

## Preaching on Care of Creation and Climate Change during Lent and Easter

In this interactive program, together we will explore concepts of eco-theology which will help guide our thinking about preaching about God's creation during Lent and Easter. After a short introduction to the topic, we will break into small groups to begin to discuss lectionary readings. Each group will reflect on how the lectionary readings might inform a sermon on creation. Reporting back to the larger group will offer opportunities for further developing sermons. The goal of the program is to come away with several sermon starters for Lent and Easter.

### Program Outline

1. Opening Prayer
2. Why do people of faith care for creation? What are the ethical and moral imperatives of responding to climate change?
3. Exploring our prophetic call to preach about climate change, environmental injustice and environmental racism.
4. What is eco-theology? How can these theologies inform our preaching?
5. Small group discussion of either a Lenten or Easter lectionary. Depending on the number of participants, we will break into small groups with each group discussing 1 or 2 of the Sunday's lectionary from the following list.

1st Sunday in Lent: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11, Psalm 32

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent: Exodus 17:1-7, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42, Psalm 95

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45 Psalm 130

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10, Psalm 23

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:6-14, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11, Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

6. Report Back from small groups to share sermon starters
7. Closing prayer and sending forth