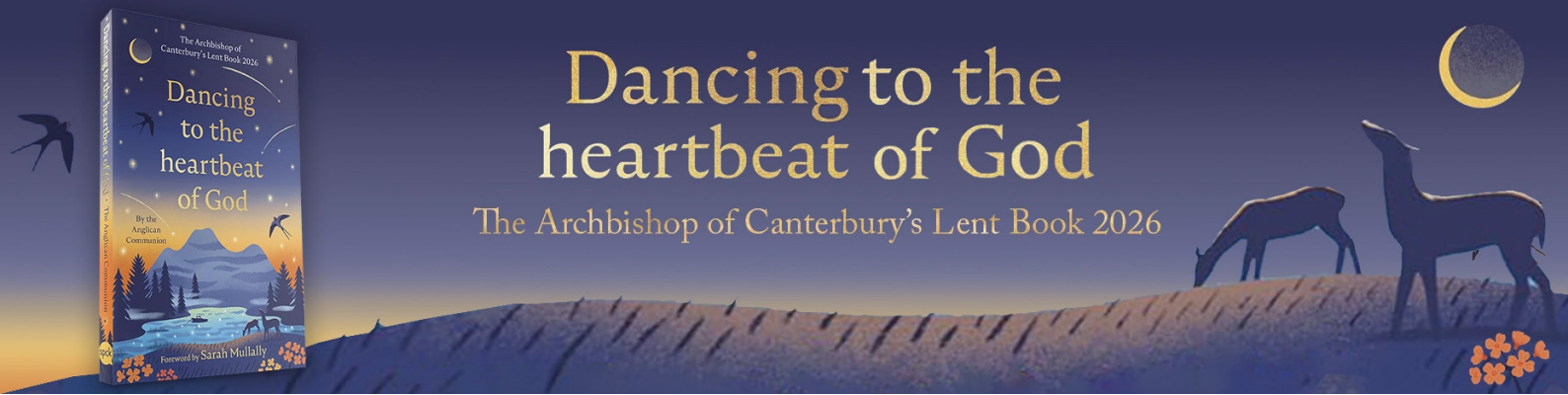




Session 2: Why people still come to Church

Icebreaker

If your week had a rhythm or soundtrack, what would it sound like right now, and what does that say about how you're doing?

We're exploring why people still come to church, and what it is about gathered worship that continues to draw people in and sustain them.

1. The image of bringing out "new treasures as well as old" is used. Why is it important for the church to hold together both tradition and fresh expression?
2. The question sits at the heart of this session: why do people still come to church? What is your honest answer to that?
3. One person described church as a place to be with Christ without the noise of the world. What helps church feel like that for you, and what gets in the way?
4. Church is spoken of as something that restores and anchors us for the week ahead. Have you experienced that? What rhythms or practices help that happen?
5. There is an emphasis on structure, liturgy, and familiar hymns. How do rhythm and familiarity shape your experience of worship?
6. The Archbishop asks whether our churches are places where people truly belong and encounter God afresh. Where do you see this happening, and where could it grow?

Read Hebrews 10:24–25 (NIV UK).

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."

What do you think it means, in today's context, to "not give up meeting together"? How does gathering with others shape your faith in ways that private belief cannot?

Pray

Thank God for the gift of the Church as a place of belonging and encounter. Ask for grace to make your own church a space where others can find rest, encouragement, and a fresh awareness of Christ.