

# Gather

[Response Call to worship based on Psalm 65](#)

[Call to worship based on Psalm 121 written by Christine Dutton](#)

Use a magic towel/flannel to show how something can be transformed when it gets wet

See if people have stories to share about water and the powerful impact it can have on our lives. They might have visited or lived in a country where water is scarce, or perhaps their house was flooded with devastating consequences, or maybe their granny got soaked by a rogue wave on the seafront. Be sensitive but try to show that water can be a powerful force for good, but also cause problems.

Watch a video of water like:

[The Negev's Zin River Bed comes alive](#)

There are lots of charities that work on providing clean drinking water for people in countries where this is or poor sanitation is a problem. Find out more and tell people that a proportion of this week's collection is going to one of those charities

Our baptism with water is an outward sign of what the Holy Spirit is doing in us—making us more like Jesus.

Ask everyone to think about a characteristic of Jesus that they would particularly like to demonstrate in the coming weeks, and talk to the Holy Spirit about making that happen.

Say together the Collect from the [Baptism Service](#).

As a symbol of this commitment and a reminder of baptism, you can lightly spray participants with water from a spritzer

# Respond

#LIVE LENT

CARE for GOD'S CREATION

WATER



Psalm 65:9-13

# Engage

Have you ever watched a nature programme that shows a dry river bed turn into a lush flowing stream surrounded by greenery when the rain comes? In this country we often moan about the rain, but there are many people who long for it and are so glad when it comes. We need rain to help the plants grow and provide us with water to drink, and this Psalm reminds us that God provides all of this for us.

In God's perfect world there was plenty of water and never too much but as humans have been greedy and put their own needs in front of God's and those of other people, it seems the amount of water available has reflected this, with drought, flooding, forest fires and rising sea levels. There is an imbalance. God's original plan, given to Abraham was that we would be blessed and be a

blessing and another Psalm, 121, tells us that he will help us to do this, watching over and guiding us.

In one of today's lectionary readings, John 3:1-17, Jesus says that when we become his friends it is as if we are reborn, made right with God again by the work of his Spirit. Just as if we have been washed clean with fresh water.

Verse 9 of Psalm 65 says 'you care for the land and water it'. It is referring to God, but it could also be an instruction for us.

Get into small groups and write a list of actions you can take to do this for each letter of the word 'water'

There is a great free downloadable poster and resource ideas at [teacherstarter.com](http://teacherstarter.com)

# Send