

St James Church declaration that the world is in a Global Climate Emergency

We read in Psalm 24: *"The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it"*

Aware that:

- we have a Biblical mandate to care for life on Earth, and to seek justice among its peoples;
- all life is interconnected and interdependent
- the world faces a crisis of environmental degradation and climate change that affects our ability to sustain human civilisation in its present form;
- the main cause of the crisis is human activity; and
- the crisis is linked to consumerism, greed, global injustice, inequality, conflict, starvation, drought and disease.

We the Parochial Church Council of the The Ecclesiastical Parish of Southlake St James want to make it clear that we recognise that we are in a Climate and Environmental Emergency and that we commit ourselves, guided by God to:

- acknowledge the value of God's creation through teaching, prayer and worship
- we will encourage individuals and the wider community to live sustainably.
- we aim to reduce the carbon footprint of our buildings year on year toward the Church of England's goal of net zero by 2030, as defined by its [Call to Action of February 2020](#), aided by external audits of our energy use.
- we buy green electricity from renewable sources and aim to move to move towards sustainable fuels.
- improve biodiversity on church land and assist nature conservation in our community
- minimise our use of single-use plastic and encourage others to follow
- support the poor and their environment, individually and through charities such as Fairtrade and mission partners.
- encourage action on Emergency in our neighbourhoods, workplaces, and other spheres of activity.
- use whatever influence we may have to bring about positive actions by local and national government, schools and businesses
- work towards an Eco Church Award (achieved Bronze 25.2.2020 and Silver 20.2.2024)

This declaration was agreed by the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Southlake St James June 2025

[The Oxford Diocese's Declaration of Climate Emergency](#)