

LITURGY AND CREATION

Call for Papers

Society for Liturgical Study: Conference and Biennial General Meeting

25–27 August 2026, [Hinsley Hall](#), Leeds (UK)

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We are excited to invite contributions for the 2026 conference hosted by the Society for Liturgical Study. Mindful of the increasingly urgent environment and climate crises and their social consequences, exacerbated by the prevailing urban mindset of Western cultures, the conference seeks to explore connections between liturgy and creation in celebration and lament. It is hoped that the conference theme will attract speakers from a range of disciplines, drawing together insights from academic study and liturgical practice in order to encourage a fresh engagement with creation through liturgy.

Areas for exploration in conference papers might include (but are not limited to):

- ❖ Theological: what is the Christian view of creation/the Creator communicated by liturgy, and how might this be further developed?
 - ❖ Historical perspectives: creation in medieval liturgies, in the BCP, ASB, etc.
- ❖ Liturgical perspectives: critiques of contemporary eco-liturgies and official resources such as *A Time for Creation* (2022), including explorations of liturgical language
 - ❖ Practical perspectives: creation beyond the agricultural year; outdoor worship, and other spaces for creative liturgies
 - ❖ Musical perspectives: resources old and new for creation liturgies beyond *All Things Bright & Beautiful*; music and art in praise of the Creator
 - ❖ Political perspectives: how might liturgy lead to change in societal discourse and action around climate change? Liturgy and climate protest; habits of liturgical greenwashing
 - ❖ Pastoral perspectives: laments for creation; liturgical responses to climate-related trauma and eco-anxiety
- ❖ Ecological perspectives: what exactly are we celebrating when we celebrate creation?
 - Widening the horizons of our understanding of creation
- ❖ Global and interfaith perspectives: celebrating creation in the Global South; creation beyond the Christian liturgy

We would also welcome offers of papers on other liturgical themes, subject to there being space in the programme.

Abstracts of approximately 250 words should be submitted to papers@studyliturgy.org.uk no later than **10 April 2026**; submissions should include a title and a brief outline of the proposed line of enquiry, as well as an indication of the envisaged length of the contribution. We are open to a range of formats, from short papers of 10 minutes to longer presentations of up to 45 minutes. Successful applicants will be notified by early May 2026.

We actively encourage contributions from early career researchers and those engaged in ordained ministry, and we hope to facilitate contributions from overseas speakers by including a panel of papers delivered remotely. The conference will include keynotes from Dr Margaret Daly-Denton, and Revd Canon Christopher Irvine.

Registration details for the conference will be available on the SLS website (<https://www.studyliturgy.org.uk/>) from early May 2026. It is expected that fees (including meals and accommodation for two nights) will be in the region of £280. A limited number of bursaries will be available for speakers who are unsalaried or in the early stages of their research career.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with our secretary, the Revd Dr Henry Hope, via secretary@studyliturgy.org.uk if you have any queries.