



GROUND IN CREATION

THEME OVERVIEW

This is a disorienting season in our world and in our churches, in our communities and our families. But the created world has much to teach us about cycles, systems, ebbs and flows, and how to remain grounded despite the external circumstances that surround us. We are all connected in and to this great web of life, and this feels like the right time to lean into that nature net together.

During this green season of ordinary time, we invite you to step out of the regular rhythm of the lectionary and into the flow of creation. Using the elements from above, below, and around us, we will explore Biblical stories of creation, connectedness, and care. We will get outside, put our hands into the dirt and our feet in the water. We'll engage all five senses all while we wonder and play together.

This summer, we invite you to root down, look up, and learn what it might mean for you and your community of faith to be grounded in creation.



Summer Worship Series at Moe

Theme for June 29, 2025 ~ Water

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

This is the day that the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

God's steadfast love surrounds us in earth, air, and fire;
in water, flora, and fauna.

We REST in connection with all of God's creation.

Christ came among us, with breath and movement
and feet that touched the earth.

We YEARN for connection with all of God's creation.

The Holy Spirit moves among us, as close as our very breath.

We MOVE in connection with all of God's creation.

OPENING SONG: *"Beautiful Savior"*

ELW 838

GREETING: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of abundance, you are the water of life. Cleanse us, nourish us, and feed us, as we seek your justice that rolls down like water, and your righteousness that is like an ever-flowing stream. Sustain us in our baptismal vows, that we may know the love and belonging that comes from you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PSALM 63:1-8

¹ O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

² **So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.**

³ Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

**⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.**

⁵ My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

**⁶ when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;**

⁷ for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

**⁸ My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.**

SCRIPTURE READING: John 4:5-29

⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where

people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON SONG: “Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

ELW 777
(Verses 1-4)

SERMON

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of creation,
we seek to be one with you
and all you have made.
Be near us in our disconnection,
and bring us into right relationship
with all of your good creation.
Give us open hearts, open hands,
and compassion for all
as we confess our brokenness,
receive your forgiveness,
and remember our connection with every living thing.
Amen.

(Silence for reflection)

Let us confess our disconnection, brokenness,
and sin before our Creator God.

God of love,

**We confess that we have not treated your creation
as something to be valued.**

**You ask us to receive, and yet we extract;
you ask us to live in peace, and yet we seek to control.**

**Forgive us in our disconnection from creation,
known and unknown to us.**

Give us hearts to seek the thriving of all.

**Through your goodness,
transform our pridefulness into humility,
and our death into life.**

Beloved people of God's creation:

God has declared you "good,"
along with the fish of the sea
and the sun that warms us.

In the name of Christ, ✠ you are forgiven,
washed in the earth's abundant water, and given new life.

Our God calls us out of disconnection
to be rooted and grounded in love,
caring for one another
and for all of creation.

Amen!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

OFFERING PRAYER:

**God of abundance, We give you thanks for the gifts of the earth
and the gifts of your people. Knit us together as one in you that
we may know connection, joy, and peace with all of creation.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God of creation.

You birthed the planets and galaxies,

you filled the earth with soil and water,

you gave life to plants and animals.

You give us water, air, grace, and love

to nourish us day by day.

You breathe life into our bodies,

and you came to live among us on this earth

in the form of Jesus, your beloved child.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In this meal, we remember your Son Jesus, who walked on this soil,
who is the living water, the bread of life, the true vine, the sower of
the seeds. Send the breath of your Spirit to this meal, and fill us all,
in every time and place, with the fire of your love. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundance of your created world. As we receive your gifts, send us into your creation to echo back your joy and mercy. In the name of Christ, the holy one, we pray. Amen.

BLESSING:

May the God who holds creation tenderly bless you, keep you, and fill you with life, in the name of Christ, who grounds us, loves us, and draws us into joy. Amen.

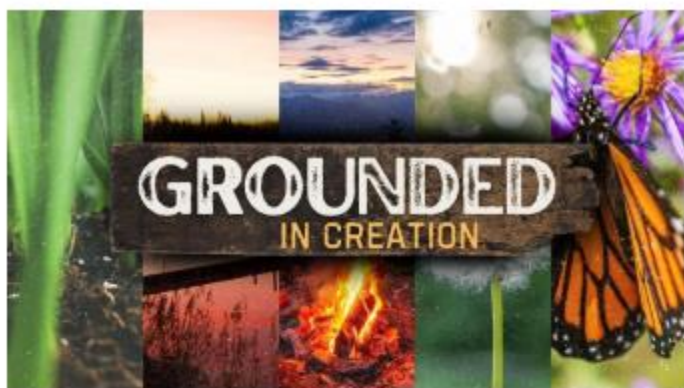
CLOSING SONG: “Go My Children, with My Blessing” ELW 543

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, care for creation. Thanks be to God!

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**Look on the back page for
Creation activities you can do this week!**



Grounded In Creation-Week 2: Water

Touch – Place your hand in water—lake, river, or even a bowl. Feel the temperature and sensation. Is it calming or energizing? Move your hand, then let it rest. What changes?

Taste – Ask your body what kind of water it craves—warm, cold, room temp. Pour a glass mindfully. Sip slowly with closed eyes. Notice the taste, the sensation, and what deeper thirst you may carry.

Smell – Recall the scent of water in its forms—rain, ocean, tea, wet grass. Notice any watery scents during your day and let them draw you into the present.



Hear – Listen to running water: shower, stream, faucet. Let the sound quiet your thoughts. What memories or feelings arise? Pause for

gratitude.

See – Look closely—water is everywhere: in us, around us. At your sit spot, reflect on how water flows, soothes, and sustains. Let it remind you of life's rhythms.