

In Community

AN EAU CLAIRE AREA ELCA SERIES ON
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CHURCH TOGETHER
AND WITH ALL OF GOD'S CREATION



In Community with Creation

Did you know there are *two* creation stories in the book of Genesis? Despite their differences, both of these stories point to one thing: God is the creator, and we are part of God's good creation. Boundaries between creator and creation have been set; there is order in the world between God and humans, humans and animals, and in the interrelationships within humanity.

John 1:1-8

The prologue to John makes it clear that God created and loves this material world and the material beings who live in it, and that God took on material form in order to redeem it and us. God became incarnate in Jesus, but Jesus—though uniquely God's child and God's incarnate Word—makes it possible for all of us to become God's children. Through Christ, our ordinary human lives can become places where God's glory shines.

Activity

Play the song "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong. This song reminds us not only that God looked at everything in creation and saw that it was "very good" (Genesis 1:31), but also that we have so much to be thankful for in God's wonderful creation today.

Once you listen to the song, ask these questions about the song and its connection to the Bible:

- What makes you think, "What a wonderful world"?
- How, or where, do you see God when you look at creation?
- How are you called to care for creation at home, at work, at church?