

**“Have You Anything Here to Eat?”**  
Sustainable Food in a Changing Climate  
Earth Day 2015

**Christian Education Resources**

Adult Discussion Suggestions

(adapted from CJM [At the Lord’s Table: Everyday Thanksgiving](#) resource)

- Since 1935, the U.S. has lost more than 4.7 million family farms. Now there are fewer full time farmers than there are people in our prison system. Can you trace your family back to agriculture? How has food production changed since that time?
- Do you feel a connection to the food you eat? To the land and the people that helped grow, produce, manufacture, or serve it? How?
- What makes your best memory of a meal so gratifying? Was it quality of food? The company around you? How could more of your meals have those elements?
- Do you ever think about Holy Communion when you have a good meal with family or friends? Why or why not? Can other experiences of eating (besides the Lord’s Supper) be sacramental?
- Read Genesis 1:11-13, Leviticus 25:23-24, Matthew 25: 31-30. What do these teach us about creation and caring for others?
- Read John 6:53b-58. Does the bread lose an important characteristic of its sacramental power when grain production contributes to significant agricultural runoff and related “dead zones” in coastal waterways? Does the wine lose an element of its sacramental essence when grapes are harvested by workers making significantly less than minimum wage?
- Many denominations have policy statements on food and farming as well as climate change. What are the policies of your faith tradition? Are you surprised? How might these inform your congregational ministry or your personal lifestyle choices related to food and energy?