

## Take-home sheet for Unit 1 – Session one:

# God's boundless love for humanity

*We want you to find ways to share the boundlessness of God with your friends, family and congregation. What happened here today should be shared, and we hope that the lesson doesn't end here, that it continues in conversations on the car ride home, with families around the dinner table, at school tomorrow... that this multiplies and becomes boundless!*

Focusing on love is the best place to start to understand God's great love for humanity and how we can share that love with one another. We are deeply rooted in God's love, a love so big it's unimaginable, but we can understand how that love makes us feel. It should make us feel free.

Share what you remember. Try to retell our story from today, Ephesians 3:14-21, or look it up in your Bible app (We were using the CEV: Common English Version.). Another piece of Scripture to help support these themes would be 1 John 4:8 - God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known God.

Share on social media a picture of that time you experienced God's boundless love. Make sure to tag us, using the hashtags **#ELCAYG2022** and **#boundlesslove**.



### Wondering questions

#### (discuss these questions with someone at home):

- How did this passage help you understand God's boundless love? What was a time when you experienced God's boundless love?
- How can our imagination limit or expand our understanding of God?
- What does it mean to have a life filled with "all that God is"?
- What are the things that we imagine but stop ourselves from asking?

### Prayer of the lesson:

boundless God, teach us to experience what your love looks like in this world. Show us love. Remind us that we are loved beyond measure and comprehension, more than we could ever dare to dream. Help us to experience it, be it, and share it with everyone we meet. I pray that Christ Jesus and the church will forever bring praise to God. God's power at work in us can do far more than we dare ask or imagine. Amen.

### Dismissal/blessing – Call and response:

- God's love is (place hand over heart) boundless.
- God's creation is (open arms wide) boundless.
- God's forgiveness is (cross wrists) boundless.
- God's invitation is (uncross wrists, cradle open palms outstretched) boundless.
- God's promise is (make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or hand) boundless.



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## Take-home sheet for Unit 1 – Session two:

# God's boundless love for us

*We want you to find ways to share the boundlessness of God with your friends, family and congregation. What happened here today should be shared, and we hope that the lesson doesn't end here. Let the lesson continue in conversations on the car ride home, with families around the dinner table, at school tomorrow... that this multiplies and becomes boundless!*

God's love for us is boundless. Our worth and value as a child of God is through who we are and whose we are. You can't love other humans without loving yourself. Self-doubt, lack of self-worth and knowing our value is something we all struggle with.

Share what you remember. Try to retell our story from today, Ephesians 3:14-21, or look it up in your Bible app (we were using the CEV: Common English Version). Additionally, Romans 8:38-39 CEV: "I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future,<sup>39</sup> and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!" can help support the theme of boundless love.

### congregation connection

Share your love letters to yourself with your congregation and ask if you can lead this activity for others in the congregation.

#### Chalk hearts:

How will people at your church respond to the chalk messages and drawings? How will it make them feel? In what other ways can you share God's love? Do you think a chalk heart or reading "You are loved" could brighten someone's day?

Take a picture of your **#ChalkHearts** and post it to your Instagram or Snapchat story for your friends and family to see. It might just be the reminder of God's boundless love they need. Make sure to tag us **@elcagathering** and use our hashtags **#ELCAYG2022**, **#boundlesslove** and **#ChalkHearts**.



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## Wondering questions

### (discuss these questions with someone at home):

- How did this passage help you understand God's boundless love? When was a time that you experienced God's boundless love?
- Does your worth come from "likes" and "views," or from God?
  - How do we shift our focus on finding our worth from humans to finding it from God?
- What is stopping you from loving yourself?
- What walls have you built up, what lies do you tell yourself?
- How can you love yourself more tomorrow than you did today?

### Prayer of the lesson:

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