



# **Creation Care Conference**

## **God's World and our Mission**

31st Oct - 1st Nov 2025

[blackburncathedral.com/creation](http://blackburncathedral.com/creation)



**BLACKBURN  
CATHEDRAL**

# About the Conference

Blackburn Cathedral is hosting a Creation Care Conference from 31st October to 1st November, bringing together voices from across the Christian spectrum to explore how faith communities can respond to the environmental crisis.

The event takes place in the awe-inspiring presence of Gaia, a large-scale sculpture of the Earth by internationally- renowned artist Luke Jerram. Suspended in the Cathedral's nave, this striking installation prompts a fundamental question: *"What is the relationship between Christianity and concern for human-made climate change?"*

## Conference Schedule

### Friday 31st October

6.30pm	Doors Open, Welcome Gaia Exhibition, Drinks & Canapés
7pm	Keynote Address: <b>Dr Canon Ruth Valerio</b>
7.40pm	Interval & Refreshments
8pm	Q&A
8.30pm	Finish

### Saturday 1st November

9am	Doors Open
9.15am	Welcome & Worship
10-10.30am	Keynote Address: <b>Dr Canon Ruth Valerio</b>
10.45-11.45am	Seminars: Session One
12pm	Seminars: Session Two
1pm	Lunch
1.30-2.30pm	Seminars: Session Three
2.50pm	Panel Q&A
3.30pm	Creation Care Eucharist
4.30pm	Finish

# Keynote Speaker



**Dr Canon  
Ruth Valerio**  
Programmes, Partnerships  
& Advocacy Director,  
Embrace the Middle East

Dr Canon Ruth Valerio, a theologian, environmentalist, and social activist, will headline the conference.

As Canon Theologian at Rochester Cathedral, Valerio brings deep theological insight and practical experience to questions of environmental justice. She is known for helping churches engage with creation care as an integral part of Christian discipleship, drawing from Scripture, theology, and lived practice. Her work combines academic insight with practical experience in community-based environmental action, making her uniquely equipped to address the conference's themes.

## Seminars & Speakers

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### Land as Gift, as Promise, as Partnership

**Rev John Rodwell** - Blackburn Diocese

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### 'Making Friends With the River' - Managing Ecological Grief Through Renewed Kinship With Creation

**Canon Grace Thomas** - Manchester Cathedral

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### Creation, Christology and Beauty Within the Franciscan Tradition

**Rev Dr Claire Egan** - Emmanuel Theological College

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### Eco-Church: Going for Gold

**Izzy Lamb** - URC Clitheroe and **Dave Champness** - Blackburn Diocese

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### Eco-Church: Getting Started

**Polly Eaton** - A Rocha UK and **Ian White** - Blackburn Cathedral

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### Farming and Food: Locally Sourcing Your Life

**John Whitton** - Blackburn Diocese

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### Climate Justice and the Call to Compassion: Poverty, Faith, and Action Across Borders

**Zoë Abernethy** - Christian Aid

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# Conference Packages

## Attendee options



### Full Conference Package £30

*This discounted, all-inclusive full package ticket covers entry to every session, all refreshments and a pre-paid lunch on Saturday.*

Friday Evening Only	£22
Saturday Only: Pre-Paid Lunch	£12
Saturday Only: Without Lunch	£0

## Venue Details

Blackburn Cathedral is two minutes from the bus interchange and railway station. Please note that there is no onsite parking however there are a number of public car parks close by.

Although there are some old, uneven surfaces and care should be taken, the Cathedral is fully accessible and wheelchair friendly. There is level access into and around the building.

Call: 01254 277430

Email: [info@blackburncathedral.com](mailto:info@blackburncathedral.com)

Blackburn Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Blackburn, BB1 5AA

[blackburncathedral.com/creation](http://blackburncathedral.com/creation)

All details are correct at time of publication. Please note that conference content, speakers and timings are subject to change and may vary from those listed. Where ticket links are provided, Blackburn Cathedral cannot be held responsible for the content of, or transactions that take place on, external websites. Ticket purchases may feature additional terms and conditions and attract booking fees in addition to the ticket price.

The Cathedral Church of St Mary The Virgin Blackburn is registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. Charity No: 1207822.

# Booking Information

## How to book

Irrespective of which day(s) you attend and which package you select, all attendees must register in advance - including for free Saturday tickets.

To secure your place, please visit:

[blackburncathedral.com/creation](http://blackburncathedral.com/creation)

or simply scan the code and select your chosen package.



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