



WE ARE
THE CHURCH

ST. LUCAS UCC

*Transforming lives
as the hands and feet of Christ*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

May 19-20

“Re-Creation”

Rev. Eric Moeller

What Is This?

This brief guide is intended for use individually, or in small groups. It's your chance to dive deeper into the issues raised in the weekend sermon and to connect a Biblical story with your daily life.

Revisit the Text

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Acts 2:1-21; <https://bit.ly/2khPSDw>

Big Ideas Raised

- Waiting. Ezekiel's people were waiting for God to act and free them from the death of exile while they felt dried up as bones and cut off from God. The disciples were waiting for something after Christ's ascension, not really knowing what was next. Both communities, though, had a promise from God, and those promises would be fulfilled.
- Ezekiel's people were torn apart by the violence of empire and exile, and those at Pentecost were separated on the basis of language, but God by the Spirit binds together what was separated and brings new life
- But God does not act alone. God acts through the prophet and the disciples to bring new life.
- The Spirit, the breath of God, entered the world on Pentecost and began moving in a new way, creating the Church.
- The Church continues to be the sinews, flesh, and skin enfleshing the Spirit of the Living Christ moving the world toward the fullness of God's reign.

Questions Meant to Dig Deeper

- The Ezekiel text is written about a nation, a community, but we may also consider it as individuals. This being the case, on a social level, what are the ways you see violence of any sort leaving us surrounded by the bones of the slain? On an individual level, is there a time you felt dried up or cut off from God? If so, what brought you restoration?
- Pentecost is a good moment for reflection about our faith community. We are the Body of Christ in the world, filled with the Spirit that brings healing, wholeness, love, justice and peace. What are the ways you see the Spirit moving at St. Lucas? Put another way, how have you experienced God at St. Lucas? On an individual level, how have you experienced God outside of St. Lucas?
- In Acts, Peter uses the prophet Joel to interpret what was happening, that is the Spirit was being poured out on all people to bring God's dreams and visions into the world that they may be realized through our actions. What dreams do you have for how our community can bring wholeness, love, justice, and peace into the world? How might you imagine doing so in your own life?

Revisit the Sermon

For a recording or a manuscript of this weekend's sermon, please visit: <https://www.stlucasucc.org/sermons-resources>