



ADULT
EDUCATION
kuc.org

LENT

IN OUR BACKYARD

WEEK 1: MARCH 2–9 RESTORING BIODIVERSITY

READINGS

Genesis 1:29–31

Psalm 96:11–12

Psalm 145:15–16

PRAYER

Creator,
this Lenten season open our eyes
to ways we can improve our
stewardship of your creation
through our everyday actions.
May we begin to restore a world
that pleases and honors you.
Amen.

REFLECTION

What is my responsibility and what
is my opportunity to be part
of God’s redemptive plan
for creation?

LEARNING

Watch David Attenborough’s new
film on the collapse of biodiversity,
“Breaking Boundaries: The Science
of Our Planet” (Netflix)

or

Watch Douglas Tallamy talk about his
NYT bestseller “Nature’s Best Hope”

CHALLENGE

Pre-order a locally native plant/tree
for planting in your own yard once
the weather improves

or

Plant a tree in a national forest



POETRY

The dew glistens on the morning grass,
The air holds its breath for the first breeze,
The sun lingers shyly among the trees.
Are they waiting for me to splash my dark
prints on the lawn,
To bestir the air with my eager passage,
To call forth the sun to light up my day?
It is my dream to sparkle with the dew and
leave no sign of my passage,
To soar with the rising air and lie in its stillness,
To smile with the sun over some tiny joke
we’ve learnt to share,
Is the world mine because I am in it,
Or am I alien, scarring perfection by my very presence?
Is it my role to complete Creation
Or Creation’s role to complete me?
—John Polhill^[i]

^[i]Iona Community devotional, taken from “A Heart for
Creation” by Chris Polhill

FACTS

North America has lost 29% of its bird population
—2.9 billion birds—in the last 50 years^[ii]

Trees are the Earth’s lungs. One tree filters 60 pounds of
pollution every year.^[iii]

^[ii]<https://earth.org/biodiversity-crisis-north-america-lost-2-9-billion-birds-since-1970/>

^[iii]Lent 2020 Care of Creation, Diocese of Worcester, MA.