift the costs of environmental harm onto those least able to bear them.

10am St Barnabas Communion [slot 22]

11.15 St Wulstans SES or Communion [slot 23]

Weds 16th September 10am Midweek Fellowship: St Barnabas

Sat 19th September 2pm Wedding: St Barnabas [slot 24]

Sunday 20th September

ACT. LOVE. WALK

3 OF 4

Micah 6:8 and Matthew 20:1–16

♥ Week 3 — Love mercy

Creationtide is not only about justice but also about renewal. The question is not merely how to balance accounts but how to allow life to flourish again. Micah's second instruction expresses this beautifully: love mercy — not merely perform it, but delight in it. Jesus' vineyard parable reveals the same generosity. Workers hired late in the day receive the same wage as those who laboured from morning. The landowner chooses generosity over calculation. This is mercy as abundance rather than efficiency. In the context of climate emergency, mercy pushes us beyond minimal obligation. It encourages patterns of life shaped by generosity: care for vulnerable communities, concern for future generations, and attention to the health of the earth itself. The Gospel reminds us that God's economy is grounded not in scarcity but in abundant mercy — a resource we already possess.

10am St Barnabas	<i>SES led by RM and the Eco Group</i>
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11.15 St Wulstans	<i>Communion [slot 25]</i>
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Weds 23rd September 10am Communion: St Barnabas [slot 26]

Sunday 28th September

ACT. LOVE. WALK

4 OF 4

Micah 6:8 and Matthew 21:23–32

🌿 Week 4 — Walk humbly with your God

At the heart of the climate crisis lies a deeper spiritual problem: humanity has often behaved as though the earth belongs to us alone. Creationtide calls the Church back to a posture the Scriptures have always taught — humility within God's world. Micah expresses it simply: walk humbly with your God. Jesus shows what that humility looks like in the parable of the two sons. One promises obedience but never acts; the other eventually goes and works in the vineyard. What matters is not saying the right things but doing the Father's will. In a time of ecological crisis, humility means recognising that we are creatures rather than masters. It means letting our actions match our words and stepping into the vineyard — God's creation — to share in the work entrusted to us. This is not a new demand for a new age; it is the humility the Gospel has always called forth.

10am St Barnabas	<i>Harvest Communion [slot 27]</i>
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11.15 St Wulstans	<i>Harvest Communion [slot 28]</i>
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Weds 30th September 10am Communion: St Barnabas RM