

## Caring for Creation: Our Journey to Eco Church Silver

We're delighted to share that our church has been awarded the **Eco Church Silver Award!** This is a moment to celebrate, and also to pause and reflect on how far we've come as a church family in caring for God's creation.

Our Eco Church journey began with a simple question: *what does it look like for us, together, to protect and care for God's kingdom?* The Eco Church framework gave us a helpful way to explore this across all areas of church life — from our worship and teaching, to how we use our buildings and churchyard, and the choices we make in our daily lives.

Over time, we've seen how small steps can add up. We're bringing creation more intentionally into prayers and services, taken practical steps to reduce our environmental impact, and are encouraging wildlife and biodiversity in our church grounds. We've also thought carefully about the wider impact of our environmental actions both locally and globally.

This award reflects the effort of many people — some very visible, some quieter, behind the scenes. Together, it shows how we're growing in faithfulness, hope, and care for the world around us.

Reaching Silver is not the finish line. It's an encouragement to keep going, to build on what we've already started, and to explore new ways we can care for creation as a church family. Moving towards a future Gold award will invite fresh ideas, wider participation, and the continued creativity of everyone in our community.

Most of all, this journey reminds us that caring for creation isn't about doing everything perfectly. It's about taking small, faithful steps together, inspired by a God who delights in creation. We're excited to see where the next steps will take us — and we hope you'll join us on our journey.