Episode 6: GO

“As Jesus said to them, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’” – John 20:21

As Jesus went to the highways and byways, he sends us beyond our circles and comfort, to witness to the love, justice, and truth of God with our lips and with our lives. We go to listen with humility and to join God in healing a hurting world. We go to become Beloved Community, a people reconciled in love with God and one another.

In this episode of Traveling the Way of Love, we walk and talk with the Rev. Elizabeth DeRuff, founder of Honoré Farm and Mill, a ministry in Marin County, California, named for St. Honoratus of Amiens, patron saint of bread bakers. We joined her for the annual harvest day, coming alongside neighbors from the region to gather up and help thresh the year’s crops. Surrounded by natural beauty on all sides, we worked, prayed, sweat, and thanked God for the abundant harvest throughout the day.

In our discussion, we address not only the particular story of this ministry, but some ideas to consider whenever we feel that God is calling us to a new thing. In talking about what to consider when planting a crop, we draw out some lessons about what to consider when discerning a new ministry: Who will use this? Is it able to take root in this environment? Will it take time for it to germinate and thrive?

As you watch this sixth episode of Traveling the Way of Love, we invite you to take time this week to discern the ways you might practice the discipline of “going”, whether that entails walking across the street, spending time on a farm, or serving around the world. Think on how you can cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus, trusting that wherever you can dream to go, he has already gone ahead of you, reconciling the world to himself.

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After watching *Traveling the Way of Love: Go*, consider engaging the Way of Love with one or more of these suggested practices.

**Turn**
Think about the ways you impact the Earth on a daily basis. Are there concrete steps you can take to care for this world? Turn from any destructive habits and record your goals on the Creation Care Pledge at [iam.ec/creationcarepledge](http://iam.ec/creationcarepledge).

**Learn**
Read John 20:21 and meditate on its meaning for five minutes. “Jesus said to them, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’”

**Pray**
Say the Prayer for the Harvest of Lands and Waters, found on p. 828 of the Book of Common Prayer: “O gracious Father, who opens your hand and fills all things living with plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what you give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

**Worship**
Have you considered where the bread and wine for the Eucharist come from in your congregation? Learn more about sustainable options for this integral part of worship at [honoremill.org](http://honoremill.org).

**Bless**
Does your congregation participate in any Creation Care ministries? Whether operating a community garden, starting a conservation program, or using alternative energy, plenty of Episcopal churches, schools, and ministries are taking seriously the call to steward God’s creation. Visit [iam.ec/eamcreationcare](http://iam.ec/eamcreationcare) to discover how others are taking on this important work.

**Go**
Learn more about ways you can serve as a missionary in The Episcopal Church by visiting the sites for the Young Adult Service Corps (ages 21-30) at [iam.ec/YASC](http://iam.ec/YASC) and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission at [iam.ec/EVIM](http://iam.ec/EVIM). These exciting opportunities exist, as Presiding Bishop Michael Curry says, “to let the world know that there is a God who loves us, a God who will not let us go, and that that love can set us all free.”

**Rest**
Life is often experienced in seasons of coming and going, working and resting. As you consider new ways to go this week, think too of how you can balance the active and outgoing parts of your ministry with introspective and restful moments.

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**OTHER RESOURCES:**

**Download** the Small Group Reflection Guide at [iam.ec/goguide](http://iam.ec/goguide) and use it with your community

**Grow** your own rule of life through Living the Way of Love in Community, our nine-session small group curriculum at [iam.ec/wayofloveincommunity](http://iam.ec/wayofloveincommunity)

**Find** recipes and more information about Honoré Farm and Mill at [honoremill.org](http://honoremill.org)

**Learn** more about the Way of Love at [episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove](http://episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove)